

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
ESTABLISHING GROUNDWATER CHARGES IN ZONE 6  
FOR THE WATER YEAR 2022-2023**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 70-7.7 of the San Benito County Water District Act, the Board of Directors held a public hearing on the second Monday of January 2022 to review and receive public comment on the District Engineer’s Report on Annual Groundwater Conditions and Recommendation on Groundwater Charges for Water Year 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 10, 2022 the Board of Directors accepted the District Engineer’s Report on Annual Groundwater Conditions and Recommendation on Groundwater Charges for Water Year 2021 with the findings read into the record as set forth in Water Code Appendix 70-7.6; and

**WHEREAS**, the District Engineer’s Report on Annual Groundwater Conditions and Recommendation on Groundwater Charges recommends that a groundwater charge be levied, and presents water supply, water usage, and water replenishment information and presents proposed rates (revenue levels); and

**WHEREAS**, adherence to the procedures provided Section 6 sub (a) of Article XIII D of the California Constitution (Proposition 218) is not required because the Zone 6 Municipal, Industrial, and Agricultural groundwater rates remain unchanged from Water Year 2021-2022 and are therefore not “New or Increased Fees and Charges” subject to the provisions of that sub (a); and

**WHEREAS**, a notice of a public hearing for January 10, 2022 was published in the newspaper as required by the District Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED** pursuant to Section 70-7.8 of the San Benito County Water District Act that the groundwater charges for the water year 2022-2023 are hereby levied assessed and fixed against all persons operating groundwater producing facilities within Zone 6 as follows:

**Water Year 2022-2023**

**Water Primarily for Municipal and Industrial Purposes**

**\$ 40.55 per acre foot**

**Water Primarily for Agricultural Purposes**

**\$ 13.55 per acre foot**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** pursuant to Section 70-7.10 of the San Benito County Water District Act that each operator of a water producing facility not measured with a water measuring device and/or not producing water from said facility shall file a statement verified by a written declaration made under penalty of perjury on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of January in each year until such time as said facility has been permanently abandoned, setting forth a total production in acre feet of water for the preceding calendar year (excluding the month in which the statement is due), a general description or number locating each water-producing facility, and the method or basis of the computation of such water production or that no water has been produced from said water-producing facility.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that should the operation of a water-producing facility fail to file the aforementioned statement, said operator shall be assessed in addition to an interest charge calculated at the rate of 1% for each month on the delinquent amount of the groundwater charge, a penalty representing 10% of the amount found by the District to be due.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that continued replenishment of the groundwater supplies of Zone 6 is necessary;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the above groundwater charge does not exceed the costs reasonably borne by the District in the period of the charge in providing the water supply service authorized by the District Act in Zone 6, which costs are set forth in **Exhibit "A"**, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that the term "primary" or "primarily" is defined in **Exhibit "B"** attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the following criteria shall be used in computing the amount of water produced from a water-producing facility, which is not measured by a measuring device:

Inside water use shall be determined on the basis of 0.05 acre feet per person, per residence or dwelling unit, plus a base water use of 0.10 acre feet per residence or dwelling unit.

Outside water use for irrigation shall be determined on the basis of 0.09 acre feet per 1000 square feet of watered land up to 2.0 acres. For water areas greater than 2.0 acres generally accepted unit water duties based on crop type and irrigation method as determined by the District shall be used.

Outside water use for livestock watering shall be determined on the basis of 0.02 acre feet per animal unit up to 10 and 0.01 acre feet per animal unit for each unit above 10.

Outside water use for fowl shall be determined on the basis of 0.005 acre feet per 100 fowl.

