

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION FOR SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

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DATE: AUGUST 14, 2019
FROM: SAMUEL MARTINEZ, Executive Officer
MICHAEL TUERPE, Project Manager
TO: LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #9: Update on LAFCO 3187 –
Countywide Service Review for Water Continued Monitoring

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission take the following actions:

1. Note receipt of status report and file.
2. Direct that no further monitoring occur for Daggett Community Services District.

BACKGROUND:

July 2017: Service Review

As a part of its Countywide Service Review for Water (LAFCO 3187), the Commission at its July 19, 2017 hearing directed staff to coordinate with Mojave Water Agency (“MWA”) to seek further assistance for the Daggett Community Services District through MWA’s Small Water Assistance Program. Below is the summary from the water service review for Daggett CSD:

Classified as a disadvantaged community; lacks intertie with an adjacent agency; significant deficiencies identified in sanitary survey report; located within the Mojave Basin Baja subarea which is at 45% ramp down; significant financial challenges identified in audits; prior service review identified concerns with the aging pipes; lack of adequate managerial oversight.

Staff has provided the Commission with three updates. Below is a summary of the updates:

The Mojave Water Agency, through its Small Water Assistance Program, is assisting the CSD with technical and managerial support for its water system. While progress continues, many things need to occur for the Daggett water system to be sustainable.

- The CSD is applying for a Prop. 1 Technical Assistance Funding grant and USDA Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant.
- A comprehensive Rate Study was funded by Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement funds through the Mojave Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.
- The hope is that Daggett CSD Board has indicated that they want to have \$100k in reserves within five years.

LAFCO Analysis

The adjacent Yermo CSD is not a water provider; rather, Liberty Utilities (a private company) is the water provider for a portion of the Yermo community that is not provided service through wells or the Daggett CSD. A potential consolidation of the two systems could be undertaken by the State Water Board under the provisions of SB 88.

The managerial issues persist at the Daggett CSD and require outside assistance. In addition, assistance from outside entities is needed to increase the water system's supply source, safety, and effectiveness.

While progress continues, many things need to occur for the Daggett water system to be sustainable.

CONCLUSION:

Due to issues identified in the Countywide Service Review for Wastewater in July 2017, the Commission directed staff to return in six months with updates for the Daggett CSD water system. This staff report is the fourth update to the Commission.

These matters are being managed by the CSD and with assistance from the Mojave Water Agency and its Small Water Assistance Program. Therefore, staff recommends that the Commission direct that no further monitoring occur for Daggett Community Services District.

Should staff or the Commission become aware of a change in circumstances that require an update to the Commission, staff can return with an update of the CSD.

SM/MT