

Report – New Agricultural Water Well Restriction, Glenn County Urgency Ordinance #1301

Friday, July 23, 2021

On June 22, 2021, at a regularly scheduled Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board of Supervisors adopted an “Interim Urgency Ordinance” pursuant to California Government Code Section 65858, to protect the public safety, health, and general welfare. The County temporarily restricted the drilling of new agricultural water wells in the County of Glenn to the fullest extent permitted by law. Unless extended, the above referenced ordinance is set to expire on August 6, 2021. The Board of Supervisors may, after public hearing, adopt an ordinance to extend Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 1301 pursuant to California Government Code Section 65858; thereby, continuing to temporarily restrict new agricultural water wells in the County of Glenn for an additional 10 months and 15 days.

On June 1, 2021, the Board of Supervisors established an ad-hoc committee to work on emergency drought issues within Glenn County. The committee is engaged in the development and study of possible means to adjust and improve the temporarily restricted new agricultural water wells in the County of Glenn.

On June 8, 2021, the ad-hoc committee met with approximately 40 stakeholders to continue the development of solutions related to the local drought emergency and reviewing the potential impacts to the public safety, health, and general welfare of Glenn County citizens.

On July 7, 2021, county staff met as a pre-meeting to discuss logistics and coordinate the July 8, 2021 ad-hoc committee meeting.

On July 8, 2021, the ad-hoc committee met for the second time, again with approximately 40 stakeholders, to continue the development of solutions. Particularly regarding temporary water supplies, storage tanks, identifying affected property owners, modifications to the current well standards, and development of the dry well incident reporting tool, as well as reviewing the potential impacts to the public safety, health, and general welfare of Glenn County.

On July 14, 2021, the Glenn County Sheriff’s Office of Emergency services hosted the initial public bottled water distribution event, offering cases of bottled water to those impacted by dry wells.

On July 20, 2021, the Board of Supervisors took an action to continue the local drought emergency as required by state law. In addition, the second pre-meeting of county staff met to discuss logistics and coordinate the August 12, 2021 ad-hoc committee meeting.

On July 21, 2021, the Glenn County Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services hosted a second public bottled water distribution event at the Orland Fire Department.

On July 23, 2021 the Glenn County Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services will host a third public bottled water distribution event at the Elk Creek High School.

On July 28, 2021, the Glenn County Sheriff’s Office of Emergency Services will host another public bottled water distribution event at the Orland Fire Department in Orland.