

RESOLUTION NO. 26-118

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 19 TO ADOPT A SCHEDULE OF WATER SERVICE FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2026-2027, 2027-2028, AND 2028-2029; AUTHORIZE 12 MONTH SURCHARGE TO FUND A RESERVIOR DESIGN AND A 12 AND 24 MONTH SURCHARGE TO FUND A CALTRANS WATERLINE REPLACEMENT; AND PROVIDE FOR COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT CHARGES AND FEES BY RECORDATION OF LIENS AND PLACEMENT OF SAID CHARGES AND FEES ON THE TAX ROLLS

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 19 (District) provides water to the community of Somis. Since December 2025, 15% of the water was imported from the State Water Project, delivered through the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and Calleguas Municipal Water District, and the remaining 85% of the water was groundwater from local wells;

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 by 5% for the calendar year 2027;

WHEREAS, the cost of power is estimated to rise to 7%, the cost of labor, including salaries and benefits, is estimated to increase by 4.5%, and the cost of materials is estimated to increase by up to 5% for fiscal year (FY) 2026-27;

WHEREAS, the estimated increase is needed for expenditures for repairs and maintenance on aging infrastructure;

WHEREAS, District staff estimates that, if the District does not increase its current rates and charges, the District's deficit will continue to grow, and the District's cash balance will go below the board-approved reserve target in the FY 2026-27;

WHEREAS, the amounts of the 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 between the payers' burdens, or benefits received, from such services;

WHEREAS, District staff recommends rate increases, surcharge adjustments, and pass-through adjustments for increased costs of wholesale water as adopted by by Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD) 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 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 by a unanimous vote concurred with the 12.5% rate and monthly service charge increases;

WHEREAS, the staff has reviewed the financial impact of all volumetric commodity (water) rates and all fixed monthly service charges and has determined the rate increase will allow the District to maintain cash reserves near target levels through fiscal year 2026-27, but should unforeseen maintenance occur the District's will be unable to finance needed infrastructure replacements with a negative fund balance;

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;

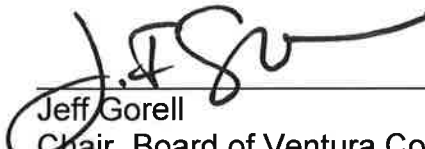
WHEREAS, per newly enacted section 53759 of the Government Code, effective January 1, 2022, legal challenges to new, increased, or extended fees or charges must be brought within 120 days of either the effective date of the fee or charge or the date of the ordinance, resolution, or motion adopting or 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, 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 hereby (i) adopts the proposed rate and surcharges schedule in Exhibit 3, effective in January of each Fiscal Year., (ii) authorizes automatic adjustments to the rates in said schedule to pass through the adopted increases or decreases in wholesale charges for water purchased by the District from other public entities; (iii) 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; (iv) authorizes collection of delinquent charges on the tax roll pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 5473a, and (v) directs that these rates be published on the District's website.

Upon motion of Board Member Gorell, seconded by Board Member Parvin, and duly carried, the Board hereby approves and adopts this resolution on this 22nd day of September 2026.


Jeff Gorell
Chair, Board of Ventura County
Waterworks District No. 19

ATTEST:

SEVET JOHNSON

Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of Ventura County Waterworks District No. 19
County of Ventura, State of California.

By: 
Mia Martinez
Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board



EXHIBIT 3

VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 19 (SOMIS) PROPOSED WATER RATES, MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES EFFECTIVE ON THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED METER READING AND BILLING CYCLE IN JANUARY FISCAL YEARS 2026-2027, 2027-2028, AND 2028-2029, AND SURCHARGES

Commodity Rates for Residential Customers

Tier	Proposed Monthly Use (HCF)	Current Rate	Proposed Rate Adjustment	Proposed Calleguas Pass-Through	Total Proposed Rate + Pass-Through Oct. 1, 2026 - Dec. 31, 2027	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2028 + Pass-Through*	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2029 + Pass-Through*
1	0-10 hcf	\$2.72	\$0.34	\$0.42	$\$3.06 + 0.42 = \3.48	\$3.37 + Pass-Through	\$3.70 + Pass-Through
2	>10-31 hcf	\$3.31	\$0.41	\$0.42	$\$3.72 + 0.42 = \4.14	\$4.09 + Pass-Through	\$4.50 + Pass-Through
3	>31 hcf	\$4.37	\$0.55	\$0.42	$\$4.92 + 0.42 = \5.34	\$5.41 + Pass-Through	\$5.95 + Pass-Through

Note: Rates per 100 Cubic Feet of Water (HCF)=748 Gallons

** Pass-through is adjusted annually based on the previous year's actual costs and usage.*

**The proposed rates and charges will be effective on the next regularly scheduled meter reading and billing cycle on or after the date listed.*

Commodity Rates for Other Customer Classes

Customer Class	Current Rate FY 2025-2026	Proposed Rate Adjustment	Proposed Calleguas Pass-Through	Total Proposed Rate + Pass-Through Oct. 1, 2026 - Dec. 31, 2027	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2028 + Pass-Through*	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2029 + Pass-Through*
Agricultural	\$3.50	\$0.44	\$0.42	$\$3.94 + 0.42 = \4.36	\$4.33 + Pass-Through	\$4.76 + Pass-Through
Commercial	\$3.74	\$0.47	\$0.42	$\$4.21 + 0.42 = \4.63	\$4.63 + Pass-Through	\$5.09 + Pass-Through
Industrial	\$6.19	\$0.77	\$0.42	$\$6.96 + 0.42 = \7.38	\$7.66 + Pass-Through	\$8.43 + Pass-Through
Institutional	\$4.04	\$0.51	\$0.42	$\$4.55 + 0.42 = \4.97	\$5.00 + Pass-Through	\$5.50 + Pass-Through
Residential Multi Family	\$3.76	\$0.47	\$0.42	$\$4.23 + 0.42 = \4.65	\$4.65 + Pass-Through	\$5.12 + Pass-Through
Temporary Construction	\$6.45	\$0.81	\$0.42	$\$7.26 + 0.42 = \7.68	\$7.99 + Pass-Through	\$8.79 + Pass-Through
Lift Charges	\$0.27	\$0.03	\$0.00	$\$.30 + 0.00 = \0.30	\$0.33 + No Pass-Through	\$0.36 + No Pass-Through

Note: Rates per 100 Cubic Feet of Water (HCF)=748 Gallons

** Pass-through is adjusted annually based on the previous year's actual costs and usage.*

**The proposed rates and charges will be effective on the next regularly scheduled meter reading and billing cycle on or after the date listed.*

Monthly Meter Charges				
Meter Size	Current Rate FY 2025-26	Proposed Rate Effective October 1, 2026*	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2028*	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2029*
3/4-inch	\$23.34	\$26.26	\$28.89	\$31.78
1-inch	\$35.72	\$40.19	\$44.21	\$48.63
1-1/2-inch	\$66.65	\$74.98	\$82.48	\$90.73
2-inch	\$103.77	\$116.74	\$128.41	\$141.25
3-inch	\$221.30	\$248.97	\$273.86	\$301.25
4-inch	\$394.51	\$443.82	\$488.21	\$537.03
6-inch	\$808.97	\$910.09	\$1,001.10	\$1,101.21

Monthly Fireline Charges				
Meter Size	Current Rate FY 2025-26	Proposed Rate Effective October 1, 2026*	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2028*	Proposed Rate Effective Date January 1, 2029*
2-inch	\$10.85	\$12.20	\$13.42	\$14.77
3-inch	\$22.38	\$25.18	\$27.70	\$30.47
4-inch	\$42.28	\$47.57	\$52.33	\$57.56
6-inch	\$113.71	\$127.92	\$140.72	\$154.79
8-inch	\$236.89	\$266.50	\$293.15	\$322.47

Note: Water used through private fire services will be charged at the temporary construction water rate.

**The proposed rates and charges will be effective on the next regularly scheduled meter reading and billing cycle on or after the date listed. Pass-Through charges are NOT applied to meter charges.*

SURCHARGE PROJECT No. 1: '571 Reservoir Tank and Booster Pump Station'	
Raising \$400,000 over one year to fund the design, engineering, and permitting to replace the 571 Water Reservoir and Booster Pump Station, enabling the District to have a shovel-ready project that better qualifies for construction grant funding.	
Meter Size	Surcharge No. 1: '571 Reservoir Tank and Booster Pump Station'
3/4-inch	\$11.92
1-inch	\$19.87
1-1/2-inch	\$39.75
2-inch	\$63.60
3-inch	\$139.12
4-inch	\$250.42
Effective Date: Oct. 1, 2026 End Date: Sept. 30, 2027	

SURCHARGE PROJECT No. 2: 'District Watermain Replacement S.R. 118'	
Raising \$1,350,000 over two-years to replace 1,700 linear feet of a deteriorated 100-year-old cast-iron waterline located along SR-118, as part of the Caltrans highway improvement project.	
Meter Size	Surcharge No. 2: 'District Watermain Replacement S.R. 118'
3/4-inch	\$20.12
1-inch	\$33.54
1-1/2-inch	\$67.08
2-inch	\$107.32
3-inch	\$234.77
4-inch	\$422.58
Effective Date: Oct. 1, 2026 End Date: Sept. 30, 2028	