RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-34

MEETING: January 15, 2019

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Mike Healy, Public Works Director

RE: Conduct a Public Hearing- Coulterville Wastewater Rate Increases

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
PUBLIC HEARING to Receive Public Testimony and Consider All Protests Concerning Adoption of a Resolution Increasing Coulterville Wastewater Rates

Current wastewater rates in Coulterville do not generate sufficient revenue to fund the cost of service. Updated rates are required in order to continue providing wastewater service to the Coulterville community. A recent Proposition 218 process to adjust rates failed twice to garner sufficient support to enact the proposed new rate structure. Since that time numerous public meetings have been held with the utility customers to explain the need for additional revenue. At the October 15, 2018 meeting of the Board, Public Works proposed a revised rate structure as an alternative to placing the utility into receivership. This Public Hearing is the third attempt to increase rates through the Proposition 218 Process.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Coulterville wastewater utility faces operational and maintenance defects 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 2008.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Should a rate increase be rejected by the rate payers again the Board may reduce the level of service to meet the revenue generated through rates or direct the Public Works Department to bring to the Board a Resolution placing the Utility into Receivership with the State of California.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
Unless adopted, water rates cannot be examined, the rates will remain unchanged and the funds collected for these services will not meet the cost of providing service.

ATTACHMENTS:
Resolution - Action Requested 2019-34

Coulterville Wastewater Res 1 15 2019 (DOC)
Exhibit A Coulterville Proposed Wastewater Rates 1 15 2019 (DOCX)
Resolution of Intent Coulterville Wastewater (PDF)
Presentation given to Coulterville residents (PDF)
Prop 218 Notice Coulterville Wastewater Revised October 2018 (DOCX)

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey
RESOLUTION INCREASING COULTERVILLE WASTEWATER RATES

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

WHEREAS, the Board’s last action to increase wastewater rates for Coulterville occurred in 2008; and

WHEREAS, Coulterville faces operations and maintenance deficits and aging infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, current Coulterville 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 Coulterville and to prepare a Coulterville Cost of Service Analysis, which was approved and adopted by the Board pursuant to Resolution No.2017-817 on December 5, 2017; and,

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

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2018-548 declared the Board’s intention to increase Coulterville wastewater rates, set a public hearing for January 15, 2019 on those proposed rate increases, and directed staff to mail notice to affected property owners in conformity with Proposition 218; and

WHEREAS, on January 15th, 2019, 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 Coulterville.

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 Coulterville set forth in Exhibit A.

**SECTION 3** All rates and charges set forth in this Resolution shall become effective on March 1, 2019 and shall remain in effect until changed by the Board.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of January, 2019 by the following vote;

AYES: SMALLCOMBE, JONES, LONG, CANN, MENETREY

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

Miles Menetrey, Board Chair

ATTEST: 

René LaRoche, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven W. Dahlem, County Counsel
Coulterville Proposed Wastewater Rates

Current and proposed wastewater service charges:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Wastewater Rates (Monthly)</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>1 March 2019</th>
<th>1 March 2020</th>
<th>1 March 2021</th>
<th>1 March 2022</th>
<th>1 March 2023</th>
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<tr>
<td>Base Rate per EDU*</td>
<td>$56.00</td>
<td>$64.00</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>$77.00</td>
<td>$82.00</td>
<td>$87.00</td>
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