

**Board of Directors
September 15, 2021**

SUBJECT:

Public Hearing to Adopt Proposed Resolution to Approve and Adopt the Final Draft of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

BACKGROUND:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law on September 16, 2014. The purpose of SGMA is to promote sustainable management of the State's groundwater basins. Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) became the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the non-adjudicated portion of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin on December 7, 2016. EMWD's Board of Directors acts as the Board of Directors for the West San Jacinto GSA. The non-adjudicated portion of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin is referred to as the West San Jacinto GSA Plan Area (Plan Area).

SGMA requires that medium and high priority basins be managed under a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has designated the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin (DWR Basin 8-005) as a high priority basin. However, since the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin is not critically over-drafted, the deadline for submittal of the GSP to DWR is January 30, 2022.

The West San Jacinto GSA submitted an initial notification to DWR to develop a GSP for West San Jacinto GSA Plan Area on August 29, 2018.

The West San Jacinto GSA has developed a GSP in compliance with SGMA, which is codified in the California Water Code (CWC), Part 2.75 (Sustainable Groundwater Management), Section 10720 et seq. The GSP has been developed in accordance with DWR's GSP regulations to apply to the entirety of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin that is not adjudicated (Plan Area) and incorporates data and conditions in the adjudicated portions of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin, as appropriate, to provide an understanding of the groundwater conditions within the entire groundwater basin. Approximately 95 percent of the Plan Area lies within EMWD's service area, while the remaining five percent of the Plan Area is under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government, and therefore is not subject to SGMA.

EMWD released the draft GSP for a 90-day public review period (April 16, 2021 – July 15, 2021) and reviewed all public comments received for the draft GSP.

On June 16, 2021, the EMWD Board of Directors, acting as the West San Jacinto GSA, set the time and place to hold a public hearing to adopt Resolution (Exhibit A) for the San Jacinto

Groundwater Basin GSP (Exhibit B) to be held Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., at the District's Headquarters, 2270 Trumble Road, Perris, California.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding for this item is provided for in the Biennial Budget for Fiscal Years 2019-20 and 2020-21 and reimbursement from the grant funding from State Department of Water Resources Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program in the amount of \$1,166,500.

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL/OBJECTIVE:

Water Supply Diversity and Reliability: Develop and implement a portfolio of projects and management techniques to achieve a reliable and cost-effective balance of water supplies utilizing imported, local and recycled water sources.

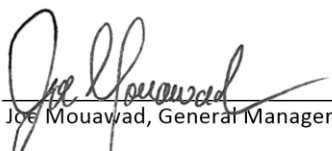
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

This item is not a project as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15378.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Proposed Resolution of the Board of Directors of Eastern Municipal Water District, acting as the West San Jacinto GSA Board of Directors, to approve and adopt the final draft of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and authorize and direct the officers of the District and its representatives to take any action necessary to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

SUBMITTED BY:



Joe Mouawad, General Manager

9/8/2021



Lanyia Voelz Alexander, Assistant General Manager

9/2/2021

Attachment(s):

Exhibit A - Resolution

Exhibit B - San Jacinto Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan
Presentation

09/15/21 Board Meeting

Staff Contact: Rachel Gray