

RESOLUTION NO. 25-159

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 38 TO INCREASE WATER RATES AND MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026 AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT CHARGES

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 38 (District) provides potable water imported water from the State Water Project, delivered through the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and Calleguas Municipal Water District;

WHEREAS, District staff has reviewed the District's costs and revenues and determined that the District must increase its volumetric commodity (water) rates and fixed monthly service charges to provide fiscal stability and meet projected revenue requirements, including operations and maintenance expenses, capital expenditures, and reserve requirements;

WHEREAS, the cost of imported water will increase 7.52% for the calendar year 2026;

WHEREAS, the cost of labor, including salaries and benefits, is estimated to increase by 7% for the fiscal year (FY) 2026-27;

WHEREAS, the estimated increase is sufficient for expenditures for planned capital projects, as well as repairs and maintenance on aging infrastructure;

WHEREAS, the District does not increase its current rates and charges, the District will not be able to maintain appropriate reserves;

WHEREAS, the amounts of the proposed rates and charges do not exceed the estimated reasonable costs of providing the services for which the rates and charges are imposed, and these costs are allocated to payers in a manner that is proportional and bears a fair and reasonable relationship to the payers' burdens, or benefits received, from such services;

WHEREAS, District staff recommend that the proposed rate increases as shown in Exhibit 3, attached hereto, be adopted;

WHEREAS, the District uses the best available information to calculate proposed increases in the cost of imported water purchases from Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD) and has no control over the rates set by CMWD and must pass those costs through to customers upon increases in the wholesale charges;

WHEREAS, the District's Citizens' Advisory Committee has reviewed the proposed fee schedule and those in attendance concurred with the recommended rate and monthly service charge increases;

WHEREAS, the proposed increases in the District's water rates and monthly service charges are subject to the majority protest provisions of California Constitution Article XIII D, Section 6 (Proposition 218);

WHEREAS, the District, in accordance with Proposition 218, has given timely, proper notice of the proposed increases to volumetric commodity (water) rates and monthly service charges to all affected customers (e.g., parcel owners and directly billed tenants), including providing notice of the public hearing on the proposed increases before this Board at the Ventura County Board of Supervisor Hearing Room in the Hall of Administration, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, at a time certain;

WHEREAS, per section 53759 of the Government Code effective January 1, 2022, legal challenges to new increased, or extended fees or charges must be brought within 120 days of either the effective date of the fee or charge or the date of the ordinance, resolution or motion, adopting or approving the fee or charge, whichever is later;

WHEREAS, the Board has now held a public hearing to consider all oral and written comments, protests and objections concerning these proposed increases; and

WHEREAS, the Board, based on the records of the Clerk of the Board, having reviewed all written protests submitted to it before the conclusion of the public hearing, has determined that written protests were not received from a majority of affected customers such as parcel owners and directly billed tenants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 38 (i) adopts the proposed rate schedule, as shown in Exhibit 3, attached hereto, effective beginning on the next regularly scheduled meter reading and billing cycle on or after January 1, 2026, ii) declares that delinquent charges and all penalties thereon when recorded as provided in Government Code section 54355 shall constitute a lien on the real property served and authorizes the Director of the District or their designee to record such lien; (iii) authorizes collection of delinquent charges on the tax roll pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 5473a, and (iv) directs that these rates be published on the District's website.

Upon motion of Board Member Gorell, seconded by Board Member La Vere, and duly carried, the Board hereby approves and adopts this resolution on this 16th day of December 2025.

By: Janice Parvin
Janice Parvin, Chair
Board of Ventura County Waterworks
District No. 38

ATTEST:
SEVET JOHNSON
Clerk of the Board of Ventura County Waterworks District No. 38
County of Ventura, State of California

By: [Signature]
Deputy Clerk of the Board

