RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2018-56

MEETING: February 6, 2018

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Healy, Public Works Director

RE: Adopt a Resolution Increasing Mariposa Pines Wastewater Rates

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

PUBLIC HEARING to receive public testimony and consider all protests concerning adoption of a resolution increasing Mariposa Pines wastewater rates.

Current wastewater rates for Mariposa Pines do not generate sufficient revenue to fund the cost of service. Updated rates are required in order to continue providing wastewater service to the Mariposa Pines community.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

Mariposa Pines faces operations and maintenance deficits and aging infrastructure, and current wastewater rates do not generate sufficient revenue to fund the cost of service. The Board’s last action to increase wastewater rates occurred in 1998. Thus, even though it is standard practice for public utilities to update water and wastewater rates every five years, it has been almost twenty years since these rates have been adjusted.

On December 5, 2017, the Board adopted a Resolution of Intention (Resolution 2017-819) to increase Mariposa Pines wastewater rates and setting the time, date and location of public hearing.

Note that this resolution to increase Mariposa Pines wastewater rates cannot be adopted in the event of a majority protest.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

The Board may decline to establish wastewater rate increases. In that event, the utility will continue to operate at a deficit and may eventually be unable to generate sufficient revenue to comply with California wastewater regulations. It is unclear what the consequences of such a failure might be, but presumably an outside agency would take over this service territory.
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ATTACHMENTS:
Mariposa County Engineers Report_No Roads (PDF)
ROI Mariposa Pines Final (PDF)
Resolution Increasing Mariposa Pines Wastewater Rates (DOC)
Exhibit A PROPOSED MARIPOSA PINES WASTEWATER RATES (DOCX)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
RESOLUTION NO. 18-56

RESOLUTION INCREASING MARIPOSA PINES
WASTEWATER RATES

WHEREAS, the County of Mariposa provides wastewater service to the unincorporated area of Mariposa Pines; and

WHEREAS, the Board’s last action to increase wastewater rates for Mariposa Pines occurred in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Mariposa Pines faces operations and maintenance deficits and aging infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, current Mariposa Pines wastewater rates do not generate sufficient revenue to fund the cost of service; and

WHEREAS, the County retained Bartle Wells Associates to examine the cost of providing wastewater service to Mariposa Pines and to prepare the Mariposa Pines Cost of Service Analysis, which was approved and adopted by the Board pursuant to Resolution No.2017-819 on December 5, 2017; and,

WHEREAS, the Mariposa Pines Cost of Service Analysis recommends increasing Mariposa Pines wastewater rates; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2017-819 declared the Board’s intention to increase Mariposa Pines wastewater rates, set a public hearing for February 6, 2018 on those proposed rate increases, and directed staff to mail notice to affected property owners in conformity with Proposition 218; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2018, the Board held a full and fair public hearing on the proposed rate increases. At the hearing, all interested persons had an opportunity to provide oral and written testimony; and

WHEREAS, the Board accepted and caused the tabulation of all written protests against the proposed wastewater rate increases. Based upon the results of this tabulation, a majority protest against the wastewater rate increases does not exist; and

WHEREAS, the Board now finds it necessary to adopt the proposed wastewater rate increases for Mariposa Pines.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MARIPOSA AS FOLLOWS:
SECTION 1 The foregoing recitals are true and correct.

SECTION 2 The Board hereby adopts the wastewater rates for Mariposa Pines set forth in Exhibit A.

SECTION 3 All rates and charges set forth in this Resolution shall become effective on March 1, 2018 and shall remain in effect until changed by the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of February, 2018 by the following vote;

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN, MENETREY

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

Rosemarie Smallcombe
Chair of the Board

ATTEST:

Rene LaRoche, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven W. Dahlem, County Counsel
Exhibit A.

PROPOSED MARIPOSA PINES WASTEWATER RATES

Proposed Rate Changes
The County is proposing to increase wastewater rates. Wastewater customers are charged a fixed monthly rate per equivalent dwelling unit ("EDU").

Current and proposed wastewater service charges:

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<td>Base Rate per EDU*</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
<td>$44.00</td>
<td>$49.72</td>
<td>$56.18</td>
<td>$63.49</td>
<td>$66.66</td>
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"EDU" stands for Equivalent Dwelling Unit