

SECTION 13. PLANNING AND FUNDING AUTHORIZED DISTRICT PROGRAMS

The required and necessary regulatory and operational activities of the District, currently needed and beneficial conservation programs, and programs and funding that will be required when production from the aquifers increases materially, require more funding than is currently available to the District. The District will, to the extent funding is available and it is reasonably prudent, fund programs on a priority basis when and as timely benefits will be realized. The programs funded by the District shall be consistent with the Management Plan and District Rules.

The Board establishes the maximum amount of administrative costs/fees as part of establishing and approving research based grant contracts and administrative fees requested by Institutions of Higher Learning and Research who adopt and incorporate the Uniform Administrative Guidance and Oversight provisions in relation to personnel, travel, equipment, technical and academic costs associated with the agreed upon scope of work and deliverable. Such administrative costs/fees shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the project budget established.

As permitted by funding reasonably available from fees for water production authorized by permit, water authorized for transport by a transport permit, and other fees received by the District, the District will maintain and fund the following programs.

- A. Regulatory and Enforcement Actions as authorized and provided by State law or the Rules
- B. Well and Aquifer Monitoring.
- C. Modeling and Study of the Aquifers.
- D. Public Education Programs.
- E. Groundwater Well Assistance Program

F. Aquifer Conservancy Program

G. Groundwater Conservation Grant Programs. Subject to qualifying applicants and applications meeting the requirements specified by the Board for the specific program, grant programs will be funded as follows:

(1) Groundwater Conservation and Enhancement Grants. Until such time as grant applications made by governmental water utilities and water supply corporations do not evidence a significant need for major repairs and replacement that will result in loss prevention and the conservation of water, the District will maintain and fund a program to provide grants to publicly owned water utilities to fund repairs and improvements that will reduce water losses and conserve the public water supply. The improvements and repairs funded by the grants, and the matching funds provided by the grantees, should reduce the number of qualified applications and/or the cost of the repair and replacement projects over time. Until such time as there has been a material reduction in the number of qualified grant applications, the District will endeavor to budget not less than \$1,000,000.00 each year for grant programs that will result in material loss prevention and conservation. This grant program will also require the grantees to provide matching funds and establish fees and charges sufficient to enable the improved water system to be thereafter maintained and repaired.

(2) Other Conservation Programs Provided in the Management Plan. Other beneficial and productive water conservation programs may be added to the Management Plan. Such programs may provide for the District to contract directly to obtain the end result, or to make grants and contract for third parties to perform the actual work required for the conservation program. As new programs are added to the Management Plan, the Board will establish desired annual funding for each such program. Further, as the need and demand for grants referenced in paragraph (1) above lessens, a portion of the annual funding now provided for that program will be transferred to and expended for other conservation programs.

(3) See Section 15, Part E.5, grants to privately owned utilities or water supply corporations.

(4) For grants for local water utilities and water supply corporations authorized hereunder

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that may be incomplete according to a schedule established between the parties but where progress is still occurring, the General Manager may grant one (1) extension of not more than six (6) months for such work to be completed. The entity shall provide the request in writing and shall provide the General Manager with sufficient information to outline how such program will be completed within the additional time requested.

H. Future Programs. As pumping and production from the aquifers increase, additional programs may be required to provide for the best interests of citizens and communities within the District. Certain of such programs will be financially demanding. As and when any such programs are authorized in the Management Plan the District shall fund the program(s) and may establish a separate reserve for each program to, over time, accrue funds to enable the District to fund the program at the appropriate time.

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