

Before the Board of Supervisors County of Placer, State of California

In the matter of:

A resolution approving a Memorandum of Agreement establishing the West Placer Groundwater Sustainability Agency within the North American Subbasin with associated responsibilities and staff actions

Resolution No.: 2017-097

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held May 09, 2017, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes: DURAN, WEYGANDT, HOLMES, UHLER, MONTGOMERY

Noes: NONE

Absent: NONE

Signed and approved by me after its passage.


Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest:


Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, this Resolution

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), as amended and codified in California Water Code §§ 10720, *et seq.*, applies to all groundwater basins in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, The legislative intent of SGMA is to provide sustainable management of groundwater basins, to enhance local management of groundwater, to establish minimum standards for the sustainable groundwater management, and to provide local groundwater

agencies with the authority and the technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires “sustainable groundwater management” and the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) for all groundwater basins or sub-basins that are designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in DWR’s report entitled “California’s Groundwater: Bulletin 118” (Bulletin 118); and

WHEREAS, Placer County lies within the North American Subbasin of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin, DWR No. 5-21.64, which has been designated as a high-priority subbasin in Bulletin 118; and

WHEREAS, SGMA defines a “local agency” as a local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin (or subbasin); and

WHEREAS, Placer County is a public agency as defined under SGMA and therefore eligible to serve as a GSA; and

WHEREAS, a combination of local agencies may elect to become a GSA for that basin, subbasin or portion of said basin or subbasin; and

WHEREAS, there are several GSAs forming over portions of the North American Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, five local agencies with jurisdiction over portions of the North American Subbasin desire to form a multi-agency GSA for a portion of the subbasin in western Placer County, to be named the West Placer Groundwater Sustainability Agency (West Placer GSA): Placer County, Placer County Water Agency, the City of Roseville, the City of Lincoln, and Nevada Irrigation District (collectively referred to herein as Members); and

WHEREAS, the Members have expressed their desire to maintain as much local autonomy as possible in the formation of the GSA; and

WHEREAS, the Members collectively determined that forming the GSA under a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is the best form of an legal agreement that solidifies the formation of the GSA while also allowing the Members to maintain their desired autonomy; and

WHEREAS, the Members have prepared a MOA (attached) that establishes the West Placer GSA, providing for participation of all Members and California American Water Company and providing for terms of implementation of the GSA; and

WHEREAS, the Members will prepare a Participation Agreement, which provides for California American Water Company’s participation in the West Placer GSA; and

WHEREAS, the proposed West Placer GSA geographically encompasses the portion of the North American Subbasin within the County of Placer, with the exception of a portion of the subbasin within the jurisdiction of South Sutter Water District (SSWD), as illustrated in Exhibit A of the MOA; and

WHEREAS the County entered into a MOA with SSWD on January 10, 2017 which established terms concerning groundwater management over those portions of Placer County that will be managed by the SSWD GSA; and

WHEREAS, the Members and California American Water Company intend to work cooperatively with other GSAs formed within the North American Subbasin in accordance with provisions of SGMA, striving for the DWR's objective of full GSA coverage over the subbasin, and as required by SGMA; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that this action does not constitute a "Project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA section 15378 (a) and (b)(5) because it is an administrative action that does not result in any direct or physical change in the environment; and

WHEREAS, publication of public notice was conducted pursuant to Government Code Section 6066 as required by SGMA; and

WHEREAS, Section 10723.8 of SGMA requires that a local agency electing to be a GSA to notify the DWR within 30 days of its decision to become a GSA and to undertake sustainable groundwater management; and

WHEREAS, based on the above findings, the Members intend to submit the required documents to form the GSA to the DWR by the due date set by SGMA of June 30, 2017, and, subject to approval by the DWR, intend to implement the West Placer GSA in accordance with the MOA, as executed, and in accordance with SGMA.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors, County of Placer, State of California, as follows:

1. The Board has held a public hearing and hereby authorizes Placer County to participate in the formation of the West Placer GSA and sustainable groundwater management in the portion of the North American Subbasin of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin as depicted on the map included in the MOA attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.
2. The attached MOA has been reviewed by this agency and is found to provide for the legislative requirements of SGMA to form a Groundwater Sustainability Agency.
3. The MOA, in substantially the same form, is approved by this agency.
4. The County Executive Officer is hereby authorized to sign the MOA.

5. Member Representatives for Placer County are hereby appointed as follows: the Principal Management Analyst of Public Works and Facilities/Environmental Utilities as Placer County's Member representative and the Engineering Program Manager of Public Works and Facilities/Environmental as an alternate.
6. County staff to submit a GSA formation notice to the California Department of Water Resources.
7. This action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 and staff is directed to file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk.