SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

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

FROM: Steve Mack, General Manager

Meeting Date: September 5, 2013

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.

2. **Water Production and Sales:** Water sales in July was 29,163 units (66.9 AF, Guerneville cycle) and production was 92.0 AF. Compared to one year ago, sales and production were lower (76.2 AF and 98.1 AF, respectively). The annual average difference between sales and production increased a bit compared to the prior month to 25.7%.

3. **Leaks:** In July we had 12 total leaks and spent 113 man-hours on them. Those are fewer leaks and more man-hours compared to the prior month and than July one year ago (20 leaks, 81.5 man-hours). Figure 2 shows service and main leaks separately with a total breaks line as well, and is showing a continual decline in both.

4. **Flow at Hacienda Bridge:** Figure 3 shows flow at the Hacienda Bridge which since the June rain event has tracked very similarly to last year's flow. Before that it was well below historical averages and the flow during the 2009 dry year – that was done on purpose to maintain water in Lake Mendocino.

5. **2014 CIP:** The contractor, Piazza Construction started construction on the Hidden Valley element on August 5 and is making good progress there. As part of the construction effort, the contractor proposed boring the mainline instead of trenching and offered a cost savings of $87,000. We agreed with the approach and, so far, it is working well – there is much less disruption to the neighborhood.

6. **Toilet Rebate/Direct Install Program:** One toilet rebate was approved in August. The Direct Install Program numbers remain the same: the most current accounting is 17 customers have had 27 direct install toilet installations completed, 13 customers with 17 toilets have been approved for installation and 21 customers with 37 toilets are on a wait list.

7. **In-House Construction Projects:** There were five in-house projects reported for August. Staff replaced 190 feet of water line with 2 inch HDPE with 2 new valves and 3 new services on Canyon 6 in Rio Nido (309 hours over 2 months), replaced 40 feet of PVC conduit under creek crossing (18 hours), replaced one service on Orchard Ave. (32.5 hours) replaced one service line on Cherry St. (58 hours) and supervised a construction new service, the work was done by Von Renner Construction (0.5 hours).

8. **Emergency Repair to Monte Rio Filter:** One cell in one of two green sand filters at the Monte Rio Treatment Facility failed during the week of August 19. This filter treats high iron and manganese in produced groundwater. Staff contacted the company that has done maintenance on this filter and received an estimate of $17,000 to rehabilitate the cell, fixing whatever has caused the failure, plus refreshing the filter media inside the entire filter. The work in fixing this filter should be completed by August 31 and the filter should be back in service by September 4 (after testing). Until the failed filter is back in service, the Monte Rio system will still have filtration from the remaining working element.

9. **Power Outage on August 25-26:** The power outage that hit the Guernewood Park area affected the District Office and the booster pumping stations at Park Avenue Tank and the Lower Summit Tank. At the Office the office emergency generator failed and a portable generator was brought in to supply power for necessary functions – one phone line, 2 computers, and one printer. Generators also supplied power to the Park Avenue and Lower Summit booster pumps so that no customers were out of water (with one exception for a customer who had additional pumping that did not operate during the outage). More could have been made operable at the Office if needed. This was a good test for the Office in that most of the distribution system (other than that described above) was not affected. Staff has contacted Ferrellgas, the owners of the office generator, for necessary maintenance and repairs for the generator.

10. **Refinancing Closing:** The refinancing of 20 years of USDA bonds closed on August 21. Everything went smoothly during the month of August – a big difference from the attempt to do the public refinancing in June. The District will save an average of approximately $45,000 per year in reduced debt payments for the next 20 years.

11. **Gantt Chart:** September in the Gantt Chart shows that 2014 CIP construction is continuing and is expected to last into November. The Gantt Chart also notes that something should be happening with the SCWA water rights protest in September – the draft EIR for the change in flows for Decision 1610 was scheduled for release this month. I have learned that the draft EIR is now expected in early 2014; I have marked January in red as a reminder, but it may be later than that.

