

Budget & Rate Committee Agenda

June 16, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at District Office

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

https://meet.goto.com/803499333
You can also dial in using your phone.
United States (Toll-Free): 1 866 899 4679

Access Code: 803-499-333

<u>Right to be heard</u>: Members of the public have a right to address the Board directly on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, provided that no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2.

Please Note: If you have comments on a specific agenda item(s), please fill out a comment card and return it to the Board Secretary. The Board President will call on you for your comments at the appropriate time, either before or during the Board's consideration of that item.

If you require special accommodations for attendance at or participation in this meeting, please notify our office 24 hours in advance at (805) 646-2114 (Govt. Code Section 94594.1 and 94594.2 (a))

- A. Call To Order
- **B. Public Comments**
- C. <u>Discussion Items</u>
 - **a.** Budget/Rate Committee process in previous years. (Kentosh) (*Director Kentosh will exit the meeting*)
 - **b.** Presentation of proposed FY 2023-2024 Budget (Martinez/Ward) Recommended Action: Provide direction to staff.
- D. Adjourn



Approved Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

June 20, 2023

Budget Summary (Table 1)

The budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24 is summarized in the attached table. The table shows the projected expenditures and capital spending for FY 23/24 compared to the projected revenues, and reserves. The District implemented new rates in FY 22/23, establishing a 3-year water rates schedule. Effective June 1, 2023, Stage 1 Conditions were implemented, which increased all customers' allocations to baseline and discontinued the drought surcharge.

Projected Expenses (Table 2)

The operating expenses in several categories are increasing compared to the previous three years, largely due to salaries, insurance, equipment, and technical services. Capital expenses vary with each fiscal year; however, due to critical infrastructure projects being postponed the past few years (due to the COVID-19 pandemic), the District must now start completing these capital projects.

Some highlights of the projected expenses are:

- Salaries and related expenses are increasing to account for additional staff;
- Liability and worker's compensation insurance cost increases by providers;
- Upper Ventura River Ground Water Agency fees increased for FY 23/24;
- Board of Directors compensation budget adjustment due to increased meeting activity;
- Wells were increased to \$16,000 from \$5,000 to support the technical phase of adding a new well site;
- Meters increased to \$50,000 from \$25,000 to support the transition to AMI Smart Meters:
- Online Bill Pay Transactions is a new item budgeted at \$10,000 for customers that setup auto-pay through the District online payment portal;
- Capital Expense:
 - Treatment Plant 100% engineering design for \$160,000, the remaining portion of the MKN approved expense in FY 22/23. Grant funding is being sought to help offset the construction and possibly the engineering design costs.
 - New Well engineering design costs \$100,000, as well as rehab for Well 4a to increase production at \$30,000.

202 W. El Roblar Drive, Ojai, California 93023 Tel: (805) 646-2114 Web: <u>www.meinersoakswater.com</u>



- Valve Replacements: the District has six valves that need to be replaced or upgraded, \$100,000, prioritizing the most critical valves.
- Meiners Rd pressure zone needs backup generation and upgraded booster pumps for homes at higher elevations estimated at \$75,000.
- Structures and Improvements: A new ¾ ton field truck due to age and cost of maintenance for the existing truck is \$70,000, and replacing the District Office HVAC unit is \$10,000.
- Field equipment purchases include the addition of Chlorine Alarms at each facility for \$20,000, a generator welder for the field truck for \$6,500, and an air compressor for \$6,500.

Projected Revenues (Table 3)

The projected revenue of \$1,898,483.00 is summarized in Table 3 and is based on the FY 2023-24 water rates at Stage 1 conditions. The District implemented Stage 1 conditions on June 1, 2023, discontinuing the drought surcharge.

Rates & Rate Structure (Table 4)

A Prop 218 Public Hearing for new water rates was held on June 30, 2022, providing a 3-year rate schedule.

- Increased rate per unit from \$3.85 to \$3.90;
- Monthly Water Availability Charge will remain at \$36.00;
- Meter Capacity Charges will increase by 5% for each meter size rate;
- Drought surcharge is discontinued under Stage 1 conditions.

MOWD implemented its new Allocation Program in 2020, establishing fixed and variable allocations for each metered parcel. Residential customers have seasonal variation built into the monthly allocation, and those penalties ceased in June 2023. Agriculture and Commercial customers have annual allocations to use water throughout the year as it suits their needs. The annual over-allocation penalty for Agriculture and Commercial accounts will be assessed for FY 22/23 in July 2023. Customer allocations were adjusted up to 100% (Stage 1) in June 2023.



