SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

TO: Board of Directors **AGENDA NO. V- A**

FROM: Ed Fortner, General Manager

Meeting Date: November 7, 2019

Subject: Kincade Fire Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Receive report from the General Manager. Discussion and possible action.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

DISCUSSION:

The Kincade Fire and the PG&E extended power outage caused much disruption for Sweetwater Springs Water District. When the Sheriff called for a mandatory evacuation of all of West Sonoma County Saturday, October 26th, I made the decision to allow all SSWD employees to get their families to safety outside the evacuation zone. SSWD staff had filled all the system tanks during the day Saturday and had set generators at all the appropriate locations. Power was still on when the evacuation was called. Staff had communicated with Fire Chief Baxman earlier in the event. Two SSWD employees, Kevin Gilman and Ryan Wilson stayed in the service area and were able to monitor the system and run generators as needed Sunday and Monday. Jack Bushgen returned Sunday, and I returned Monday. I was in constant contact with all staff during the event. I updated the Sheriff's office, EOC, the State Water Division, and Chief Baxman Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Our generator at our offices failed, and we purchased a generator on Tuesday to run the office computers. The ERP will be updated to better cover future fire/ power outage/ mandated evacuation situations. Staff debriefed Thursday, October 31st. Communication, fire protection, generators, internet, IDs and other issues were discussed. The system kept tanks full, the system pressurized and did a great job with all the added challenges presented. As always, we learned a great deal and will apply that knowledge in any future emergency.