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

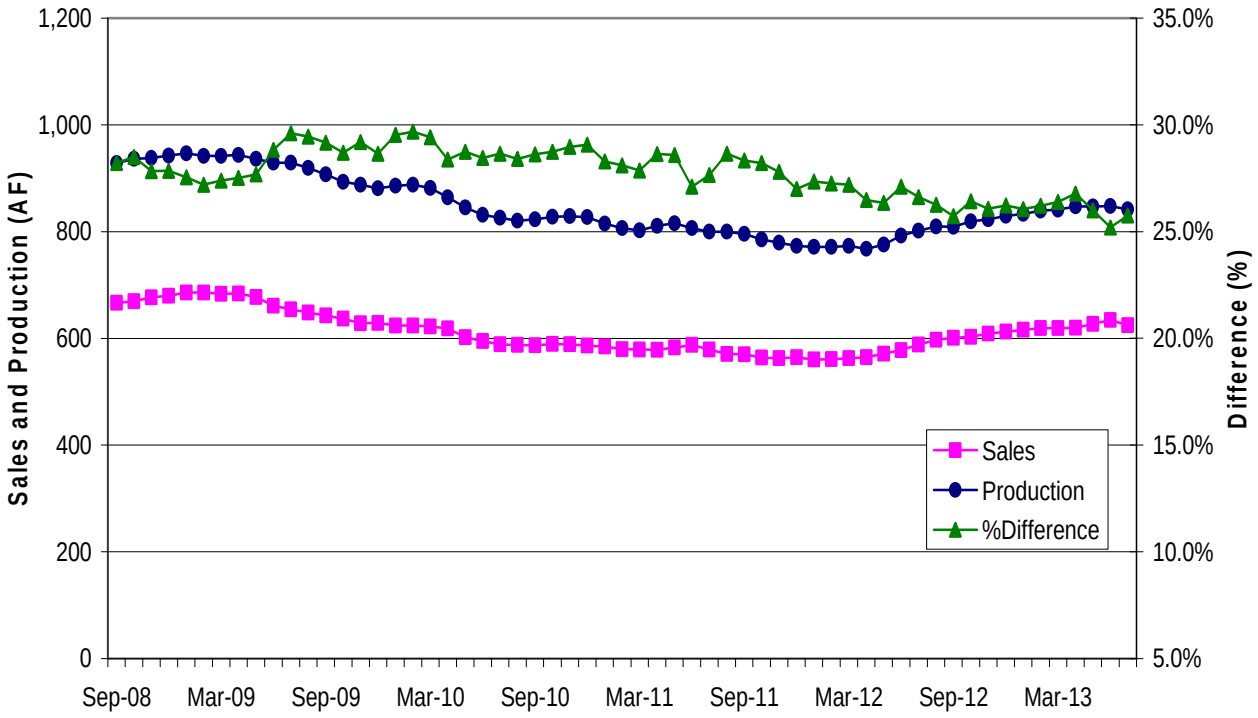

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Figure 2. Sweetwater Springs Water District Main and Service Pipeline Breaks Moving Annual Average Since September 2008

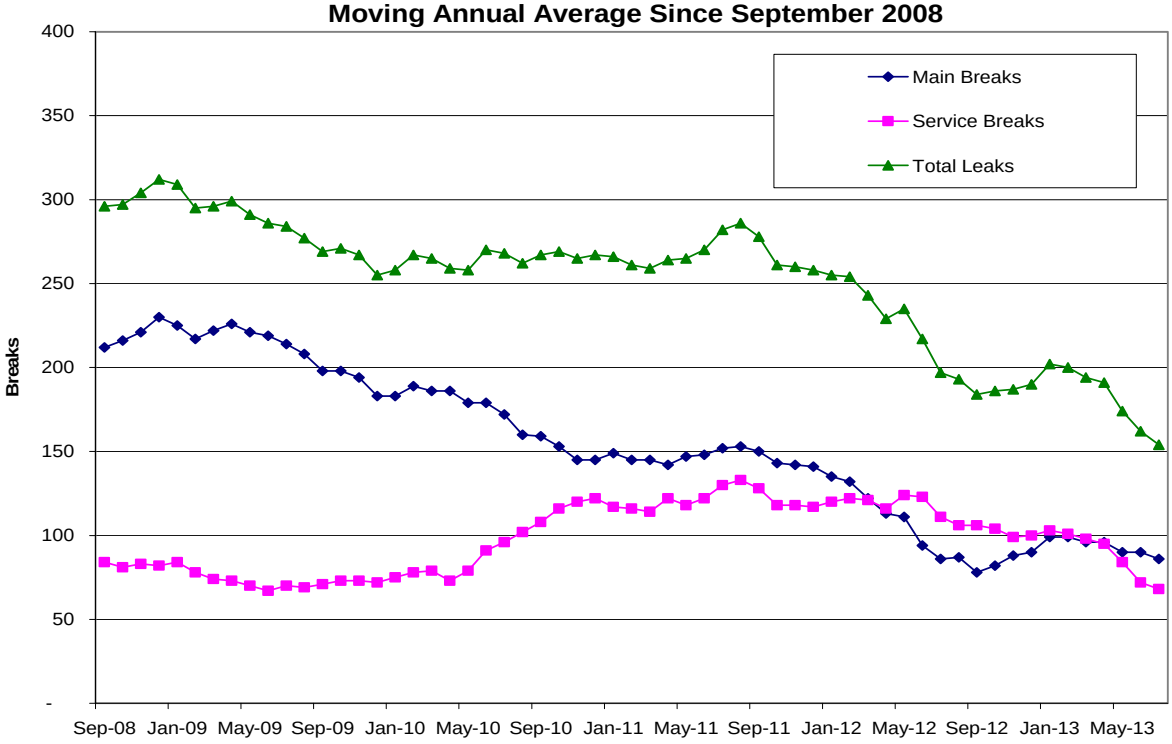

Figure 3. Russian River Summer Flow at Hacienda Bridge, 2013 Compared to Earlier Years and the 2000-2008 Average, Updated August 27, 2013