Table 1: Budget Summary for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Total Operating Expenditures Capital Expenses Total Operating & Capital Expenses	\$1817,000.00 \$678,000.00 \$2,495,000.00
Projected Revenues	\$1,898,483.00
Shortfall (absorbed by reserves)	< \$596,517.00>
Reserves Beginning	\$2,212,432.84
Reserves Ending	\$1,615,915.84

Potential grant funding is not accounted for in budget revenues.

Table 2: Report of Expenses and Budget Appropriations To Date

	Table 2: Report of Expenses and Budget Appropriations To Date											
		2023-2024		2022-2023		2022-23		2021-22		2020-21		2019-20
Expenditures		Proposed	_	Actuals YTD*		Budget		Actuals		Actuals	_	Actuals
Salaries	\$	710,000.00	\$	457,224.03	\$	600,000.00	\$	503,684.33	\$	456,846.42	\$	411,628.86
Payroll Taxes	\$	50,000.00	\$	38,347.27	\$	55,000.00	\$	40,853.93	\$		\$	34,852.67
Retirement Contributions	\$	75,000.00	\$	64,409.34	\$	75,000.00	\$	61,798.94	\$	52,002.97	\$	42,618.11
Group Insurance	\$	96,000.00	\$	70,763.55	\$	96,000.00	\$	94,610.30	\$	94,908.38	\$	68,103.64
Company Uniforms	\$	4,500.00	\$	3,026.35	\$	4,500.00	\$	1,673.18	\$	2,695.45		312.53
Phone Office	\$	7,000.00	\$	10,323.88	\$	10,000.00	\$	9,373.02	\$	9,618.53		7,230.92
Janitorial Service	\$	6,500.00	\$	5,087.13	\$	6,000.00	\$	7,377.90	\$	5,854.79		4,497.68
Refuse Disposal	\$	5,000.00	\$	3,638.50	\$	5,000.00	\$	4,043.24	\$	3,302.58		4,061.96
Liability Insurance	\$	77,000.00	\$	66,833.38	\$	66,000.00	\$	40,100.79	\$	27,225.13	\$	25,003.90
Workers Compensation	\$	42,000.00	\$	15,313.30	\$	16,000.00	\$	15,058.95	\$	13,984.93	\$	12,167.92
Wells	\$	16,000.00	\$	3,599.59	\$	5,000.00	\$	6,882.70	\$	4,871.37	\$	18,592.98
Truck Maintenance	\$	3,500.00	\$	8,527.14	\$	3,500.00	\$	5,007.41	\$	8,192.98	\$	5,589.50
Office Equip. Maintenance	\$	7,500.00	\$	4,329.66	\$	4,000.00	\$	4,234.43	\$	4,534.34	\$	3,674.01
Cell Phones	\$	4,500.00	\$	3,910.53	\$	4,500.00	\$	4,658.89	\$	3,840.03	\$	3,826.31
System Maintenance	\$	90,000.00	\$	38,928.91	\$	90,000.00	\$	100,237.25	\$	54,560.95	\$	58,767.13
Safety Equipment	\$	6,000.00	\$	1,744.69	\$	6,000.00	\$	3,117.01	\$	2,826.20	\$	585.87
Security	\$	1,000.00	\$	287.55	\$	1,000.00	\$	-	\$	_	\$	-
Laboratory Services	\$	14,500.00	\$	13,391.00	\$	14,500.00	\$	10,758.37	\$	9,731.00	\$	22,127.00
Membership and Dues	\$	10,000.00	\$	9,389.00	\$	9,000.00	\$	7,895.00	\$	7,720.00	\$	8,357.00
Printing and Binding	\$	2,000.00	\$	777.31	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,547.33	\$	3,013.30	\$	186.66
Office Supplies	\$	6,000.00	\$	7,207.64	\$	6,000.00	\$	7,378.91	\$	8,196.07	\$	4,396.97
Postage and Express	\$	13,000.00	\$	13,835.79	\$	12,000.00	\$	14,319.47	\$	11,566.28	\$	13,321.66
B.O.D. Fees	\$	30,000.00	\$	27,085.69	\$	27,000.00	\$	12,700.00	\$	15,150.00	\$	12,650.00
Engineering & Technical Services	\$	50,000.00	\$	21,234.15	\$	50,000.00	\$	7,824.71	\$	29,428.71	\$	19,333.74
Computer Services	\$	25,000.00	\$	32,849.83	\$	17,000.00	\$	22,837.79	\$	16,951.12	\$	20,390.26
Other Prof. & Regulatory Fees	\$	40,000.00	\$	42,874.06	\$	40,000.00	\$	32,773.09	\$	30,365.48	\$	38,075.81
Public and Legal Notices	\$	2,000.00	\$	349.00	\$	2,000.00	\$	2,017.48	\$	-	\$	126.00
Attorney Fees	\$	40,000.00	\$	24,570.50	\$	50,000.00	\$	104,437.57	\$	103,354.95	\$	54,957.11
GSA Fees	\$	90,000.00	\$	74,444.00	\$	80,000.00	\$	31,299.79	\$	72,214.82	_	50,000.00
VR/SBC/City of VTA Law Suit	\$	75,000.00	\$	4,855.12	\$	75,000.00	\$	38,575.80	\$	55,858.73		28,105.44
Rental Equipment	\$	10,000,00	Ė	,	\$	10,000.00	Ė	,	Ė	,	Ť	,
Audit Fees	\$	25,000.00	\$	20,850.00	\$	25,000.00	\$	13,200.00	\$	18,700.00	\$	19,400.00
Small Tools	\$	5.000.00	\$	4,597.66	\$	5.000.00	\$	1,898.35	\$	3,330.72	_	1,966.19
Election Supplies	\$	2.500.00	\$	-	\$	2,500.00	\$	2,517.03	\$	-	\$	518.77
Treatment Plant	\$	10,000.00	\$	4,835.43	\$	10,000.00	\$	13,205.86	\$	8,037.02	\$	14,676.81
Fuel	\$	20,000.00	\$	15,507.43	\$	20,000.00	\$	9,842.63	\$	11,333.27	\$	9,866.24
Travel Exp./Seminars	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,893.47	\$	2,000.00	\$	1,079.06	\$	715.51	\$	678.00
Utilities	\$	3,500.00	\$	3,139.97	\$	3,500.00	\$	2,714.35	\$	2,154.94		2,173.89
Power and Pumping	\$	80,000.00	\$	45,664.87	\$	80,000.00	\$	61,151.31	\$	64,253.50	\$	25,295.13
Meters	\$	50,000.00	\$	4,381.16	\$	25,000.00	\$	5,863.07	\$	11,227.19	\$	8,370.94
Online Bill Pay Transaction Fees - New	\$	10,000.00	۳	1,001.10	Ψ	20,000.00	Ψ	0,000.07	Ψ	11,221.10	۳	0,070.04
Total Expenditures	\$		\$	1,170,027.88	\$	1,615,000.00	\$	1,540,077.57	\$	1,283,751.84	\$	1,352,961.39

