

**BEFORE THE MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD**

In the Matter of

**RESOLUTION ELECTING TO FORM THE
MERCED SUBBASIN GROUNDWATERSUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law on September 16, 2014 and adopted as California Water Code, section 10720, et. seq.; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of SGMA is to provide sustainable management of groundwater basins and enhance local management of groundwater through empowering local management agencies with authority, technical, and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater; and,

WHEREAS, SGMA requires high and medium priority basins to be managed by one or more groundwater sustainability agencies (GSA) and such agency/agencies must be formed by June 30, 2017; and,

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10723(a) authorizes any combination of local agencies having water or land management authority overlying a basin to elect to be the GSA for that basin; and,

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency was formed as a joint powers authority pursuant to Government Code Section 6500, et. esq., by agencies that qualify to be groundwater sustainability agencies (Members); and,

WHEREAS, the respective service areas of the Merced Subbasin GSA Members are located in the Merced Groundwater Subbasin as defined in the California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118; and,

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10723.2 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, the Merced Subbasin GSA is committed to working with regional partners to sustainably manage the groundwater resources; and,

WHEREAS, retaining local jurisdiction and control over groundwater management is beneficial to the health, safety, and water supply reliability of the Members of the Merced Subbasin GSA and their respective customers and constituents; and,

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10723.8 requires a local public agency electing to be a GSA to notify the California Department of Water Resources of its election and intention to undertake sustainable groundwater management within a subbasin; and,

WHEREAS, Water Code section 10723(b) requires a public hearing be held before to the decision to become a GSA and the publication of notice pursuant to section 6066 of the Government Code; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code section 6066, notices of a public hearing regarding whether to adopt a Resolution to elect to become a GSA were published in the Merced Sun Star on March 1 and 8, 2017; and,

WHEREAS, the Merced Subbasin GSA held a public hearing on March 15, 2017 to consider

adoption of this Resolution; and,

WHEREAS, adoption of this Resolution does not constitute a project under the California Environmental Quality Act because it does not result in any direct or indirect physical change in the environment; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Merced Subbasin GSA hereby elects to become a GSA and intends to undertake sustainable groundwater management within its boundary area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Merced Subbasin GSA authorizes staff to, within 30 days from the date of this Resolution, provide notification of this election to the California Department of Water Resources, including a copy of this Resolution and additional information required by Water Code section 10723.8, in the manner required by law.

I, MARK HENDRICKSON, Secretary of the Merced Subbasin GSA Governing Board do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board at a special meeting thereof held on this 15th day of March, 2017 by the following vote:

BOARD MEMBERS:

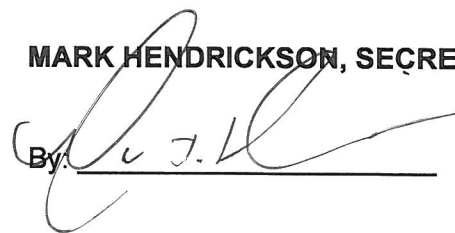
AYES: Park, Espinoza, Marchini, Kelley

NOES: None

ABSENT: Hultgren

WITNESS my hand this 15th day of March, 2017.

MARK HENDRICKSON, SECRETARY

By:  _____