1. Findings:

The Board of Directors hereby finds and determines that:

- a) Revenues derived from the charge imposed herein do not exceed the funds required to pay for operation and maintenance and costs associated with Zone 6 of the San Benito County Water District, San Felipe Division of the Central Valley Project, as authorized by the voters in Zone 6 on November 8, 1977 and shall not be used for any other purpose;
- b) The amount of the charge does not exceed the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel;
- c) The service for which the charge is imposed (see 1.a) above) is actually used by or is immediately available to the owner in question;
- d) The charge is not imposed for general governmental services.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2022 by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTORS: Tonascia, Flores, Shelton, Tobias & Williams

NOES: DIRECTORS: None

ABSENT: DIRECTORS: None

ABSTAIN: DIRECTORS: None

/s/ Joseph Tonascia  
Joseph Tonascia  
President

ATTEST: /s/ Sara Singleton  
Sara Singleton  
Assistant Manager

## EXHIBIT A

Groundwater Rates						
Water Year						
2022-2023						
Zone 6						
REVENUE REQUIREMENTS					Rates <sup>2</sup>	
Component		Rate (\$/AF) <sup>1</sup>	Quantity (A/F) <sup>1</sup>	Amount	Ag (per A/F)	M & I (per A/F)
<b>SOURCE OF SUPPLY O&amp;M</b>						
AG		\$ 18.68	23,974	\$ 447,834	\$ 18.68	
M&I		\$ 18.68	4,877	\$ 91,102		\$ 18.68
<b>PERCOLATION COSTS</b>						
<b>Cost of Water</b>						
AG	Cost of Water <sup>3</sup>	\$ 53.51	2,105	\$ 112,617	\$ 4.70	
M&I	Cost of Water <sup>3</sup>	\$ 163.58	428	\$ 70,034		\$ 14.36
<b>Power Costs</b>						
AG	Power Charge for percolation	\$ 58.83	2,105	123,813	\$ 5.16	
M&I	Power Charge for percolation	\$ 58.83	428	25,187		\$ 5.16
<b>TOTAL 2019-2020</b>					<b>\$ 28.54</b>	<b>\$ 38.21</b>
<b>Previously approved Groundwater Charges<sup>4</sup></b>						
2019-2020 Water Year Groundwater Charge					\$ 12.75	\$ 38.25
2020-2021 Water Year Groundwater Charge					\$ 13.15	\$ 39.40
2021-2022 Water Year Groundwater Charge					\$ 13.55	40.55
<b>RECOMMENDED CHARGES</b>						
<b>2022-2023 Water Year Groundwater Charge</b>					<b>\$ 13.55</b>	<b>40.55</b>
Notes:						
1 Rate Basis is unchanged from the basis used for prior year rates.						
Assumed Volumes						
Groundwater usage						
	Ag usage		23,974			
	M&I usage		4,877			
	Total		28,851			
2 Rates=Revenue Requirements/projected groundwater usage						
3 Cost of Water:						
AG: USBR and SLDMWA O&M						
M&I: USBR and SLDMWA O&M, USBR Out-of-Basin Interest						
4 Groundwater charges adopted by San Benito County Water District Board of Directors in Jan-19						
5 Assumed volumes for percolation (based on 3 year average)						
	Ag	83%	2105			
	M&I	17%	428			
	Total	100%	2533			
6 Annual escalation rate for previous rates 3%						
7 Rates charged will be rounded up to nearest \$.05						
Note: Section 70-7.8 (a) of the District Act states that the agricultural rate shall not exceed one-third of the rates for all water other than agricultural water.						

## EXHIBIT B

### ESTABLISHING THE PRIMARY USE OF WELLS IN ZONE 6

The primary use must be established on all wells that are used for both agricultural and municipal and industrial purposes.

Agricultural water shall mean water used primarily in the commercial production of agricultural crops or livestock, including domestic use incidental thereto, on tracts of land operated in units of more than 2 acres.

Municipal, Industrial and domestic water (hereinafter referred to as M & I water) shall mean water used for other than agricultural purposes.

**IN ORDER TO QUALIFY AS AN AGRICULTURAL WELL, THERE MUST BE AT LEAST 2 ACRES OF AGRICULTURAL LAND FOR EVERY DWELLING THAT THE WELL ALSO SERVES.**

Examples of various ratios applied in the classification of wells:

2 Acres of Agricultural Land & 1 Dwelling =	Agricultural or M & I (as determined by District)
4 Acres of Agricultural Land & 2 Dwellings =	Agricultural or M & I (as determined by District)
2 Acres of Agricultural Land & 2 Dwellings =	M & I
4 Acres of Agricultural Land & 3 Dwellings =	M & I
4 Acres of Agricultural Land & 1 Dwelling =	Agricultural
6 Acres of Agricultural Land & 2 Dwellings =	Agricultural