CITY OF COFFEYVILLE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM

MEETING DATE	04/09/2013	
RESOLUTION OR ORDINANCE NUMBER	Information Only	
AGENDA TITLE	**N/A – Information Only**	
REQUESTING DEPT.	N/A	
PRESENTER	Chuck Shively	
FISCAL INFORMATION	Cost as recommended:	$0.00
	Budget Line Item:	N/A
	Balance Available	N/A
	New Appropriation Required:	[ ] Yes [ ] No
PURPOSE	Information about drought status.	
BACKGROUND	The City of Coffeyville has a Water Conservation Plan which identifies three stages of water drought/emergency contingency and lists actions to be taken under each stage. 1. The first stage is a Water Watch, which includes actions such as news releases about the situation and asking the public to voluntarily reduce water consumption. 2. The second stage is a Water Warning, which includes curtailing City water use such as operation of fountains, non-essential watering of City grounds and washing of vehicles. The Water Warning also implements measures such as odd/even lawn watering, restricting outdoor use of water to between 9 p.m. and 10 a.m., placing restrictions on refilling of swimming pools, and restricting Golf Course watering to greens and tees after sunset. 3. The third stage is a Water Emergency, which includes banning all outdoor use of water and prohibiting waste of water.	

	The City of Coffeyville has a Water Purchase Agreement with the Kansas Water Office Water Marketing Program for water in Elk City Reservoir. Our Water Marketing Contract makes water available in the event that natural flows in the river cannot meet the needs of our water utility. Our contract is for 300 million gallons annually at $0.10 per thousand gallons. We pay for 150 million gallons each year whether we use it or not at a minimum annual cost of $15,000.00. If we exceed the 150 million gallons paid for by our minimum annual payment we begin paying for the water used at $0.10 per thousand gallons, up to a total of 300 million gallons. The contract can be thought of as an "insurance policy" to ensure that we have water in the event of a drought such as the one we are currently experiencing.
SPECIAL NOTES	N/A
ANALYSIS	In response to a drought order from Governor Brownback, on July 6, 2012 the Kansas Water Office recommended that the City of Coffeyville implement the Water Watch stage of our Water Conservation Plan. On July 11, 2012 the City of Coffeyville issued a press release implementing the Water Watch status and encouraging voluntary water conservation. Due to persistent drought conditions and related lack of flow in the Verdigris River, on August 2, 2012 the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resources (DWR) issued an order to the City of Coffeyville which prohibited diversion of water from the Verdigris River, except as authorized by the DWR as natural flows. The DWR is required by state statute to determine how much natural flow is available in the river, divide it up between the entities with Vested Water Rights, and enforce the rights of the entities. DWR began notifying the City weekly, how much natural flow was allotted to the City of Coffeyville. Although we had ample water available to us at the time through our Water Marketing Contract, we were steadily using up the 150 million gallons that is already paid for. Once that was gone we would begin paying

	$0.10 per thousand gallons for any additional water, up to the 300 million gallon cap on our contract. On August 14, 2012 the City Commission approved Ordinance No. S-12-07, authorizing the declaration of an emergency to issue a Water Warning within the City of Coffeyville. The Water Warning shall continue until it is declared by the City Manager, or the City Manager's designee(s), to have ended. Recent rainfalls in the Verdigris River basin have improved the drought situation somewhat in southeast Kansas. In response to the improved situation, the DWR has now rescinded their order limiting diversion of water because natural flows are more than sufficient for all existing water rights. The drought has not ended, but southeast Kansas has improved enough to be listed as "Severe" drought condition, as opposed to most of Kansas which is listed as "Extreme" or "Exceptional" drought conditions. Therefore the City Manager has declared the Water Warning has ended effective Monday, April 1, 2013. The City of Coffeyville is now under the first stage Water Watch status, which calls for voluntary water conservation. Hopefully we will receive significant spring rainfalls, refilling the ponds, lakes, and reservoirs, and ending the drought. Until that time, the City requests that the public continue to curtail some outdoor water use and make efficient use of indoor water, such as washing full loads of laundry, taking shorter showers, not letting faucets run, etc.
PUBLIC INFORMATION PROCESS	N/A
BOARD OR COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION	N/A - Information Only
STAFF RECOMMENDATION	N/A - Information Only
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS ATTACHED	

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