



**Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District  
Regular Board Meeting  
June 9, 2021**

Emergency

STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Dan Jagers, General Manager  
**SUBJECT:** **Emergency Item: Ratification of the General Manager's Declaration of a District Emergency regarding Necessary Immediate Repairs to Well 29**

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**Staff Recommendation**

Ratify the General Manager's Declaration of a District Emergency (in conference with Board President Slawson) to address the emergency situation regarding necessary immediate repairs to Well 29 declared on Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

**Background**

On Tuesday, June 8, 2021, District production staff observed significant smoke emanating from the Well 29 800 horsepower electric motor upon startup after completing chlorination equipment maintenance activities and shut the pumping unit down.

Upon pump shut down, Staff further identified that motor bearing lubrication oil normally contained in the upper motor bearing (thrust bearing) reservoir located at the top end of the motor appeared to be leaking through the motor body and pooling at the bottom of the pump discharge head assembly. Said reservoir oil drained completely out of this reservoir after shut down while being observed by District staff.

Assistant Director of Operations James Bean identified this to General Manager Jagers at approximately 9:00 am on Tuesday, June 8, 2021. Well 29 provides a normal historic pumping capacity of 3,000 gpm to 3,500 gpm and District Management Staff further identified that Well 29 being out of service constitutes an "Emergency Condition" for the District for Well 29 (as well as Well 24) due to the following issues:

1. Well 29 is the primary source of supply for the District's lowest three pressure zones.
2. District demands increase as summer approaches and temperatures rise. This fact coupled with multiple wells being out of service as described hereafter create the condition of emergency that requires the repair of Well 29 and the immediate completion of repairs to Well 24.

The District is currently in the process of completing repairs to Well 24 which is located in the Beaumont Basin and historically has a pumping capacity of approximately 2,700 gpm. Well 24 is out of service for scheduled maintenance and repair activities previously approved by the Board of Directors at the April 24, 2021 Engineering Workshop. Well 24 is expected to be out of service for at least another 3-4 weeks.

The District is currently in the process of completing repairs to Well 14 which is located in the Edgar Canyon Basin and historically has a pumping capacity range due to varying ground water elevations of approximately 100 to 200 gpm. Well 14 is out of service for scheduled maintenance and repair activities previously



approved by the Board of Directors at the May 27, 2021 Engineering Workshop.

3. The District has recently completed repairs to Well 25 which is located in the Beaumont Basin and historically has a pumping capacity of up to 2,900 gpm to the 2750 domestic water pressure zone and is currently operating with a motor which has 3 open rotor bars and a new 800 horsepower motor has been ordered and is anticipated to be delivered in approximately 7 weeks. Said repairs were completed under a separate emergency action declared by the General Manager and the President of the Board of Directors
4. With high demands and the potential for Public Safety Power Shut Offs (PSPS) from Southern California Edison (SCE) it is imperative to have redundancy in all pressure zones.

As stated previously, anticipated increase in water demand at the same time that multiple wells are down for repair constitutes a District Emergency which was declared by District Management staff (including the General Manager in conference with Board President Slawson) further identified that Well 29 being out of service constitutes an "Emergency Condition" for the District due to the following issues:

5. Well 29 is a high production well in the District's 2650 pressure zone.
6. The 2750 pressure zone is already experiencing a reduction in production capacity, as Well 24 is currently under contract for well and well pumping unit repair and rehabilitation.

The General Manager then identified that an emergency should be declared and verified that with President Slawson.

The District's Policies and Procedures Manual, Part III, Sections 1B, 1E and 1F provide procedures to address emergencies, including water supply:

*B. Emergency. Emergency means the actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the provision of critical District functions and the health and safety of staff or the public, caused by such conditions as fire, severe storm, riot, hazardous materials releases, earthquake, power outages, dam failures, freezes, water supply contamination, and other conditions which may be beyond the capability of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of this District, and may require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to help respond.*

*E. District Emergency Declaration. When an emergency condition arises, the General Manager may, in consultation with the Board President, declare a "District Emergency." The Board must ratify the declaration within fourteen (14) days at a regular, special or emergency Board meeting.*

*F. Authorization During District Emergencies. The General Manager's Declaration of a District Emergency is a public acknowledgement of the serious situation the District faces, and that the District's resources may not be adequate to respond to the emergency. The Board of Directors, in consultation with the General Manager, may delegate to the General Manager the authority to suspend competitive bidding and*



*enter into emergency contracts of up to \$250,000, as authorized by Public Contract Code §20567 and §22050.*

In addition, the Policies and Procedures Manual Part III, Section 17J – Purchasing Policy, contains procedures for Emergency Purchases:

*J. Emergency Purchases. Emergency purchases may be made without competitive bidding when unforeseen circumstances present an immediate risk of:*

- *Harm or hazard to the public health, safety and welfare;*
- *Damage to District property; or*
- *Serious interruption of District essential services*

*Since emergency purchases do not normally provide the District an opportunity to obtain competitive quotes, sound judgment shall be used in keeping such orders to an absolute minimum. And,*

*Emergency purchases at Level 5 (more than \$25,000) require notification of the General Manager within 24 hours. The General Manager will notify the President and/or Vice President of the Board of Directors within an additional 24 hours*

### **Summary**

Recommended action consists of the following components.

1. Return existing well to service with temporary equipment as soon as possible employing the following strategy:
  - a. Pull existing pumping unit pump column, tube, shaft and bowl assembly and de-stage pumping unit to create lower horsepower pumping unit.
  - b. Purchase new in stock 600 horsepower pumping unit from Legend Pump & Well Service, Inc. or associated company to be used for an interim equipping condition and ultimately have for future use as District Standby or future well outfitting equipment.
  - c. Assemble and install de-staged pumping unit and motor assembly at Well 29 and provide interim service during equipment ordering and acquisition period.
  - d. Upon acquisition of new equipment, re-install complete pumping unit assembly (i.e. re-stage pump) and install new 800 horsepower motor assembly (either from current Well 25 motor purchase or new Well 29 motor purchase).

Due to the critical nature of Well 29 to the District's production activities, staff requests and recommends the Board ratify the District emergency situation as declared by the General Manager.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The fiscal impact to the District has not yet been identified.

Funds are available from the Capital Replacement Reserve for completion of this work.