

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MID-KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY**

**ADOPTING THE 2024 SECOND AMENDED GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
PLAN AND COORDINATION AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Water Code, § 10720, (d)); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires sustainable management through the development of groundwater sustainability plans, which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agencies or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Water Code, §10727); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires a GSA to manage groundwater in all basins designated by the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) as a medium or high priority, including the Kaweah Subbasin (designated Basin Number 5-22.11); and

WHEREAS, the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Agency”) was formed in September 2015 by the Tulare Irrigation District, the City of Tulare, and City of Visalia through a Joint Powers Agreement; and

WHEREAS, in September 2017, the Agency gave notice of its intent to initiate the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“Plan”) in accordance with Water Code §10727.8 and DWR’s Emergency Regulations for Groundwater Sustainability Plans §353.6; and

WHEREAS, the Agency worked with interested parties to develop the Plan based on coordination and input from stakeholders, including its public Advisory Committee; and

WHEREAS, during the development of the Plan, the Agency coordinated with the other GSAs in the Kaweah Subbasin (East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency and Greater Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency, collectively with the Agency are referred to as the Kaweah Subbasin GSAs) who are also developing plans and collectively finalizing a Coordination Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Agency adopted the Plan and Coordination Agreement on December 18, 2019 and subsequently submitted the Plan and Coordination Agreement to DWR for review; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2022, the Agency received an assessment from the DWR (“Deficiency Letter”) that various aspects of the adopted Plan were deficient and required corrective actions no later than July 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Deficiency Letter the Agency worked with the other GSAs in the Kaweah Subbasin to complete and approve the 2022 First Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Coordination Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Agency submitted the MKGSA 2022 First Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Coordination Agreement to the DWR in July 2022; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2023, the Agency received an assessment from the DWR (“Inadequate Letter”) that various aspects of the 2022 First Amended GSP and Coordination Agreement were deficient and required corrective actions; and

WHEREAS, DWR directed the Kaweah Subbasin GSAs to begin coordinating with the California State Water Resources Control Board (“SWRCB”) under intervention pursuant to Water Code §10735; and

WHEREAS, in response to the Inadequate Letter the Agency worked with the other GSAs in the Kaweah Subbasin to develop the 2024 Second Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Coordination Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Agency provided a 90-day notice to all counties and cities operating within the jurisdictional area of the Agency it planned to develop the 2024 Second Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan in accordance with Water Code §10728.4, soliciting interest in consultation with the Agency regarding Plan content; and

WHEREAS, on November 13, 2024, the Agency held a publicly-noticed hearing considering the adoption of the 2024 Second Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan and Coordination Agreement in accordance with Water Code §10728.4; and

WHEREAS, the Kaweah Subbasin GSAs have developed a Coordination Agreement which coordinates the three amended groundwater sustainability plans in the Kaweah Subbasin pursuant to Water Code §10727 and §10733 .

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency hereby approves and adopts the 2024 Second Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan attached hereto as Exhibit A and the 2024 Second Amended Coordination Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit B, and authorize the submittal of the Plan and Coordination Agreement to DWR and the SWRCB.



Steve Nelsen, Board Chair

ATTEST:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

COUNTY OF TULARE) SS.

CITY OF TULARE)

I, Aaron Fukuda, Secretary of the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board, certify the foregoing is the full and true Board Resolution 2024-06 passed and adopted by the Agency Board at a meeting held on November 13, 2024, by the following vote:

Aye(s): Directors Caviglia, Mederos, Wilbur, Martin, and Bixler

Noe(s): None

Absent/Abstention(s): None

Dated: November 13, 2024

Secretary



Aaron Fukuda