

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE KINGS RIVER EAST
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN BY THE KINGS RIVER EAST
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-1201

A. 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” (Wat. Code, Section 10720, subd. (d)); and

B. WHEREAS, groundwater sustainability under SGMA is to be achieved through groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”) or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code Section 10727); and

C. WHEREAS, the Kings River East GSA (“KREGSA”) is a special act district formed for the purposes of implementing SGMA (Wat. Code Section 10723, subd. (c)). KREGSA was formed pursuant to SB 37 (Vidak) which was signed by the Governor and passed into law on January 1, 2017. Accordingly, KREGSA is a public agency authorized to contract with the State or Federal governments and agencies, and to exercise powers related to groundwater management, land use, or both, within its jurisdictional boundaries; and

D. WHEREAS, KREGSA is governed by a board of directors (“Board of Directors”) identified in its enabling legislation; and

E. WHEREAS, KREGSA’s jurisdictional area (the “Plan Area”) overlies a portion of the Kings Subbasin number 5-22.08 of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin identified in DWR Bulletin 118, as its boundaries may be modified from time to time as provided by law. DWR has designated the entire Kings Subbasin as critically overdrafted. Under SGMA, GSAs in critically overdrafted subbasins are required to submit separate and/or joint GSPs to DWR by January 31, 2020; and

F. WHEREAS, there are seven GSAs in the Kings Subbasin: North Kings GSA, McMullin Area GSA, James Irrigation District GSA, North Fork Kings GSA, Central Kings GSA, South Kings GSA, and Kings River East GSA (individually, a “Party” and in the plural or collectively, the “Parties”). Each Party is developing its own GSP; and

G. WHEREAS, GSAs in a subbasin developing and implementing multiple GSPs must enter into a Coordination Agreement to ensure consistent interpretations of the basin setting and use of data and methodologies (Wat. Code Section 357.4, subd. (a)). The Parties have entered into a Coordination Agreement, which also appoints a subbasin Plan Manager to contact and submit information for the entire Kings Subbasin to DWR; and

H. WHEREAS, the purpose of KREGSA is to exercise the powers and authorities of a GSA granted by SGMA, as defined in the California Water Code; and

I. WHEREAS, KREGSA released its draft GSP (the "KREGSP") in September 2019, by posting it on KREGSA's website and making hard copies available at Alta's office, the Orosi and Reedley libraries, the Tulare County Resource Management Agency, and the Fresno County Planning Department; and

J. WHEREAS, KREGSA has conducted public outreach, including holding public workshops on October 28, 2019 and November 13, 2019 to accept public comments on the KREGSP, holding public board meetings, distributing postcards and e-mails to residents in the Plan Area, and posting social media updates; and

K. WHEREAS, on September 19, 2019, KREGSA provided a 90-day notice to the County of Fresno, County of Tulare, and the Cities of Dinuba and Reedley, that it would be conducting a public hearing on December 19, 2019 to adopt the KREGSP, pursuant to Water Code Section 10728.4; and

L. WHEREAS, public comments were accepted and KREGSA has reviewed the comments received, and revised the KREGSP as appropriate; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of KREGSA finds as follows:

1. The above Recitals are true and correct, and the Board of Directors so finds, orders, and determines.

2. The Board of Directors hereby approves and adopts the KREGSP for the Plan Area in substantially the form presented, subject to such modifications as the executing officer shall approve, said execution to provide conclusive proof of approval of any such modifications.

3. The Board of Directors authorizes its representatives, its consultants, and the Plan Manager to take such other actions as may be reasonably necessary to file the KREGSP with DWR by January 31, 2020, and implement the purpose of this Resolution.

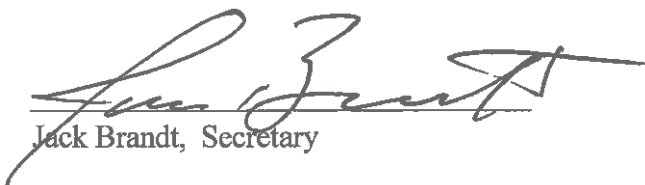
PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 19th day of December, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES: Boss, Brandt, Fast, Mendes, Crocker, Rubalcaba, Paxton
NAYS: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.



Ernest "Buddy" Mendes, Chairman

Attest:



Jack Brandt, Secretary

Date: December 19, 2019