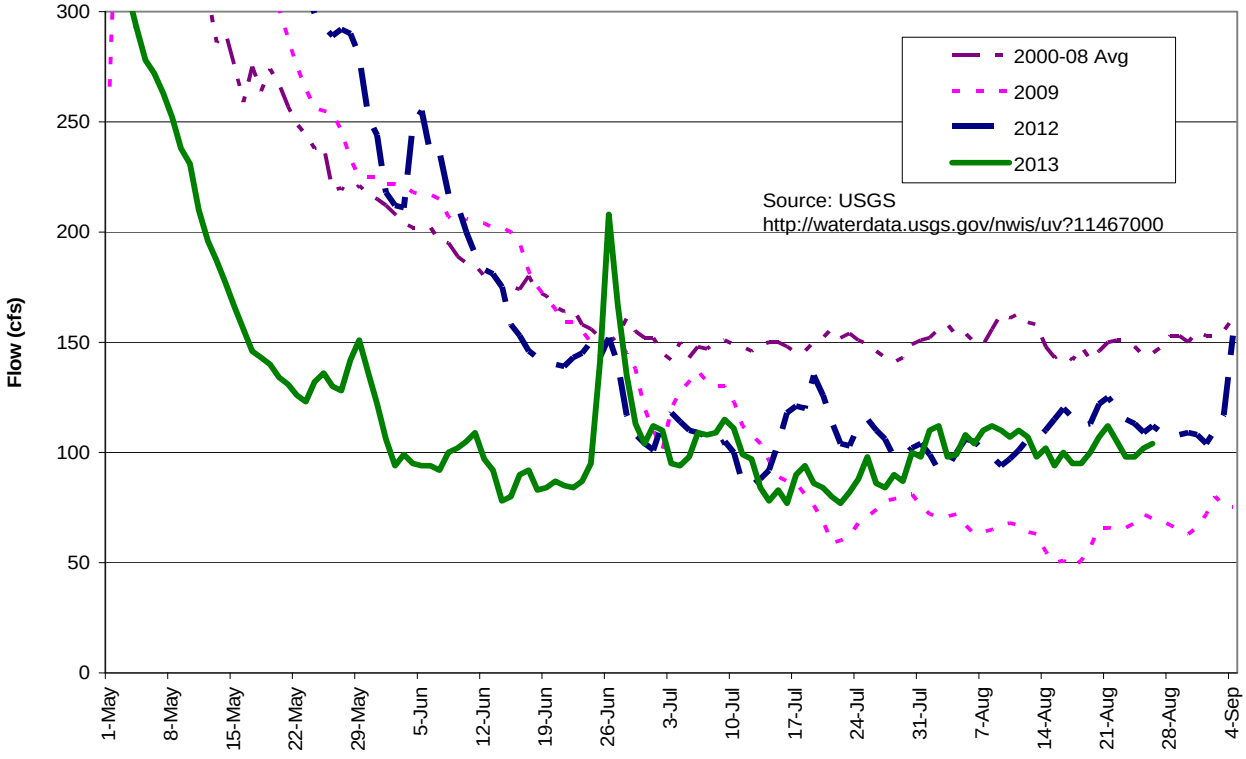

Table 4. Sweetwater Springs WD Calendar Gantt Chart		Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14	May-14	Jun-14	Jul-14	FY 15+
Ongoing Activity																						
Board Action																						
Other Milestone																						
Current Month																						
By Activity																						
Action Item/Milestone	**Projected Completion / Milestone Date**																					
Crystal Communications Lease																						
2013-14 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																						
2014-15 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																						
• 2014 CIP Design																						
• 2014 CIP Award of Contract																						
• 2014 CIP Construction Starts																						
• 2015 CIP Design																						
• 2015 CIP Award of Contract																						
• 2015 CIP Construction Starts																						
Urban Water Management Plan	Dec-15																					
Water Rights	SCWA Protest										X											
Building Lease																						
• Lease Ends	July-16																					
Policies and Procedures																						
• Other Policy																						
• Overall Review																						
Board and General Manager Annual Review																						