

RESOLUTION NO. 17-1103

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAN LUIS WATER DISTRICT, AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT SUPPORTING FORMATION AND
OPERATION OF THE CENTRAL DELTA-MENDOTA REGION MULTI-
AGENCY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY, APPOINTING
REPRESENTATIVES TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE, AUTHORIZING THE
REPRESENTATIVE TO STEERING COMMITTEE TO DECLARE
SAN LUIS WATER DISTRICTS INTENTION TO BECOME PART OF A MULTI-
AGENCY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY,
AUTHORIZING RELATED ACTIONS, MAKING FINDINGS UNDER
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT**

WHEREAS, the California Legislature passed a statewide framework for sustainable groundwater management, known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (California Water Code Section 10720 et seq.) which was signed into law by the Governor on September 16, 2014; and

WHEREAS, SGMA went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires all high and medium priority groundwater basins and sub-basins, as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118, to be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) by June 30, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Delta-Mendota Sub-basin within the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) has been designated by DWR as a high priority basin; and

WHEREAS, SGMA authorizes any local agency with water supply, water management or land user responsibilities within the Basin to elect to become a GSA within the Basin or to join with other agencies in forming a Multi-Agency GSA; and

WHEREAS, the San Luis Water District (District) is a California Water District formed and operating pursuant to and in accordance with Division 13 of California Water Code and overlies a portion of the Delta-Mendota Sub-basin, as defined in Bulletin 118 of the California Department of Water Resources, and is therefore a “local agency” as defined under the SGMA and eligible to serve as a GSA within the Basin; and

WHEREAS, DWR has approved boundary modifications so that all of the geographical area depicted on the map, Exhibit "A" of the attached agreement and by reference incorporated herein, may be included within a single multiagency GSA within a portion of the Delta-Mendota Sub-basin, said portion designated by the parties as the "Central Delta-Mendota Region" or "Central DM Region;" and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered that certain proposed Agreement Supporting Formation and Operation of Central Delta-Mendota Region Multi-Agency Groundwater Sustainability Agency in the Central Delta-Mendota Region (the "Agreement") presented to the Board as Exhibit "B" of the attached agreement to this Resolution, which establishes the terms pursuant to which proposed parties propose to organize themselves to form the Central Delta-Mendota Multi-Agency GSA ("Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA"); and

WHEREAS, if established as the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA, the parties to the Agreement intend and expect to develop, adopt and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the geographical area designated as the Central Delta-Mendota Region, which GSP may be part of a broader GSP encompassing the entire Delta-Mendota Sub-basin and to enter into such Coordination Agreements as SGMA may require for these purposes.

WHEREAS, under the terms of the Agreement:

1. The parties agree to form a Steering Committee for the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA to which each party is entitled to appoint one (1) Steering Committee Member and one (1) alternate Steering Committee Member, to serve from the date said appointments are communicated to the other parties, at the pleasure of the appointing parties' governing body, the District's Board of Directors (Board);
2. Each party retains the authority to implement the GSP within its own boundaries; and
3. Each party shall pay a share of Agreement Expenses as determined by the party's established participation percentage as provided in the Agreement.

WHEREAS, Section 10723.2 of the SGMA requires that a GSA consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing groundwater sustainability plans; and

WHEREAS, Section 10723.8 of the SGMA requires that a local agency electing to be a GSA notify the DWR of its election and intention to undertake sustainable groundwater management within a basin; and

WHEREAS, the San Luis Water District intends to delegate authority to its Steering Committee Member at a meeting of the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA Steering Committee, or in such Steering Committee's Member's absence from the meeting, to its alternate Steering Committee Member: to conduct public hearings in Fresno and Merced Counties after publication of notice pursuant to Government Code section 6066; to consider taking action to form the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA, and if such action is taken by the Steering Committee, to appoint the person authorized to submit to the DWR on behalf of the District acting through the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA, a notice of intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management in accordance with SGMA (Part 2.74 of the Water Code) and allowing the District, acting through the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA, to exercise the powers and authorities of a GSA granted by SGMA; and,

WHEREAS, authorizing execution of the Agreement does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act because the proposed action involves continuing administrative activities such as general policy and procedure making (Section 15378(b)(2) of the CEQA guidelines) and also represents administrative activities of the District that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment (Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines); further, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA (Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA guidelines).

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The facts set forth in the recitals above and in the documents referenced therein are true and correct, and the Board so finds and determines.
2. The Board hereby authorizes the President of the District to execute the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA Agreement in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, subject to such non-substantial modifications as the executing officer shall approve, said execution to provide conclusive proof of approval of any such modifications.
3. The Board hereby appoints Mike Wood as its Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA Steering Committee Member and Vince Lucchesi as its Steering Committee Alternate Member, to serve from the date the appointment is communicated in writing to the other parties to the Agreement, at the pleasure of the Board.
4. The Board hereby delegates authority to its Steering Committee Member at a meeting of the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA Steering Committee, or in such Steering Committee's Member's absence from the meeting, to its alternate Steering Committee Member: to conduct public hearings in Fresno and Merced Counties after publication of notice pursuant to Government Code section 6066; to consider taking action to form the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA, and if such action is taken by the Steering Committee, to appoint the person authorized to submit to the DWR on behalf of the District acting through the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA, a notice of intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management in accordance with SGMA (Part 2.74 of the Water Code) and allowing the District, acting through the Central DM Region Multi-Agency GSA, to exercise the powers and authorities of a GSA granted by SGMA.
5. The District's officers, staff, and consultants are authorized and directed to take all additional actions they deem necessary or appropriate in order to carry out the intent of the foregoing resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of February, 2017, by the Board of Directors of the San Luis Water District, by the following vote:

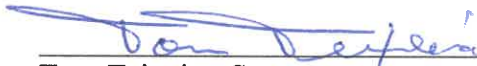
VOTE:

	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
President Diedrich	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>	_____
Director Craven	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____	_____
Director Hurd	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____	_____
Director Teixeira	<u>✓</u>	_____	_____	_____
Director Wood	_____	_____	_____	<u>✓</u>



Bill Diedrich, President by Mike Wood, Vice-President

Attest:



Tom Teixeira, Secretary