RESOLUTION 2020-09

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BEAUMONT-CHERRY VALLEY WATER DISTRICT APPROVING TEMPORARY REGULATIONS REGARDING CUSTOMER ACCOUNT BILLING AND COLLECTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE DISTRICT LOCAL EMERGENCY REGARDING THE RESPIRATORY ILLNESS PANDEMIC COVID-19

WHEREAS, at its meeting on December 18, 2019, the Board of Directors of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District adopted Resolution 2019-17, establishing SB 998-compliant revisions to the District's Regulations Governing Water Service – Part 6: Customer Account Billing and Collections; and

WHEREAS, as the outbreak of respiratory illness COVID-19 as a result of the spread of the novel coronavirus has begun to impact the State of California and nearby communities, the Board of Directors recognizes this disease and the related public health guidelines have a significant impact on operations of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District (BCVWD); and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, pursuant to the BCVWD Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 1E, the General Manager in consultation with the President of the Board of Directors declared a District Emergency pursuant to the Proclamation attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020 California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency and implemented strong measures to curtail the spread of the virus including provision of assistance to local governments that have demonstrated extraordinary or disproportionate impacts from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 in the United States constitutes a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-28-20 advising that many Californians are experiencing substantial losses of income and requesting the California Public Utilities Commission to monitor measures undertaken by public utility providers to implement customer service protections for water utilities in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, numerous public water utilities are instituting ratepayer protections; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors finds and determines that:

- a. COVID-19 may result in serious illness or death and is easily transmissible from person to person and therefore extraordinary measures may be necessary to protect District employees and public health; and
- b. Certain portions of the existing <u>Regulations Governing Water Service Part 6: Customer</u> <u>Account Billing and Collections</u> should be temporarily altered to alleviate ratepayer hardship and provide for employee safety due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- c. The recommended temporary Regulations continue to comply with the mandates set

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forth by SB 998 and comport with the Governor's Executive Order N-28-20; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has reviewed and considered the temporary Regulations, finds them relevant and acceptable, and deems It to be in the best interests of the District that the following actions be taken:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District as follows:

- 1. The applicable portions of the BCVWD Regulations Governing Water Service, Part 6 are hereby temporarily superseded by the measures outlined in the attached Exhibit A,
- 2. These temporary Regulations Governing Water Service will be in effect until the termination of the District Local Emergency as declared by the Board of Directors.

ADOPTED this 22 day of March , 2020 by the following roll call vote: AYES: Covington, Hoffman, Ranivez, Slawson, Williams NOES: **ABSTAIN:** ABSENT: ATTEST: Director Loba Williams, Secretary to the Director John Covington, President of the Board of Directors of the Board of Directors of the **Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District** Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District APPROVED AS TO FORM:

James Markman, Legal Counsel

To the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

Attachments:

- Exhibit A Temporary Regulations Regarding Customer Account Billing and Collections
- Exhibit B General Manager's Proclamation of a State of Emergency dated March 19, 2020
- Exhibit C Governor's Executive Order N-28-20 BCVWD RESOLUTION 2020-08 - ADOPTED 2020-03-26 - PAGE 2 OF 11



BEAUMONT-CHERRY VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

EXHIBIT A

TEMPORARY REGULATIONS REGARDING CUSTOMER ACCOUNT BILLING AND COLLECTIONS

The following measures pursuant to the District's <u>Regulations Governing Water Service – Part</u> <u>6: Customer Account Billing and Collections</u> shall be temporarily implemented due to the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic:

- 1. The main office facility shall be closed to the public and reassessed on a week-by-week basis by the General Manager and President of the Board of Directors. The BCVWD website will list office hours and closure information for ratepayers.
- 2. During the District Local Emergency, the on-line and phone payment fee of \$1.75 shall be suspended for all ratepayers while the main office facility is closed to the public.
- 3. PAYMENT OF BILLS:
 - a. During the period of District Local Emergency, the payment grace period shall be extended to 60 days. No unpaid balance will be considered past due or delinquent until the 61st day of non-payment.
 - b. No penalties will be imposed on past due or delinquent balances until after 90 days of non-payment.
- 4. LATE FEES
 - a. No late fees shall be charged during the period of District Local Emergency.
 - b. Late fees will begin to accrue in accordance with the provisions set forth in <u>Regulations Governing Water Service Part 6: Customer Account Billing and</u> following the termination of the District Local Emergency.
- 5. DISCONNECTION
 - a. No water service will be disconnected during the period of District Local Emergency.

These temporary Regulations are fully in compliance with SB 998 and comport with the Governor's Executive Order N-28-20 dated March 16, 2020.

These temporary measures supersede the provisions in the BCWVD <u>Regulations Governing</u> <u>Water Service – Part 6: Customer Account Billing and Collections</u> and will be in effect until terminated or re-evaluated by the Board of Directors or the termination of the District Local Emergency, whichever occurs first. Approved and Adopted by the Beard of Directors on March 26, 2020

Director John Covington, President of the Board of Directors of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

ATTEST:

Daniel K. Jaggers General Manager of the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

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