SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

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

FROM: Steve Mack, General Manager

Meeting Date: May 5, 2011

Subject: DISCUSSION/ACTION RE PROTEST TO SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY PETITION REQUESTING MODIFICATIONS TO WATER RIGHTS PERMIT

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Discussion/Action regarding the District's protest to Sonoma County Water Agency's (SCWA) Petition requesting modifications to their water rights permits for use of water from the Russian River.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

DISCUSSION:
On March 10, 2011, the California State Water Resources Control Board sent a letter to protestants to the SCWA Petition requesting modifications to its water rights permits, including the District, notifying all parties that SCWA was to contact valid protestants regarding steps to resolve the protests within 60 days. The parties then have 180 days to report back to the Board on the progress of resolving the protest. The 60 day period is up on May 10, 2011. We have yet to receive any contact from SCWA regarding this matter. We are including this item on the agenda so that the Board may discuss it with or without contact from SCWA.

We have heard that there are approximately 300 protests to the SCWA petition. Dealing with each of these protests individually would be a difficult task. I suspect SCWA will initiate some kind of process that involves all the protestants in some group effort. I will make efforts to find out what SCWA intends to do prior to the Board meeting.