

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE VERBENIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE/VIRTUAL MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 11, 2022 TO FEBRUARY 10, 2022 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS

WHEREAS, the Verbenia Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the GSA. Meetings of the GSA (“Legislative Body”) are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950 – 54963); and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation subject to the existence of certain conditions. A required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor. It is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the GSA, specifically, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19. In addition, state officials have issued orders imposing or recommending social distancing measures, specifically, the California Department of Public Health has stated that one of the steps that can be taken to slow the spread of COVID-19 is to: “Stay at least 6 feet away from others, whenever possible. This is called social distancing. This is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19;” and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the State of Emergency and the social distancing recommendations mentioned above, the GSA shall conduct its Board and standing committee meetings without compliance with Government Code Section 54953(b)(3), as authorized by Government Code Section 54953(e), and such Legislative Bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in Government Code Section 54953(e)(2); and

WHEREAS, as permitted under AB 361, the GSA will provide the public with the ability to view meetings of the Legislative Body online. Members of the public who wish to provide comment may make comments virtually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VERBENIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AS FOLLOWS:

1. Incorporation Of Recitals The Recitals in this Resolution are true and correct and the Board so finds, determines and represents. Said Recitals are incorporated herein and made a part of this Resolution.

2. Authority To Implement Designees of the Legislative Body, are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code Section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

3. Effective Date This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of: (a) February 10, 2022; or (b) such time as the Legislative Body adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code Section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the Legislative Body may continue to teleconference without compliance with Government Code Section 54953(b)(3).

4. Severability If any section, subsection, clause or phrase in this Resolution is for any reason held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this Resolution shall not be affected thereby. The Legislative Body hereby declares that it would have passed this Resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases or the application thereof be held invalid.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 11th day of January, 2022.

Chair