



Monterey County

Item No.8

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAG 20-397

September 24, 2020

Introduced: 9/16/2020

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WR General Agenda

Support a recommendation by the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors approve a Boat Dock Program Fee Study to update dock fees and levy new fees and service charges necessary for boat dock licensing program improvements; and, adopt a Resolution to amend the Monterey County Water Resources Fee Article of the Monterey County Master Fee Resolution, effective December 17, 2020, to update the related boat dock licensing program fees and levy new fees and service charges.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee support a recommendation by the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approve a Boat Dock Program Fee Study to update dock fees and levy new fees and service charges necessary for boat dock licensing program improvements; and
- b. Adopt a Resolution to amend the Monterey County Water Resources Fee Article of the Monterey County Master Fee Resolution, effective December 17, 2020, to update the related boat dock licensing program fees and levy new fees and service charges.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) is proposing approval of a Boat Dock Program Fee Study (Fee Study) and an amendment to the Agency's Fee Article. The proposed Fee Study and amendment will reflect the increased cost and changes in services and aid in the recovery of actual cost of future program operations. The Agency provides dock program administration to support the use of floating boat docks by recreational users at Nacimiento Reservoir (Reservoir). The Agency administers the licensing and inspection program to mitigate hazardous conditions which may arise from docks, and other floating structures, being placed on the Reservoir surface. The licensing, inspection, and allowance for reasonable fee recovery are cited in the Agency Act and adopted, in part, in Ordinance 4065, dated May 2000.

The Board of Directors (BOD) received a report on the dock program at its September 2019 meeting. The report to the BOD highlighted the extent of nuisance and hazardous docks on the Reservoir; the need for increased inspection and licensing oversight to cite and abate all non-compliant docks; and, the need for increased cost recovery. The Operations Division has prepared a detailed Fee Study to address the issues highlighted to the BOD. The Fee Study includes a phased improvement plan, a program fee and charge update with supporting worksheets, and a proposed compensation schedule in accordance with appropriate hourly rates for necessary personnel and

equipment.

The objective of approval of the Fee Study, and proposed changes to the existing Fee Article, is to achieve improvements to the boat dock program and to recover all costs associated with program implementation. In FY 2019/2020, the Agency collected \$34,000 in revenue and had a total \$85,000 in expenditures related to the boat dock program. Approval of the Fee Study and amendments to the Agency's Fee Article, as proposed, will allow the Agency to enact the Phase I program improvement plan and increase cost recovery for the 2021 licensing year, which begins January 1, 2021. The Phase I improvements include modernizing the administration of the existing dock program with a new database and billing system; coordinating with Monterey County ITD for the development of an online licensing payment portal and insurance submittal system; modernizing field inspections through the use of portable devices for ease of dock condition recording, photo documentation, and geolocating; increasing the frequency of boat dock inspections in general to address the number of non-compliant docks floating on the Reservoir; and, enhancing the ability to address nuisance docks through increased abatement and disposal actions.

At its September 4, 2020 meeting, the Agency's Finance Committee recommended approval of a Boat Dock Program Fee Study to update dock fees and levy new fees and service charges necessary for the boat dock licensing program improvements. Agency staff is concurrently scheduling consideration of a simple amendment to Ordinance 4065 to allow all updated fees, and new fees and service charges, to be placed in the Agency's Fee Article instead of in the Ordinance.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

County Counsel

FINANCING:

For FY 2020/2021, the proposed updated fees would collect an estimated \$150,000 in revenue to be used towards Phase I program improvement implementation.

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Approved by: Brent Buche, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. Boat Dock Program Fee Study, August 2020
2. Proposed Monterey County Water Resources Agency Article XI - tracked changes
3. Draft Public Hearing Notice for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors on November 17th, 2020
4. Ordinance 4065 current version