

RESOLUTION NO. 25-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE LINDEN COUNTY WATER DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ADOPTING THE 2024 EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2015 (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the Authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Wat. Code, § 10720, (d)); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires sustainable management of high priority groundwater basins through the development of groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agencies (“GSAs”) or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code, § 10727); and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency was formed on August 11, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency is a member of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (“Authority”) formed for the purpose developing a GSP and coordinating sustainable groundwater management in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin (Wat. Code, § 10723.6(i)); and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency coordinated with the Authority and all other GSAs overlying the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin to draft a single GSP for its members (the “ESJ GSP”); and

WHEREAS, the ESJ GSP, having been adopted by all GSA members of the Authority (including the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency), was submitted to DWR on January 29, 2020 in compliance with SGMA; and

WHEREAS, DWR completed its two-year review and by letter dated January 28, 2022, determined the ESJ GSP to be “incomplete,” as that term is used in SGMA, and identified certain alleged deficiencies that if addressed within 180 days of the determination and submitted to DWR by July 27, 2022, could allow DWR to approve the ESJ GSP; and

WHEREAS, the ESJ GSP and its Appendices were revised in 2022 in response to DWR’s “incomplete” determination and adopted by all GSA members of the Authority (including the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency) and submitted to DWR on July 27, 2022; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated July 6, 2023, DWR approved the ESJ GSP, as revised in 2022, and included a list of eight “Recommended Corrective Actions” for the GSAs to consider for the first Periodic Evaluation of the ESG GSP as required by SGMA due January 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency acknowledges that during the 20-year GSP implementation period it will be necessary to implement projects and management actions to achieve and maintain sustainable groundwater conditions in the Subbasins by or before 2042; and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency acknowledges that successful implementation of planned GSP projects to achieve their intended recharge benefits during the 20-year GSP implementation period (prior to 2042) is dependent in part on uncertainties related to hydrologic conditions, including precipitation, snowpack, and available water supply during that time period, and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency acknowledges that implementation of management actions will be necessary to offset these uncertainties related to project implementation and project benefits to ensure that sustainable groundwater conditions are achieved in the subbasin by or before 2042; and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency acknowledges that wet hydrologic conditions and faster implementation of projects may result in diminished need for management actions, and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency acknowledges that dry hydrological conditions, prolonged drought, and delayed implementation of projects may result in an accelerated need for management actions, and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency coordinated with the Authority and all other GSAs overlying the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin to prepare the 2024 Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Amendment (“2024 ESJ GSP Amendment”) to respond to DWR’s Recommended Corrective Actions and to prepare the first Periodic Evaluation of the ESJ GSP to be submitted to DWR by January 29, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency acknowledges a Program for Dry Domestic Well Mitigation was adopted by the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority on September 11, 2024, with said resolution being included in Appendix 3-J of the amendments to the ESJ GSP; and,

WHEREAS, the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency commits to development and adoption of a Demand Management Program by December 31, 2027, as described in Chapter 6 of the amendments to the ESJ GSP; and

WHEREAS, on July 24, 2024 , on behalf of all of its member GSAs (including the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency), the Authority noticed the intent to adopt the 2024 ESJ GSP Amendment pursuant to California Water Code Section 10728.4, noting that each of the GSAs intend to hold separate noticed public hearings to consider adoption of the 2024 ESJ GSP Amendment no earlier than ninety (90) days from the date of the Notice of Intent; and

WHEREAS, from October 1 through October 31, 2024 a public review period was held to solicit comments on the 2024 ESJ GSP Amendment; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency hereby adopts the 2024 ESJ GSP Amendment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Linden County Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency authorizes the Authority, its staff, and its consultants to take such other actions as may be reasonably necessary to submit the 2024 ESJ GSP Amendment to DWR by no later than January 29, 2025.


PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 16th day of January, 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: Knapp, Blanton, Reed, Smith

NAYS: None


ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Lagorio



Lawrence Knapp, Board President

Attest:



Barbara Kascht, Board Secretary