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Esperanza Colio Warren

COUNTY COUNSEL:
Gregory Priamos

CLERK OF THE BOARD:
Vanessa Delgado

**Agenda Item
Regular Meeting of the
Board of Supervisors
Tuesday, December 16, 2025**

Item Number: 3.1

MEETING DATE: 12/16/2025

DEPARTMENT: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA ITEM PREPARER: Vanessa Delgado

DEPT HEAD/DIRECTOR: Esperanza Colio Warren

SUBJECT:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1. Accept presentation from San Benito Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) regarding Regional Wastewater Services Municipal Service Review; and
 2. Provide feedback on the direction, feasibility, and preferred pathways for future wastewater governance within the County.
- SBC FILE NUMBER: 790A

AGENDA SECTION:

REGULAR AGENDA

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY:

BACKGROUND

The San Benito Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is conducting the Regional Wastewater Services Municipal Service Review (MSR) consistent with Government Code §56430. The MSR evaluates wastewater service capacity, infrastructure needs, financial ability, shared facility opportunities, governance, and related service delivery considerations for the following providers:

- City of Hollister
- City of San Juan Bautista
- San Benito County Water District
- Sunnyslope County Water District
- Tres Pinos Water District
- County Service Areas (CSA) 22 and 45

A Public Review Draft was released on December 6, 2024. No public comments were received. A newly reconstituted LAFCO Ad Hoc Committee provided direction to clarify the neutrality of the presented

governance options, reinforce that implementation lies with the affected agencies, and emphasize that all options will require further analysis and CEQA review. A Draft Final of the report was released in September 2025 with these additions. The Ad Hoc Committee also directed that staff engage affected agencies for input to be further incorporated in the report.

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED

- **Out-of-area wastewater connections** and the need for efficient, long-term service arrangements for Hollister-adjacent areas.
- **City–County coordination challenges** regarding wastewater service responsibilities in shared development areas.
- **Lack of multi-jurisdictional preplanning** for areas immediately adjacent to the City of Hollister.
- **Unadopted planning boundaries** for San Juan Bautista.
- **Inactive County Service Areas**

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OPTIONS

The MSR outlines a range of potential governance frameworks for regional wastewater services, including:

- **Multi-agency coordination models**
- **Hollister-specific governance approaches**
- **County or proxy-agency models** (e.g., San Benito County Water District or a County Service Area)
- **San Juan Bautista SOI Update**
- **Consolidation** of Sunnyslope and Tres Pinos
- **CSA dissolution** for CSA 22 and CSA 45

Each option is accompanied by an outline of potential advantages, disadvantages, and implementation considerations.

PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide the Board of Supervisors with an overview of the governance options identified in the MSR and to solicit **Board feedback on the direction, feasibility, and preferred pathways** for future wastewater governance within the County.

NEXT STEPS

Following Board feedback, LAFCO will:

- Incorporate comments into refinement of governance options;
- Release the edited draft for further public review; and
- Consider adoption of the report.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Accept presentation from San Benito Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) regarding Regional Wastewater Services Municipal Service Review; and
2. Provide feedback on the direction, feasibility, and preferred pathways for future wastewater governance within the County.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Board Agenda Fact Sheet - LAFCO Presentation](#)

[Presentation - Regional Wastewater Services MSR Governance Structure Options](#)

