

Case 22-23 GJ04: How Will Grizzly Flats Water District Survive

The Grand Jury has requested responses from the Board of Supervisors to Finding 9, and Recommendations 5-6. The Grizzly Flats Community Services District was also asked to prepare a response to this report.

Consistent with previous practice and pursuant to Board Policy A-11, the Chief Administrative Office is responsible for coordinating the County's response to the Grand Jury. Responses to the Grand Jury Report are directed by Board Policy A-11 and Penal Code 933.05. Accordingly, the Chief Administrative Office has reviewed and compiled the responses from all non-elected department heads into this Initial Draft Response for the Board's consideration.

FINDINGS

F9. There is no published contingency plan in the event that the GFCSD becomes insolvent.

The Board of Supervisors agrees with the finding. Grizzly Flats Community Services District (CSD) is an independent special district with its own elected governing body. There are more than forty such districts within El Dorado County, providing a range of services. The governing bodies of these districts are responsible for ensuring they have a sustainable service delivery plan. It would not be reasonable to expect the County to maintain contingency plans for independent districts.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R5. The EDC Board of Supervisors should assign a dedicated resource for a six-month period to seek out and apply for grants from local, State and Federal sources, in assistance to the GFCSD. This should be accomplished by June 30, 2024.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. As stated above, Grizzly Flats CSD is an independent special district. It would not be appropriate for the County to employ resources in aid of the district unless requested to do so by the district's governing body.

R6. The EDC BOS should develop, in conjunction with the GFCSD, a contingency plan should the GFCSD become insolvent. This should be accomplished by December 31, 2023.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. Contingency planning is the responsibility of, and should be led by, the Grizzly Flats CSD's governing body. The Board of Supervisors recommends that any such discussions also include the El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), as LAFCO is tasked with

reviewing the provision of municipal services by special districts and coordinating any reorganizations of special districts. If requested by Grizzly Flats CSD's governing body to assist with planning efforts, the Board of Supervisors would consider the request in the context of the County's many other competing priorities and whether other agencies within the County would be better suited to assist with such efforts.