

#### **Board of Directors**

Janna Orkney, Chair Susan Pan, Vice Chair Leon Shapiro, Director Raymond Tjulander, Director James Wall, Director

# Providing Outstanding Service Since 1963

June 24, 2019

Board of Directors Triunfo Sanitation District Ventura County, California

### **UPDATE ON WOOLSEY FIRE FEMA CLAIM & MITIGATION FUNDS APPLICATION**

## **Summary**

At the March 25, 2019 Triunfo Sanitation District (TSD) Board meeting, staff summarized the scope of the claim being filed on TSD's behalf with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for reimbursement of costs incurred in connection with the Woolsey Fire that burned in and around TSD's service area from November 8-12, 2018. Staff proceeded to file that claim and has been administering it since then. Following is an update on the claim specifics. Staff continues to pursue reimbursement of the following estimated costs:

<u>Damage No. 242655: Erosion Control, Fencing, and Air Conditioner at Oak Canyon</u> Reservoir (\$55,000)

<u>Damage No. 254110: Emergency Response (\$285,000, which will be allocated among the other damages)</u>

Damage No. 254769: Antennas and Irrigation System at Kilburn Tank (\$35,000)

Damage No. 254787: Capping of Sewer Lines (\$300,000)

Damage No. 256036: Water Used for Firefighting (\$6,500)

Damage No. 256037: Water Credited to Customers in Oak Park (\$85,000)

Damage No. 259924: Fencing at Smoketree Booster Pumping Station (\$5,000)

In accordance with FEMA recommendations, the amounts are "generous"; that is, some of the actual amounts claimed will likely be less. In all cases, reimbursement is not limited to the initial estimates submitted, nor is it in any way assured. Staff continues to administer

Board of Directors June 24, 2019 Page 2

the claim, including submission of documentation in support of costs incurred. Staff anticipates that the application process will be completed by the end of August, after which FEMA officials will likely have additional requests for information prior to approving disbursement of any funds.

In addition to reimbursement for actual damages, staff submitted FEMA applications for two disaster mitigation projects:

- 1. Emergency power generators for the Polo Sewer Lift Station and the North Ranch Wastewater Pump Station (\$30,000 each / \$60,000 total).
- 2. Retaining wall at Kilburn Reservoir (\$65,000).

The initial applications were accepted for consideration by FEMA. Staff subsequently attended a workshop at which it was learned that, in order to qualify for mitigation funding, an agency must have in place a FEMA-approved Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP). At this time, TSD has no such plan. However, the County of Ventura maintains an LHMP that is set to renew in 2020. Staff inquired if TSD might partner with the County as a named stakeholder in the renewed plan development and potentially reactivate the above mitigation funds application. Partnering with the County's plan would also fulfill the basic requirement for mitigation funding should TSD have such a need in the future. Staff received a favorable response from the County in this regard.

# Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board evaluate the option to partner as a named stakeholder on the 2020 update of Ventura County's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, and direct staff accordingly.

If you have questions, please call me at (805) 658-4608 or email sandywarren@vrsd.com.

SANDÝ WARREN - MANAGEMENT

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED:** 

Mark Norris - General Manager