

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-01

**A RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
HENRY MILLER WATER DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADOPTING AN AMENDED GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR
THE KERN COUNTY SUBBASIN**

WHEREAS, the California Legislature passed a statewide framework for sustainable groundwater management, known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Wat. Code, § 10720 *et seq.*) that went into effect on January 1, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires all high-priority groundwater basins, as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118, to be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) or multiple GSAs; and,

WHEREAS, Kern Subbasin (Subbasin) has been designated by DWR as a high-priority basin in critical groundwater overdraft (DWR Bulletin 118 Groundwater Basin: 5-022.12); and,

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2017, the Henry Miller Water District elected to become a GSA for a portion of the Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires that a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) or multiple GSPs be developed and implemented by January 31, 2020 for each high-priority basin; and,

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2020, HMWD Groundwater Sustainability Agency (HMWD GSA) duly prepared and adopted a GSP for those portions of the Subbasin underlying its boundary; and

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2020, HMWD GSA submitted its adopted GSP to DWR for review; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2022, DWR provided the HMWD GSA with a Determination Letter, informing HMWD GSA that its adopted GSP was “incomplete” and recommending that HMWD GSA amend its adopted GSP to address several potential corrective actions; and,

WHEREAS, in response, HMWD GSA amended its GSP to address those recommended potential corrective actions; and,

WHEREAS, on or about July 21, 2022, HMWD GSA resubmitted its amended GSP to DWR to address the identified deficiencies; and,

WHEREAS, on or about March 28, 2023, DWR provided the HMWD GSA with a Determination Letter informing HMWD GSA that its amended GSP was “inadequate” and subject to state intervention; and,

WHEREAS, on or about July 25, 2024, the SWRCB provided both the Kern County Subbasin and HMWD GSA with a Draft Staff Report informing the Subbasin and HMWD GSA that its 2022 amended GSP did not resolve all deficiencies identified by DWR, identified new deficiencies, and recommended designating the Subbasin as a probationary subbasin; and,

WHEREAS, HMWD GSA prepared a 2024 amended GSP adopted on December 13, 2024 to address the deficiencies identified by DWR on March 28, 2023 and by the SWRCB on July 25, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, on or about January 21, 2025, the SWRCB provided both the Kern County Subbasin and HMWD GSA with a Final Staff Report informing the Subbasin and HMWD GSA that its 2024 amended GSP did not resolve all deficiencies and recommended designating the Subbasin as a probationary subbasin; and,

WHEREAS, on February 20, 2025, the SWRCB held a public hearing to consider designating the Kern County Subbasin as a probationary basin; and,

WHEREAS, on February 20, 2025, the SWRCB continued the Kern County Subbasin Probationary hearing to September 17, 2025 to allow time for the GSAs to make amendments to their GSPs to adequately resolve any remaining deficiencies identified in the Final Staff Report and complete any additional tasks given to the GSAs by the Board at the February 20, 2025 public hearing; and,

WHEREAS, HMWD GSA has prepared a 2025 amended GSP to address the deficiencies previously identified by DWR, and all deficiencies and tasks identified by the SWRCB on January 21, 2025 and February 20, 2025,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of HMWD Groundwater Sustainability Agency as follows:

1. The foregoing is true and correct.
2. The 2025 amended GSP, in the form presented this day to the Board of Directors, is hereby approved, and adopted, with any minor editorial changes made since sending out the board packet.
3. The Chair of the Board of Directors, or his designee, is hereby authorized and directed to provide timely notification of this approval and adoption to the Department of Water Resources, including a copy of this Resolution, the amended GSP, and any additional information required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of HMWD Groundwater Sustainability Agency, this 26th day of August, 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: Jeof Wyrick, Joey Mendonca, Charles Riddle, and Slavisa Pavlovic

NOES:

ABSENT: Garrett Pierce

ABSTAIN:


Jeof Wyrick, Chairman

CERTIFICATE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY

The undersigned, Secretary of the HMWD Groundwater Sustainability Agency, hereby certifies that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of Directors of said District at a meeting thereof, duly, and specially held on August 26, 2025 at which meeting a quorum of the Board of Directors was at all times present and acting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand this 26 day of August, 2025.


James A. Worth, Secretary Pro Tem