

**ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
COACHELLA WATER AUTHORITY**

DATE OF ORDER: MAY 28, 2020

**AN ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COACHELLA
WATER AUTHORITY DECLARING AN EXTENSION OF THE
TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SERVICE TURNOFFS DURING THE
COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY.**

WHEREAS, the Coachella Water Authority (“Authority”) adopted Ordinance 1057, Section 3. Chapter 13.03- *Water Service System* establishing requirements for the provision of water service including billing, payment, interest, late penalties, and shut off processing; and

WHEREAS, in the past ten weeks, federal, state, county and local governments have declared states of emergency to increase efforts to protect the public from the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”). In addition, a number of school districts have announced closures which may be in effect for a number of weeks; and

WHEREAS, many customers face issues such as their children’s schools, or their workplaces, closing in an effort to stop the virus from spreading. These affected customers may not have access to paid time off from their employers or are contract workers who only get paid when they work and they cannot work remotely. Even a few lost days of wages due to the effects of COVID-19 could mean not being able to buy food, pay rent, or pay utilities; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8634 provides that during a local emergency the governing body of a political subdivision, such as the Authority, may promulgate orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property. Such orders and regulations, and amendments and rescissions thereof, must be in writing and must be given publicity and notice; and

WHEREAS, to help mitigate the negative impacts on those who may suffer a loss of wages due to efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, the Authority Board of Directors adopted Resolution WA-2020-04 on March 25, 2020 directing the Executive Director, or his/her designees, to refrain from taking action which would result in the termination of service to residential customers, due to nonpayment. Resolution WA-2020-04 is attached hereto as **Attachment “1”**; and

WHEREAS, Resolution WA-2020-04 further directs the Executive Director to take any and all action he/she deems necessary, in his/her reasonable discretion, to suspend the imposition of late penalties and interest and to or otherwise refrain from enforcing applicable provisions of Ordinance 1057 in regard to termination of service due to non-payment as of March 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Temporary Suspension shall only apply to residential retail customers of the Authority and shall only apply to service termination due to non-payment; and

WHEREAS, the Temporary Suspension is set to expire on June 1, 2020, but Resolution Section 4 *Suspension Period* provides that the Executive Director may extend, or otherwise revise, the Suspension Period from time to time, as determined in the Executive Director's reasonable discretion; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and all of its impacts on public health, the economy, and the community at large continue to be felt by the citizens of Coachella. The Recitals above continue to describe the current situation and the support the need to extend the Suspension Period; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director finds that the Suspension Period shall be extended through June 30, 2020, unless he/she later finds that the extended Suspension Period should be modified, superseded, or rescinded.

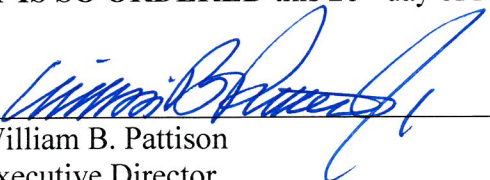
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED,

Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals and Attachment. The recitals and Attachment "1" (Resolution WA-2020-04) to this Order are true and correct and this Authority so finds, determines and represents. Said recitals are incorporated herein and made a part of this Order. Resolution WA-2020-04 shall remain in full force and effect, the only modification being the Suspension Period Extension described in Section 2 of this Order, below.

Section 2. Suspension Period Extension. Based on the Authority set forth in Resolution WA-2020-04, the Executive Director hereby extends the Temporary Suspension **through June 30, 2020**. This Extended Suspension Period may be modified, superseded, or rescinded by the Board of Directors or Executive Director.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, clause or phrase in this Order is for any reason held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Order shall not be affected thereby. The Executive Director hereby declares that he would have adopted this Order and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases or the application thereof be held invalid.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 28th day of May 2020.



