SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

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

FROM: Steve Mack, General Manager

Meeting Date: September 4, 2014

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION/ACTION RE MEDICAL DISABILITY WATER RATE

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive a presentation from Richard Skaff regarding adding a medical disability water rate to the District's water rate structure.

FISCAL IMPACT: Small

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Richard Skaff has requested that the District add a medical disability water rate waiver to the District's water rate schedule. He has requested the water rate waiver be patterned on the Medical Disability Water Rate in place at the Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD, form attached as Exhibit A).

Some facts about the MMWD

- Service area includes a population of 186,000 and the District has approximately 61,400 service connections and sells on average approximately 28,000 AF. It uses approximately 10 times more Russian River water than Sweetwater Springs Water District (SSWD) does (7400 AF). MMWD has 244 authorized positions in FY 2015.

- Annual total budget is approximately $93,000,000 with an operations budget of $70,000,000. See Exhibit B for a fact sheet on MMWD.

- MMWD also has a Service Charge Waiver Program that allows qualifying low-income customers to have the service charge waived.

- MMWD has a different rate structure than SSWD. It has much higher water usage rates, larger tiers, seasonal rates (bigger tiers in the summer) and a smaller service charge. It bills bimonthly like the District. See Table A for a comparison of single family residential (SFR) rates (both discounts only apply to SFR 5/8 inch meters). Commercial accounts do not have a 4th tier.

Table A. Comparison of MMWD and SSWD Water Rates

MMWD Single-Family Residential Customers

Tier	Rate per CCF*	Tiers (units) December - May CCF	June - November CCF
1	$3.74	0 - 21	0 - 26
2	$7.48	22 - 48	27 - 59
3	$14.97	49 - 80	60 - 99
4	$22.45	81+	100+

SSWD Single-Family Residential Customers

Tier	Rate per CCF*	December - May CCF	June - November CCF
1	$1.30	0 – 8	No Change
2	$2.60	9 – 20	“
3	$3.85	21 – 80	“
4	$5.60	81+	“

Fixed Bimontly Charges:
MMWD – $21.53
SSWD - $66.55

MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
MEDICALLY DISABLED WATER RATE
QUALIFYING CRITERIA

To qualify for MMWD's Medically Disabled Water Rate Program, you must:

_ Establish your disability through doctor verification (form attached), and install low-volume showerheads, ULF toilets and faucet washers in your home;

_ Be a single family residential customer with a meter size no larger than 1";

_ Have the water service in your name (apartment complexes or mobile home parks with a master meter do not qualify); and

_ Not be claimed as a dependent on another person's income tax return.

Please complete the attached application and return it to Customer Service Department, MMWD, 220 Nellen Avenue, Corte Madera, CA 94925. Your application must include certification from your doctor as to your disability.

Please direct all questions regarding this program to our Customer Service Department at (415) 945-1409. We will notify you in writing as to whether or not you qualify for this program. Please allow three weeks for your application to be processed.

MMWD Code Section 6.01.100. ". . . The District may perform a water audit on any property of a consumer receiving the medically disabled water rate to assure that the consumer is in compliance with this section and other provisions in this Code pertaining to water conservation."

The District reserves the right to request additional information at any time. While eligibility is normally for a one-year period, participation in the program can be revoked if a consumer does not meet all qualifying criteria as set forth in the District Code.

MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
CERTIFICATION OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE OR OSTEOPATHY
LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

MEDICAL CONDITION:

I certify that the medical condition and needs of

_____,
name of patient

who is a full-time resident of the customer's household, are as follows:

(**One of the boxes below must be checked**)

1. Condition is: [ ] Permanent.
[ ] Temporary. If temporary, anticipated recovery date:_____.

2. Patient is on a life-supporting device:
[ ] Yes [ ] No

(A life-support device is a medical devised used to sustain life or relied upon for mobility. The term "life-support device" includes, but is not limited to, respirators, hemodialysis machines, suction machines, pressure pads and pumps, aerosol tents, electrostatic and ultrasonic nebulizers. Devices used for therapy rather than for life support and have no related extra water needs generally do not qualify).