Report of Expenses and Budget Appropriations To Date

		2023-2024		2022-2023	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
Capital Expenditures		Proposed	Δ	ctuals YTD*	Budget	Actuals	Actuals	Actuals
Water Distribution System					•			
Wells 4 & 7	1				\$ _	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 85,869.09
Wells 1 & 2 Rehab					\$ _	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130,499.00
Zone 1 Booster/MCC Upgrade					\$ _	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,203.92
Well 1,2 VFD Upgrade					\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79,360.09
Well 8 Nitrate Removal/Blending					\$ 60,000.00	\$ 7,780.00	\$ -	\$ -
Relocate 6" Main for Z-2					\$ _	\$ 155,050.00	\$ 9,875.00	\$ _
Tank Cleaning					\$ 6,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Valve Replacements	\$	100,000.00			\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,686.77
New Well	\$	100,000.00						
Rehab Well 4a	\$	30,000.00						
Meiners Rd. Tank/Zone	\$	75,000.00			\$ 75,000.00	\$ 31,294.75	\$ -	\$ -
Structures and Improvements								
Generator/Panel Upgrades					\$ -		\$ 151,787.28	\$ -
Treatment Plant Set-Aside Fund					\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Well 4 Development Work					\$ -	\$ -	\$ 92,263.16	\$ -
1 Ton Service Truck					\$ -	\$ 80,201.22	\$ -	\$ -
Treatment Plant 100% Eng. Design*	\$	160,000.00	\$	191,520.95	\$ 350,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,207.00	\$ 13,204.00
Field Truck 3/4 ton	\$	70,000.00						
Office HVAC System	\$	10,000.00						
Furniture and Fixtures								
Office Machines					\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,939.81
New Meter Reading Handhelds/Software					\$ -	\$ 13,856.70	\$ -	\$ -
Field Equipment								
Leak Detector					\$ -	\$ 19.50	\$ -	\$ -
GIS Equipment & Software			\$	12,928.51	\$ 15,000.00			
Chlorine Alarms	\$	20,000.00						
Generator Welder	\$	6,500.00						
Air Compressor	\$	6,500.00			\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Appropriations for Contingencies	\$	100,000.00	\$	64,828.98	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 109,814.51	\$ 55,436.58	\$ 239,464.69
Total CIP Spending	\$	678,000.00	\$	269,278.44	\$ 659,500.00	\$ 398,016.68	\$ 324,569.02	\$ 597,227.37
GRAND TOTAL	\$	2,495,000.00	\$	1,439,306.32	\$ 2,274,500.00	\$ 1,938,094.25	\$ 1,608,320.86	\$ 1,950,188.76

	2023-2024		2022-2023	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21		2019-20
Income	Proposed	1	Actuals YTD*	Proposed	Actuals	Actuals	i	Actuals
Total	\$ 1,898,483.00	\$	1,877,165.92	\$ 2,055,544.00	\$ 1,850,136.41	\$ 1,709,734.59	\$	1,584,806.01
Grant Reimbursements		\$	24,150.00					

*2022-2023 YTD thru April 2023

 Estimated Difference:
 \$ (596,517.00)
 \$ 462,009.60
 \$ (218,956.00)
 Recommend covering shortfall with Reserve Funds.