William B. Pattison
Executive Director

ATTEST:



Andrea J. Carranza, MMC
Deputy Secretary of the Coachella Water Authority

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Carlos Campos, Attorney

ATTACHMENT "1"
RESOLUTION WA-2020-04

RESOLUTION NO. WA-2020-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COACHELLA WATER AUTHORITY, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SERVICE TURNOFFS DURING THE COVID-19 STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Coachella Water Authority (“Authority”) adopted Ordinance 1057, Section 3. Chapter 13.03- Water Service System establishing requirements for the provision of water service including billing, payment, interest, late penalties, and shut off processing; and

WHEREAS, in recent weeks, federal, state, county and local governments have declared states of emergency to increase efforts to protect the public from the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”). In addition, a number of school districts have announced closures which may be in effect for a number of weeks; and

WHEREAS, many customers face issues such as their children’s schools, or their workplaces, closing in an effort to stop the virus from spreading. These affected customers may not have access to paid time off from their employers or are contract workers who only get paid when they work and they cannot work remotely. Even a few lost days of wages due to the effects of COVID-19 could mean not being able to buy food, pay rent, or pay utilities; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8634 provides that during a local emergency the governing body of a political subdivision, such as the Authority, may promulgate orders and regulations necessary to provide for the protection of life and property. Such orders and regulations, and amendments and rescissions thereof, must be in writing and must be given publicity and notice; and

WHEREAS, to help mitigate the negative impacts on those who may suffer a loss of wages due to efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, the Board desires to take action to direct the Executive Director, or his/her designees, to refrain from taking action which would result in the termination of service to residential customers, due to nonpayment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1. Incorporation of Recitals. The recitals in this Resolution are true and correct and this Authority so finds, determines and represents. Said recitals are incorporated herein and made a part of this Resolution.

Section 2. Temporary Suspension. The Board hereby authorizes, and otherwise directs, the Executive Director refrain from taking any action, which would result in the termination of service to any residential retail customer due to nonpayment (“Temporary Suspension”). As a result, the Executive Director shall take any and all action he/she deems necessary, in his/her reasonable discretion, to suspend the imposition of late penalties and interest and to or otherwise refrain from enforcing applicable provisions of Ordinance 1057 in regard to termination of service due to non-payment now. The terms and conditions of the Temporary Suspension shall be

established and implemented as determined in the Executive Director's reasonable discretion and in accordance with this Resolution.


Section 3. Eligible Customers. The Temporary Suspension shall only apply to residential retail customers of the Authority. In addition, the Temporary Suspension shall only apply to service termination due to non-payment. The Executive Director will continue to have the authority to proceed with service termination for any other reason including, but not limited to, the theft of water or interference with Authority facilities.

Section 4. Suspension Period. The Temporary Suspension shall commence on the effective date of this Resolution and shall expire on June 1, 2020 ("Suspension Period"). The Suspension Period may be extended, or otherwise revised, by the Executive Director from time to time, as determined in the Executive Director's reasonable discretion.

Section 5. Report to the Board. The Executive Director shall provide updates to the Board at least as frequently as each Board meeting following the effective date of this Resolution. Said updates shall include information regarding: (a) establishment and implementation of the Temporary Suspension; (b) extensions or revisions to the Suspension Period; (c) the number of qualified customers; and (d) and any other information regarding how this Resolution is being implemented.

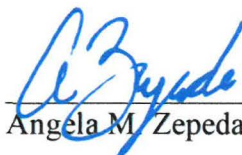
Section 6. If any section, subsection, clause or phrase in this Resolution is for any reason held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby. The Board hereby declares that it would have passed this Resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases or the application thereof be held invalid.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 25th day of March 2020.



Steven A. Hernandez
President

ATTEST:



Angela M. Zepeda, Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Carlos Campos, Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE) ss.
CITY OF COACHELLA)

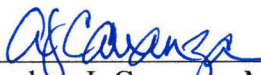
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution No. WA-2020-04 was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Coachella Water Authority at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 25th day of March 2020, by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: Authority Member Bautista, Authority Member Beaman Jacinto, Vice President
 Martinez and President Hernandez.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Authority Member Gonzalez.

ABSTAIN: None.



Andrea J. Carranza, MMC
Deputy City Clerk