_____
Doctor's name (please print or type)

_____
Doctor's signature

_____
Office address

_____
City, state, zip

_____
Telephone No.

If you would like to provide more detail, please attach your signed statement.

MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
MEDICALLY DISABLED WATER RATE APPLICATION

Application for Calendar Year 20___

The Medically Disabled Water Rate discount will result in nine (9) additional CCFs* being billed at the Tier One base rate per two-month billing cycle.

MMWD Customer #:	Date:
Name:	Phone: ( )
Address: number & street city zip	

I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

_____
Signature

Please notify Marin Municipal Water District if the person qualifying for Medical Baseline Quantities moves to another service address.

*One CCF, or hundred cubic feet, is 748 gallons.

Marin Municipal Water District

Marin Municipal Water District is a public utility providing water to 186,000 people in a 147-square-mile area of south and central Marin County. In operation since 1912, MMWD is the oldest municipal water district in California. The district is divided into five divisions, with an elected representative from each division serving as a director. The Board of Directors appoints a general manager to supervise all operations.

The primary source of water supply is rainfall stored in seven reservoirs. Additional water is imported from the Russian River annually. After treatment at one of the district's three water treatment plants, the water is transmitted throughout the MMWD service area by gravity flow or booster pumps. Operation of the district is financed solely by revenue from the sale of water. Large-scale capital improvements have been funded by bond issues and certificates of participation.

OUR MISSION

To manage our natural resources in a sustainable manner and to provide our customers with reliable, high-quality water at a reasonable price.

Marin Municipal Water District

220 Nellen Ave.

Corte Madera, CA 94925

marinwater.org

(415) 945-1455

2013/14 MMWD Fact Sheet

SERVICE AREA

Square miles	147
Population	186,000

WATER SUPPLY

Watershed lands (acres)	21,635
Number of storage reservoirs	7
Total reservoir storage capacity in acre-feet[1]	79,566
In millions of gallons	29,927
Average yearly rainfall in inches at Lake Lagunitas	52
Average yearly runoff, less losses[2] in acre-feet	61,400
In millions of gallons	20,000
Water imported from Russian River (avg. annual, acre-feet)	7,400
Operational yield[3] (acre-feet)	28,500

WATER USE

Service connections (active)	61,391
Residential	55,166
Other	6,225
Maximum annual use (1987) in acre-feet	33,100
In millions of gallons	10,785
Average annual use from fiscal year 2003-2013 in acre-feet	28,009
In millions of gallons	9,127

FINANCE

	FY 2013-14	2014-15
Budget fiscal year revenues (not including fire flow)	$69,577,720	$71,119,800
Budget fiscal year disbursements (not including fire flow)		
Operations	$67,309,148	$69,466,761
Debt service	$6,833,590	$6,836,512
Capital purchases and projects	$19,585,400	$19,880,749
Total budgeted fiscal year disbursements	$93,728,138	$96,184,022
Utility plant - net book value[4]	$333,039,275	- - -

DRINKING WATER FACILITIES

Miles of pipeline	888
Number of storage tanks	125
Total tank storage capacity (millions of gallons)	82
Number of pump stations	90
Number of potable water treatment plants	3
Maximum daily treatment plant capacity (millions of gallons)	59
Average daily treatment plant production (millions of gallons)	25

RECYCLED WATER FACILITIES

Miles of pipeline	24
Number of storage tanks	3
Total tank storage capacity (millions of gallons)	1.9
Number of pump stations	5
Number of recycled water treatment plants	1
Maximum daily treatment plant capacity (millions of gallons)	2

WATERSHED FACILITIES

Miles of watershed roads	92
Miles of watershed trails	59
Number of picnic grounds	8
Acres of wildfire protection fuel breaks	1,077

[1]One acre-foot is equivalent to 325,851 gallons, enough water to cover one acre (about the size of a football field) to a depth of one foot or to supply three families for one year

[2]Due to evaporation

[3]Amount of water that can be supplied in all but the driest years

[4]Per audited financial statements as of June 30, 2012

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