 County Reserves
 \$ 1,516,054.94
 \$ 1,308,544.00
 \$ 1,304,472.41
 \$ 1,408,820.26
 \$ 1,449,936.09

 LAIF
 \$ 234,368.30
 \$ 230,000.00
 \$ 230,372.80
 \$ 229,731.39
 \$ 227,801.70

Table 3: Proposed Rates Based Revenue *FY 2023-2024*

1) Meter Charges

Τ,	Wieter Chai	gc3			
			Monthly	Monthly	Annual
	Meter size	No. of Accts	WAC	MCC	Revenue
	5/8"-3/4"	1092	\$36.00	\$0.00	\$471,744
	1"	157	\$36.00	\$16.80	\$99,475
	1 1/2"	10	\$36.00	\$37.80	\$8,856
	2"	18	\$36.00	\$109.20	\$31,363
	3"	2	\$36.00	\$268.38	\$7,305
	4"	0	\$36.00	\$814.80	\$0
	6"	1	\$36.00	\$1,654.80	\$20,290
		TOTAL	. METER CHAI	RGE REVENUE	\$639,033
_	_	_			Annual
2)	Annual Wa	ter Sales	Units	Rate	Revenue
	Fixed allocate	tion sales	28,896	\$3.90	\$112,694
	Variable allo	cation sales	234,809	\$3.90	\$915,755
	Over-alloc s	urcharge	45,000	\$5.00	
		TOT	AL WATER SA	LES REVENUE	\$1,028,450
_					Annual
3)	Water Bill I	Late Fees			Revenue
	Total Annua	l Late Fees Colle	ected	-	\$20,000
			TOTAL LATE	FEE REVENUE	\$20,000
_					Annual
4)	Property Ta	axes			Revenue
	Property Tax	x Revenue Colle	cted	_	\$177,000
		TOTA	L PROPERTY	TAX REVENUE	\$177,000
_					Annual
5)	Interest Inc	come			Revenue
	Total interes	st income			\$28,000
			TOTAL INTER	EST REVENUE	\$28,000
_,		_			Annual
6)	Administra				Revenue
	Total Admin	istrative Fees		-	\$6,000
		TOTAL A	ADMINISTRAT	TIVE REVENUE	\$6,000
				_	
	TOT	AL PROJECTE	D ANNUA	L REVENUE	\$1,898,483
				•	

Table 4: Water Rates for 2022 - 2025

1) Monthly Water Availability Charge (WAC)

Meter size	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25							
All	\$35.91	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$36.00							
2) Monthly	Motor Cana	city Chargo /	(MCC)								
2) Monthly Meter Capacity Charge (MCC)											
Meter size	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25							
5/8"&3/4"	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00							
1"	\$16.00	\$16.00	\$16.80	\$17.60							
1.5"	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$37.80	\$39.70							
2"	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$109.20	\$114.70							
3"	\$256.00	\$256.00	\$268.80	\$282.20							
4"	\$776.00	\$776.00	\$814.80	\$855.50							
6"	\$1,576.00	\$1,576.00	\$1,654.80	\$1,737.50							

3) Unit Rate per HCF for all water used

Meter size	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25
All	\$2.34	\$3.85	\$3.90	\$3.95

4) Over-Allocation Penalty (Additional charge for use exceeding a customer's monthly allocation.)

Meter size	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25
All	\$1.00/Unit	The Over-Alloc	cation Penalty w	ill be set at
		Casitas MWD's	s Over-Allocatio	n Penalty then in
		effect (Current	ly \$5.00/HCF).	The amount is
		additional to th	e unit rate.	

5) Casitas Surcharge Meter size FY2021-22

Wictor Size	1 1202 1 22	I I LULL LU	1 12020 24	1 12027 20
All	The cost of purch	nasing water fron	n Casitas MWD	is collected as
	a "Casitas Surch	arge" added to a	customer's bill	in proportion to

the amount of water used that month. (NO CHANGE)

FY2022-23 FY2023-24

FY2024-25

6) Other Fees and Charges

See our website for special rates and conditions.

Note: 1 Unit = 100 cubic feet = 1 HCF = 748 gallons