

SAN ANTONIO BASIN WATER DISTRICT

EXTENTION OF DEADLINE FOR PROP. 218 ASSESSMENT

MAY 14, 2020

LAFCO AGENDA ITEM BUSINESS NO. 3

FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR NEW DISTRICTS

- When LAFCO approves a new district, LAFCO requires successful passage of a funding mechanism (usually tax or Prop. 218).
- Recent examples include IVCS D (tax), Los Olivos CSD (tax), Cuyama Basin Water District (Prop. 218).
- San Antonio WVD Resolution of formation Condition 2(d) required a Prop. 218 assessment to fund the District by June 30, 2020 unless “LAFCO otherwise extends the deadline.”
- Petitioners’ letter of May 4, 2020 (in the packet) cites need for more time, including the formation election was only recently completed.

RECOMMENDATION

- **Approve request to extend deadline for District to conduct and approve a Proposition 218 assessment from June 30, 2020 to September 30, 2020.**

SAN ANTONIO BASIN WATER DISTRICT

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

MAY 14, 2020

LAFCO AGENDA ITEM BUSINESS NO. 4

TODAY'S ACTION

- Request that the Commission:

**Consider and Approve Execution of Certificate of
Completion confirming formation of the San Antonio Basin Water
District**

- Mandatory Duty – “The commission shall execute, within 30 days of the the canvass of the election, a certificate of completion confirming the order of change of organization ...”. (G.C. 56176.)

PURPOSE OF DISTRICT

- District powers are set forth in California Water District Law, Water Code sec. 34000. (Stats. 1913, 1951.) A “landowner voter” district.
- District may acquire, plan, construct, maintain, improve, operate, and repair the necessary works for production, storage, transmission, and distribution of water for irrigation, domestic, industrial, and municipal purposes, and any drainage or reclamation works.
- **Powers do NOT include groundwater management.**

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT - “SGMA” (2014)

- SGMA mandates management of groundwater. (WC 10720 et seq.).
- SGMA requires adoption of a “groundwater sustainability plan” (GSP) by a “groundwater sustainability agency” (GSA) for each basin.
- Local agencies may form GSA by July 30, 2017. (WC 10735.2.)
- GSA with “critical overdraft” basin must submit GSP by Jan. 21, 2020.
- Other GSA’s have until Jan. 31, 2022. Probation possible until 1/31/25.

CONTEXT

SGMA & SAN ANTONIO WATER BASIN

- A GSA has already been formed in the San Antonio Basin.
- GSA was formed by adoption of a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the Cachuma Resource Conservation District and the Los Alamos CSD.
- JPA specifies that if a water district is formed, that district will take the place of the Cachuma RCD on the JPA.
- Therefore, once San Antonio District is formed, it will be a member of the JPA.
- Significantly, it may help fund the JPA through District Prop. 218 assessments.

TIMELINE – FORMATION PROCESS

- July 11, 2019: Commission approved formation of District.
- August 30, 2019: Protest hearing – “significantly less than 50 percent landowner protests.”
- Oct. 3, 2019: Commission approved ballot measure and impartial analysis and directed Supervisors to direct Elections to hold an election.
- Nov. 5, 2019: Supervisors directed Elections to hold election.
- April 7, 2020: Election held via mailed ballots.

ELECTION PROCESS & VOTING

- Principle Act governs, except where there is a conflict with LAFCO statute. Principle Act defines voter eligibility and value of votes.
- Landowner district. - only landowners vote for formation and board.
- Voting valuation: Landowners have **one vote per acre** or one vote for parcels less than one acre. (WC 35003.)
- Election for formation also includes election of initial board.

ELECTION RESULTS

- April 15, 2020. Joseph Holland Clerk-Recorder-Assessor certified the canvass of votes. Value of votes as follows
 - District acreage: 87,041
 - Ballots cast: 180
 - In favor: 66,366
 - Against: 400
 - Blank: 1,883

SUPERVISORS DECLARE RESULTS OF ELECTION

- April 21, 2020: Board of Supervisors accepted the Certificate of the Canvass of Results and declared the results as specified in the Certificate.
- Election process is complete.
- LAFCO's execution of the Certificate of Completion is appropriate.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve and authorize execution of Certificate of Completion for the formation of the San Antonio Basin Water District.