

**RESOLUTION NO. WA-2021-10**

**COACHELLA WATER AUTHORITY GROUNDWATER  
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ADOPTION OF THE 2022 INDIO  
SUBBASIN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE: SGMA  
ALTERNATIVE PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the California Legislature enacted a statewide framework for sustainable groundwater management, known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (California Water Code section 10720 et seq.), pursuant to Senate Bill 1168, Senate Bill 1319, and Assembly Bill 1739, which was approved by the Governor and Chaptered by the Secretary of State on September 16, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA requires all medium- and high-priority groundwater basins, as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118, to be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) or multiple GSAs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Indio Subbasin of the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin has been designated by DWR as a medium-priority basin (DWR Bulletin 118 No. 7-021.01); and

**WHEREAS**, Coachella Water Authority elected on March 9, 2016 to become a GSA for the Indio Subbasin of the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated October 5, 2016 was entered into among the Partners to this MOU, namely, the City of Coachella, a municipal corporation acting through, and on behalf of, the Coachella Water Authority (CWA), the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), the Desert Water Agency (DWA), and the City of Indio, a municipal corporation acting through, and on behalf of, the Indio Water Authority (IWA) for the purpose of developing a common understanding among the Partners regarding the governance structures applicable to implementation of the SGMA (Water Code, Part 2.74, Section 10720 et seq.) in the Indio Subbasin; and

**WHEREAS**, each of the Partners has become a GSA for its service area overlying the Indio Subbasin; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 29, 2016, the Partners collaboratively submitted an Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Alternative Plan) for the Indio Subbasin to DWR in accordance with Water Code section 10733.6; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 17, 2019, DWR determined that the Alternative Plan for the Indio Subbasin satisfies the objectives of SGMA and notified the Indio Subbasin GSAs that the Alternative Plan was approved, and that they would be required to submit an assessment and update of the Alternative Plan by January 1, 2022, and every five years thereafter; and

**WHEREAS**, the Indio Subbasin GSAs have jointly developed an *Indio Subbasin Water Management Plan Update: Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Alternative Plan* (Alternative Plan Update) for the Indio Subbasin and on September 27, 2021, released the Alternative Plan Update for public comment; and

**WHEREAS**, Coachella Water Authority GSA conducted a public hearing on December 8, 2021 for the purpose of receiving comments and considering adoption of the Alternative Plan Update for the Indio Subbasin; and

**WHEREAS**, Water Code section 10733.6 requires that Alternative Plan Updates be submitted to DWR for review.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of Coachella Water Authority GSA as follows:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and made an operative part of this Resolution.

2. The Alternative Plan Update for the Indio Subbasin of the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin is hereby approved and adopted, subject to such minor, non-substantive modifications to the text agreed upon by the four Indio Subbasin GSAs prior to submittal to DWR on or before December 31, 2021. A copy of the 2022 Alternative Plan Update is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

3. The Board of Directors hereby designates Dr. Gabriel Martin, or his designee, to be the Plan Manager who is authorized and directed to timely provide notification of this approval and adoption to DWR, including a copy of this Resolution, the approved Alternative Plan Update, and any additional information/documentation required by law.

**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 8<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021.

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Steven A Hernandez  
President

**ATTEST:**

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Angela M. Zepeda  
Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Carlos Campos  
Authority Attorney

STATE OF CALIFORNIA     )  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE   ) ss.  
CITY OF COACHELLA     )

**I HEREBY CEERTIFY** that the foregoing Resolution No. WA-2021-10 was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Coachella Water Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021, by the following vote of the Board:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Andrea J. Carranza, MMC  
Deputy City Clerk