SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

TO: Board of Directors **AGENDA NO. VI**

FROM: Ed Fortner, General Manager

Meeting Date: **May 7, 2020**

Subject: GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive report from the General Manager.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

DISCUSSION:

1. **Laboratory Testing:** Water quality tests confirm that all SSWD water meets all known State and Federal water quality standards. Annual Reports were completed for GV and MR. Diversion reports were completed for GV and MR.

2. **Water Production and Sales:** Water sales in March were 16,886 units (38.8 AF Guerneville cycle), and production (calculated as running twelve-month average) was 48.1 AF. Compared to one year ago, sales were higher, and production was higher (42.6 AF and 56.4 AF, respectively). Figure 1 shows sales, production and % difference for the combined systems; the water loss trend was down this month (20.1%). Looking at the data over the last ten years, water production has dropped approximately 29%, and sales have dropped 18%. The water loss percentage was around 30% and now is in the 15-20% range. Much of the production and water loss drop can be attributed to the capital projects funded by Redevelopment. The sales drop is probably due to conservation; it's unlikely historic use levels will return soon.

3. **Leaks:** In April, we had eight total leak repairs with 63 hours on them. Six leaks were in Guerneville and two leaks were in Rio Nido. All leaks were in older lines. That is more leaks and more person-hours compared to the prior month and the same number of leaks and more person-hours compared to April one year ago (8 and 45). Figure 2 shows service and main leaks separately with a total leak line as well. For Calendar Year 2019, total leaks were 78, down from 105 from 2018. Looking at the leaks chart over the last ten years, we've come down from around 300 leaks per year to under 80 - quite a difference and very noticeable in what the field crews are able to do - address ongoing issues with in-house projects instead of chasing leaks every day.

4. **Guerneville Rainfall:** April rainfall was .94", which is lower than the long-term average month and keeps the yearly total (16.17") below the long-term annual average. Our driest year on record was 1977 and we had 13.06" total by the end of April.

5. **In-House Construction Projects:** There were two in-house construction projects in April:
   - A bypass of 75' of 2" Water main at Half Bridge due to leak at 17899 Old Monte Rio Rd. (GV). Thirty two person-hours were spent on the project.
   - Water service was replaced at 16650 Hwy 116. (MR). Nineteen hours were spent on the project.

6. **Labor Negotiations:** Gregory Ramirez with IDEC, Laura Strand with Local 39 and I have been communicating and met on May seventh via webEx due to the uncertainties and health concerns around the Covid-19 Pandemic.

7. **Rate Study Update:** The Final Rate Study will be presented by Bartle and Wells to the Board at the May 7th Board Meeting.

8. **Lower Russian River Community Action Group Governance Meeting:** There was a remote meeting on April 23rd. A pause is anticipated in the regulatory process. Action is being taken around the grant funding for the feasibility study for Monte Rio/ Villa Grande sewerage solution(s).

9. **FerrellGas Lease Update:** The lease for our Office space was renewed/ extended for three years with FerrellGas corporate offices.

10. **Lower Harrison Tank Site Retainer Wall Update:** Piazza Construction completed the project on April 30th. The work turned out nicely. We are investigating the need for a roof replacement and paint job on the tank in the next few years.

11. **Grant(s) Update:** Attended mandatory meeting of the Sonoma County Community Development Committee Public Hearing remotely on April 15th to consider our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for the FY 2021 CIP (Old River Rd and Woodland Ave. line replacement). The CDC and CDC staff recommended full funding request for Design and Planning of $115,920.00. Final funding decisions will occur at the June Sonoma County Board of Supervisor's meeting. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) staff informed the GM that Guerneville did NOT qualify for disadvantaged status. I replied with Census and CDBG data that confirms the disadvantaged status. DWSRF (Water Board) staff denied this new request on April 17th and we are now getting guidance to conduct a mailed income survey to hopefully qualify as disadvantaged.

12. **Gantt Chart:** The Gantt Chart is updated for April, FY 2020.

