RESOLUTION NO. 591

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT DECLARING INTENT TO PURSUE LOCAL WATER SYSTEM CONSOLIDATION AND AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO CONTRACT WITH THE WALLACE GROUP TO PERFORM TRANSMISSION LINE DESIGN

The Sunnyslope County Water District Board of Directors does hereby resolve and makes findings as follows:

WHEREAS, the Small Community Water Systems of Best Road Mutual Water Company (BRMWC), Venture Estates Mutual Water (VEMW), Stonegate CSA No. 31 (Stonegate), and Tres Pinos Water District (TPWD) collectively serve approximately 300 local residents presently afflicted by varying degrees of low-quality potable water; and,

WHEREAS, Sunnyslope County Water District (SSCWD) is a County Special District public water system formed under the Wright Act of 1887 and community partner in the Hollister Urban Area Groundwater Water Management Plan and also in the regional San Benito Urban Areas Water Supply and Treatment Management Plan which has strengthened water resources throughout the Hollister area; and,

WHEREAS, SSCWD continues to support San Benito County Water District's (SBCWD) broad groundwater management authority, including the authority to conserve water for beneficial and useful purposes by spreading, storing, retaining, and managing groundwater sub-basins; and,

WHEREAS, consolidating regional groundwater management resources is beneficial for the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Hollister communities and for the future viability of residential use and property values; and,

WHEREAS, the SSCWD wishes to support California Senate Bill 88 and the State Water Boards request to encourage and facilitate voluntary consolidation of community water systems; and,

WHEREAS, as a result of active water management efforts and strong fiscal responsibility the SSCWD is recognized as the most probable "Functional water system" with the capability, resources and expertise sufficient to accept subsumed water systems and provide title 17 compliant potable water within the region; and,

WHEREAS, the State Department of Water Resources has awarded collectively \$15.45M in grant funding to consolidate the named water systems into the SSCWD within a three (3) year time period; and,

WHEREAS, timing is of the essence to begin design and construction; and,

WHEREAS, the District Board finds that adoption of this resolution is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act per Article 20, Section 15378.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sunnyslope County Water District hereby approves to support the consolidation of BRMWC, VEMW, Stonegate, and TPWD small community water systems by annexation into the district boundaries, thereby:

- Resolving community water quality problems;
- Ensuring drought resilience in the region; and,
- Supporting Sustainable Groundwater Management.

FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors directs the General Manager to:

- Solicit, but do not award without Board approval, consulting services to perform California Environmental Quality Act services as required to initiate a LAFCO application for consolidation and annexation;
- Initiate LAFCO Annexation applications for the proposed service expansion;
- Prepare consolidation agreements under the direction of district Counsel and present to the Board for approval;
- Negotiate a water purchase agreement with SBCWD for the purchase of spot market water required to offset water delivery outside of Zone 6 and Zone 3;
- Execute a contract with The Wallace Group for the design of the John Smith Pipeline for a contract amount \$203,250, with an amount not to exceed \$40,000 prior to BRMWC acceptance of the DWR grant award; and,
- Accept the grant award funding when presented from each respective award designee;

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION on a motion by Director <u>Alcorn</u> and seconded by Director <u>Buzzetta</u> is duly adopted this 18th day of April, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: Alcorn, Parker, Mauro, Buzzetta, and Brown

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Dee Brown, President

Signed: Der Poron

ATTEST:

Drew A. Lander, General Manager/Secretary of the Board of

Directors

The Secretary of the Board of Directors of Sunnyslope County Water District hereby certifies that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the resolution adopted on April 18, 2023 as Resolution No. 591.