

**Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the  
County of Monterey, State of California**

**Resolution No.**

Resolution authorizing the Chair of the Board )  
of Supervisors to execute a Joint Powers )  
Authority agreement establishing the Salinas )  
Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability )  
Agency (“SVBGSA”) )

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2014 the California legislature adopted, and the Governor signed into law, three bills (SB 1168, AB 1739, and SB 1319) collectively referred to as the “Sustainable Groundwater Management Act” (“SGMA”), that initially became effective on January 1, 2015, and that has been amended from time-to-time thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of SGMA, as set forth in California Water Code section 10720.1, is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins at a local level by providing local groundwater agencies with the authority, and technical and financial assistance necessary, to sustainably manage groundwater; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires the designation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (“GSAs”) for the purpose of achieving groundwater sustainability through the adoption and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (“GSPs”) or an alternative plan for all medium and high priority basins as designated by the California Department of Water Resources; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires that the Basin have a designated GSA by no later than June 30, 2017, and an adopted GSP by no later than January 31, 2020, if a high or medium priority basin in critical overdraft, and no later than January 31, 2022, if a high or medium priority basin; and

WHEREAS, SGMA authorizes a combination of local agencies to form a GSA by entering into a joint powers agreement as authorized by the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the California Government Code) (“Act”); and

WHEREAS, representatives of the County, including the CAO’s and County Counsel’s Offices, have been participating in meetings with other local agencies, stakeholders and interested parties in the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin (“Basin”) in a collaborative effort to develop a single GSA for the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the collaborative working group (“CWG”) has reached a consensus to recommend to those local agencies in the Basin entitled under SGMA to declare themselves a GSA to form a joint powers authority (“JPA”) to be the GSA for the Basin, and that the local agencies become members of the JPA (“Members”); and

WHEREAS, the CWG has also reached consensus and has recommended the material terms of a proposed JPA agreement to form the GSA for the Basin, to be called the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Agency”); and

WHEREAS, a number of local agencies in the Basin, including the City of Salinas, the cities of Gonzales, Soledad, Greenfield and King, and the Castroville Community Services District have indicated an interest in becoming Members;

WHEREAS, the proposed Members, including the County and the Water Resources Agency of the County, are authorized to create the Agency for the purpose of jointly exercising those powers granted by the Act, SGMA, and any additional powers which are common among them; and

WHEREAS, each proposed Member is a local agency, as defined by SGMA, within that portion of the Basin within Monterey County, which is designated basin number 3-04 in Department of Water Resources Bulletin No. 118 (update 2016); and

WHEREAS, the area proposed to be managed by the Agency under SGMA would be the entirety of the Basin, consisting of seven sub-basins and that portion of the Paso Robles sub-basin within Monterey County (but not including the adjudicated Seaside sub-basin, or that area managed by any other GSA established through SGMA), each of which is designated as either a high or medium priority basin, and two of which (the 180/400 ft. aquifer and the Paso Robles sub-basin) are designated in critical overdraft; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Members, individually and collectively, have the goal of cost effective sustainable groundwater management that considers the interests and concerns of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater within and adjacent to the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Members intend to cooperate with adjacent GSAs such as any GSA formed over a portion of the Paso Robles sub-basin (3-04.06) within San Luis Obispo County, and the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Members intend to pursue state legislation to, among other amendments, amend the Water Resources Agency (“WRA”) Act (Water Code Appendix Chapter 52) to modify the governance structure of the WRA in a form similar to the governance of the Agency established herein and to establish that amended agency as the statutorily designated GSA for the Basin, or establish a new entity to be so designated; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey as follows:

1. The above recitals are true and correct.
2. The Chair of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized and directed to execute for and on behalf of the County the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement establishing the Salinas Valley Basin Sustainability Groundwater Agency, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, together with any modifications that, in the opinion of the County Administrative Officer and County Counsel are not material.
3. Staff is authorized and directed to take such other a further actions as may be necessary or appropriate to implement the intent and purposes of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote, to-wit:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:

I, Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original order of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book \_\_\_\_\_ for the meeting on \_\_\_\_\_.

Dated:

Gail T. Borkowski, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Monterey, State of California

By \_\_\_\_\_  
, Deputy