Figure 1. Water Production and Sales 12 Month Moving Averages
Sweetwater Springs Water District Since September 2008

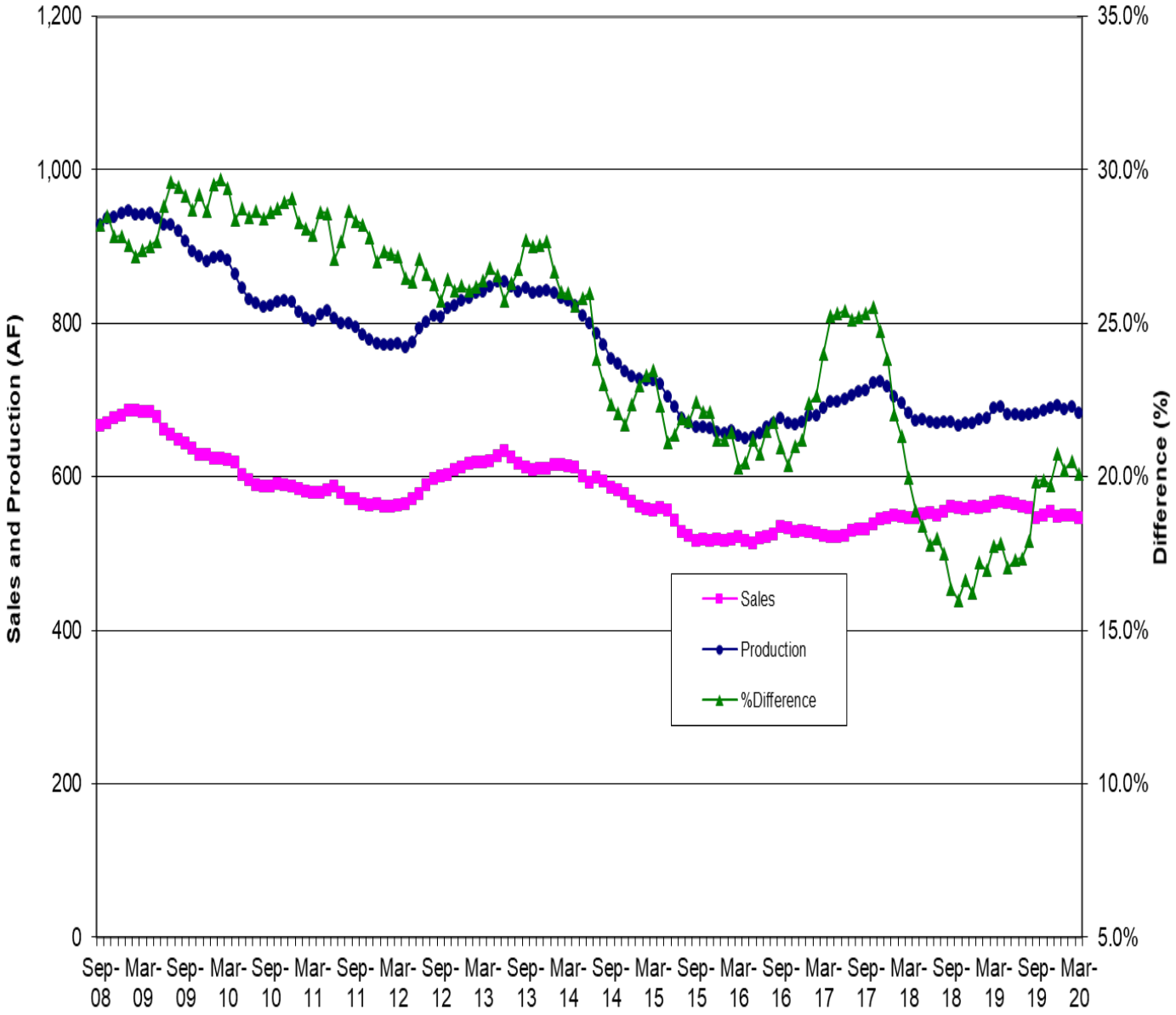
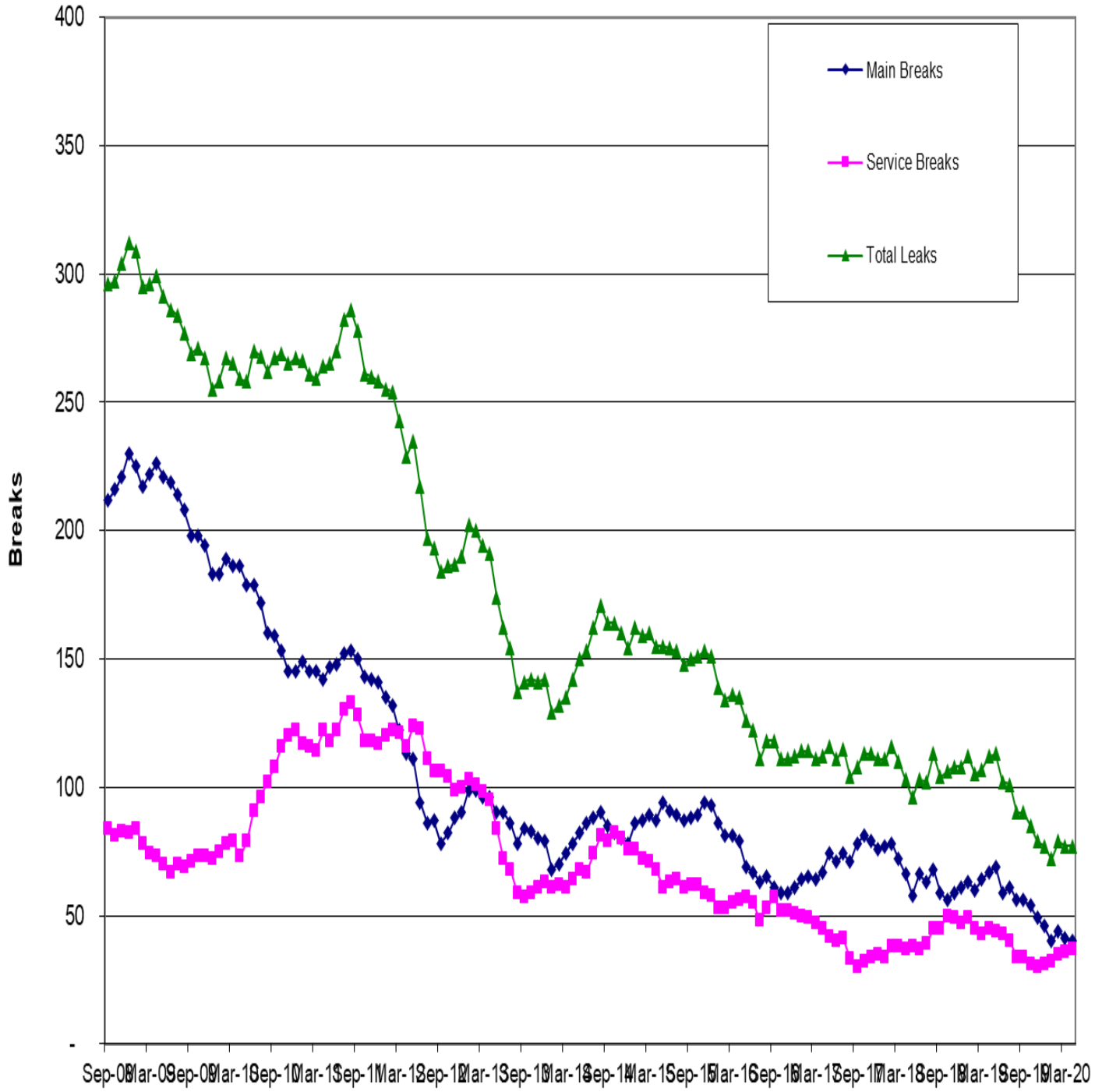


