



Resolution 2016-16

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the
Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

**Authorizing the General Manager or Designee to Submit the Basin
Management Plan Update and Associated Agency Documents as an
Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan under the Sustainable
Groundwater Management Act to the California Department of Water
Resources**

WHEREAS, the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (“PVWMA”) is a state-chartered water management district formed under California’s Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency Act, Stats. 1984, ch. 257 (“Agency Act”) to efficiently and economically manage existing and supplemental water supplies;

WHEREAS, PVWMA’s primary goal is to prevent further increase in, and to accomplish continuing reduction of, long-term overdraft and to provide and ensure sufficient water supplies for present and anticipated needs within the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Subbasin as modified by the California Department of Water Resources in October 2016;

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) was signed into law and adopted into the California Water Code, commencing with Section 10720;

WHEREAS, the legislative intent of SGMA is to provide for sustainable management of groundwater basins, to enhance local management of groundwater, to establish minimum standards for sustainable groundwater management, and to provide local groundwater agencies with the authority and the technical and feasible assistance necessary to manage groundwater;

WHEREAS, SGMA places the responsibility of sustainable groundwater management on groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs);

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10723(c)(1)(L) establishes PVWMA as the exclusive local agency within its statutory boundaries to comply with the requirements of SGMA;

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2015, the Board of Directors approved Resolution 2015-25, electing to be a GSA under SGMA;

WHEREAS, SGMA requires critically over-drafted high and medium priority basins in the state to be managed under a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 31, 2020 and the Department of Water Resources has identified the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Subbasin as a critically over-drafted high-priority basin;

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10733.6(a) provides that if a local agency believes that an Alternative to a GSP, as defined under SGMA, satisfies the objectives of SGMA, the local

agency may submit the Alternative to the Department of Water Resources for evaluation and assessment of whether it satisfies the objectives of SGMA for the basin;

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2014, the Board of Directors adopted an updated Basin Management Plan that contains a suite of projects and programs intended to halt seawater intrusion and balance the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Subbasin;

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10733.6(b) lists Groundwater Management Plans developed pursuant to Water Code Section 10750 as one type of Alternative and the Basin Management Plan was accepted by the Department of Water Resources as a Groundwater Management Plan;

WHEREAS, PVWMA will submit Annual Reports to Department of Water Resources meeting requirements defined in Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 1.5, Subchapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations beginning with Water Year 2017 by April 1, 2018 if the Department of Water Resources accepts the Basin Management Plan as an Alternative;

WHEREAS, PVWMA will evaluate the Basin Management Plan and provide a written assessment and any updates to the Basin Management Plan every five years beginning January 1, 2022 as required by Water Code Section 10733.6(c) if the Department of Water Resources accepts the Basin Management Plan as an Alternative;

WHEREAS, the Basin Management Plan, in addition to the Agency Act and other PVWMA policies and programs, include elements that are functionally equivalent to the elements required for a GSP, as defined by Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 1.5, Subchapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations, meeting the objective of SGMA to achieve sustainable management of the basin;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency hereby:

Authorizes the General Manager or designee to submit the Basin Management Plan Update and associated agency documents as an Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan to the California Department of Water Resources by January 1, 2017 in accordance with Section 10733.6 of the Water Code and Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 1.5, Subchapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, the **21st** day of **December 2016**, by the following vote:

AYES: Imazio, Newell, Lynn, Cavanaugh, Faurot, Zamora, Bussey

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Rosemarie Imazio
Rosemarie Imazio, Chair

Attest:

L. R. Taay
Laura R. Taay, Board Secretary