RESOLUTION NO. 2017-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT'S DECISION TO BECOME THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE BOLSA, HOLLISTER, AND SAN JUAN SUBBASINS WITHIN SAN BENITO COUNTY

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law and adopted into the California Water Code, commencing with Section 10720; and

WHEREAS, the legislative intent of SGMA is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins, to enhance local management of groundwater, to establish minimum standards for sustainable groundwater management; and to provide local groundwater agencies with the authority and the technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater; and

WHEREAS, Water Code Sections 10725 et al. and 10726 et al. detail additional new powers and authorities granted to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to implement sustainable groundwater management in the basins under their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the San Benito County Water District Act (California Water Code Appendix, Chapter 70) provides the District with broad groundwater management authority, including the authority to conserve water for beneficial and useful purposes by spreading, storing, retaining, and causing such waters to percolate into the soil within or without the District; and

WHEREAS, the District's statutory boundary overlies the Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Subbasins within San Benito County; and

WHEREAS, the Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Subbasins are deemed by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to be medium-priority basins and therefore require the development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan; and

WHEREAS, establishing the District as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency will enable the District to prepare and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Subbasins within San Benito County, and to best work with DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board to resolve groundwater and surface water issues related to the Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Subbasins within San Benito County; and

WHEREAS, the District is committed to its legislatively created mandate to manage the surface water and groundwater resources within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, prior to adopting a resolution of intent to establish the District as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Water Code Section 10723 requires the local agency to hold a public hearing, after publication of notice pursuant to California Government Code Section 6066, on whether or not to adopt a resolution to establish a Groundwater Sustainability Agency; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code 6066, notices of a public hearing on whether or not to adopt a resolution to establish a Groundwater Sustainability Agency were published on January 27, 2017 and February 3, 2017; and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2017, this District held a public hearing regarding the adoption of a resolution to establish the District as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Subbasins within San Benito County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District:

1. Hereby establishes the District as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Bolsa, Hollister, and San Juan Subbasins within San Benito County; and

2. Hereby authorizes the District Manager or his designee to provide a copy of this resolution and a Notice of Intent to the California Department of Water Resources within 30 days and to otherwise comply with the requirements of Water Code Section 10723.B(a); and

3. All the recitals in this Resolution are true and correct and the District so finds, determines, and represents.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of San Benito County Water District by the following vote on February 8, 2017:

AYES: Tobias, Tonascia, Bettencourt, Flores & Huenemann
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

<u>*/s/John Tobias*</u>
John Tobias
President

ATTEST: <u>*/s/Sara Singleton*</u>
Sara Singleton
Assistant Manager