Figure 2. Sweetwater Springs Water District Main and Service Pipeline Breaks Moving Annual Average Since September 2008



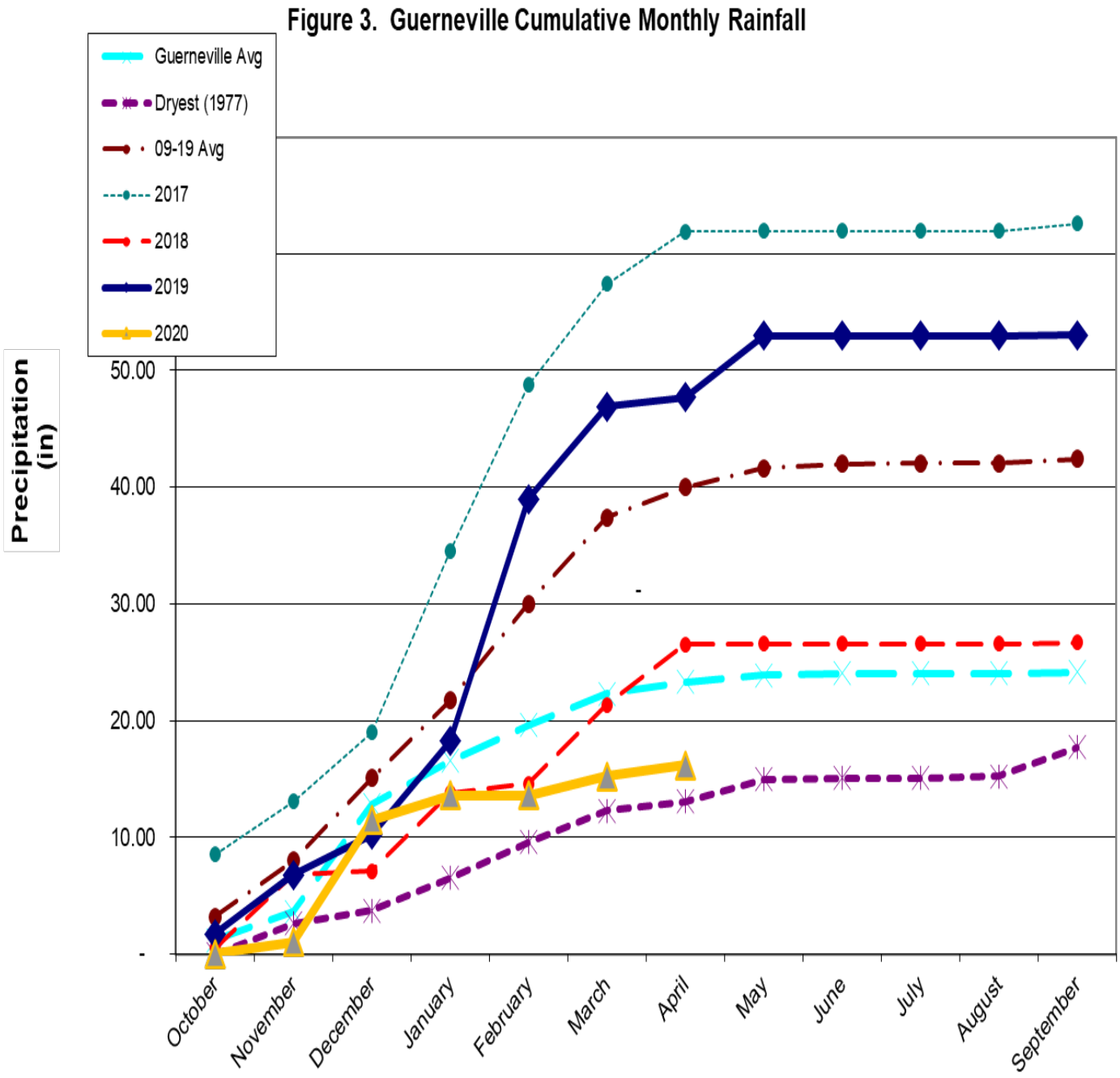


Figure 3. Guerneville Cumulative Monthly Rainfall
Guerneville Avg
Dryest (1977)
09-19 Avg
2017
2018
2019
2020
Precipitation (in)
50.00
40.00
30.00
20.00
10.00
-
October
November
December
January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September

Figure 4. Sweetwater Springs WD Calendar Gantt		Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	FY21+
Ongoing Activity														
Board Action														
Other Milestone														
Current Month														
By Activity														
Action Item/Milestone	**Projected Completion / Milestone Date**													
Budget Preparation														
• Capital Improvement Program Board Discussion														
• Staff Budget Preparation Begins														
• Ad Hoc Budget Committee Reviews Draft Budget														
• Draft Budget to Board for Discussion/Action														
• Approve Budget														
Capital Projects														
• Update/Review District CIP														
• 2021 CIP Planning														
• 2021 CIP Design														
• 2019 CIP Construction Ends														
Labor Negotiations														
Strategic Planning	Nov-19													
Cost of Service Study	Mar-20													
Urban Water Management Plan	Oct-20													
Water Rights	SCWA													
Emergency Response Plan Review														
Building Lease														
• Lease Renewal	Aug-20													
Policies and Procedures														
• Other Policy														
• Overall Review														
District Annual Review														