SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

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

FROM: Steve Mack, General Manager

Meeting Date: September 6, 2018

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ON POTENTIAL DISTRICT WILD FIRE ISSUES

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive a presentation Richard Skaff, resident of Guernewood Park area, and from General Manager Steve Mack regarding potential District wild fire issues and provide direction to staff.

FISCAL IMPACT: none at this time.

DISCUSSION:

Richard Skaff, a resident of the Guernewood Park neighborhood has requested that he be allowed to give a presentation to the Board regarding his concerns about water supply in the Guernewood Park neighborhood in the event of a wild fire in that area. Mr. Skaff's emails requesting this item have been forwarded to the Board.

I have responded to Mr. Skaff with the following response which I believe gives good background for a discussion on this item (lightly edited): Fire protection is a complex subject and rushing a discussion and purchasing equipment on one aspect based on comments from one newspaper article on a totally different area and situation is not appropriate or responsible. For your information, the Monte Rosa Tank which is the tank I believe you are focused provides storage for approximately 90 customers in the Guernewood Park area along upper Old Cazadero Road, Camino del Arroyo, and Fern Way, and has been rated by the Division of Drinking Water analysis as having 133% of needed fire protection storage. These houses are also fed by the main zone which also feeds the Monte Rosa Tank even if the power is off and that booster pump is not working. Most of the houses along Old Cazadero Road are in the main zone, not fed by the Monte Rosa Tank, and are supplied by the storage at our principal Guerneville System storage at the Highland Treatment Facility which is directly supplied by the wells at the El Bonita well field and which does have onsite backup power.

There are lots of lessons to be learned from the October fires and it is apparent that the County and local fire agencies are working on those lessons. I am hoping that there will a regional response that shares these lessons in an integrated way among the many affected public and private agencies. Perhaps even a water-centered workshop.