

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY EXECUTIVE ORDER N-09-21, AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 18, 2021 – NOVEMBER 18, 2021, PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT

WHEREAS, the Mission Springs Water District (the “District”) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the District’s legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code §§ 54950 – 54963) (the “Brown Act”), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District’s legislative bodies conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the District’s boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the District, specifically, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; despite sustained efforts the virus continues to spread and is impacting nearly all sectors of California; and

WHEREAS, on June 9, 2021, the California Department of Public Health issued updated public health directives related to physical distancing and face coverings effective June 15, 2021, based on guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 28, 2021, Riverside County Public Health stated that “in light of the recent increase in local COVID-19 cases, Riverside County Public Health recommends residents follow the new state and federal guidance for face coverings. The current state and federal masking guidance recommend that vaccinated individuals wear face masks in public indoor settings. The state still requires unvaccinated individuals to wear masks indoors;” and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the ongoing risk posed by the highly transmissible COVID-19 virus will continue to cause conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the District which are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the District, and the Board of Directors desires to proclaim a local emergency and ratify the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the legislative bodies of the District shall conduct the District's meetings without compliance with of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), as authorized by Government Code section 54953(e), and that 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, all meeting agendas stating meeting dates, times and the manner in which the public may attend and offer public comment by call-in option or internet-based service option shall be posted, at a minimum, on the District's website and at the District's main office.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MISSION SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals.

The recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency.

The Board of Directors hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the District, and the ongoing risk posed by the highly transmissible COVID-19 virus has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the District; furthermore, the guidance of Riverside County Public Health recommends physical distancing and face coverings.

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency.

The Board of Directors hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of a State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings.

The President of the Board of Directors, the District's General Manager, and legislative bodies of the District 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.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) November 18, 2021, or such time the Board of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the District may continue to teleconference without compliance with Government Code section 54953(b)(3).

Section 6. Certification.

The Secretary of the Board of Directors shall certify as to the adoption of this Resolution and shall cause the same to be processed in the manner required by law.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED, this ____ day of October 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Nancy Wright
President of Mission Springs Water District
and its Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Arden Wallum
Secretary of Mission Springs Water District
and its Board of Directors