

October 4, 2016

Board of Supervisors County of
Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Central Services Department
J. Tabin Cosio, Director

Engineering Services Department
Christopher E. Cooper, Director

Transportation Department
David L. Fleisch, Director

Water & Sanitation Department
Michaela Brown, Director

Watershed Protection District
Tully K. Clifford, Director

Subject: Adoption of Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Execution of a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Creating the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin Groundwater Agency and Adoption of a Resolution Appointing a Director and Alternate Director to the Board of Directors of the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin Groundwater Agency.

Recommendation:

1. Adopt a Resolution authorizing and directing the execution of a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement creating the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin Groundwater Agency; and
2. Adopt a Resolution appointing the Director and Alternate Director to the Board of Directors of the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin Groundwater Agency.

Fiscal/Mandates Impact:

Establishing a GSA for the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin may be undertaken within existing budgets. Additional staff and fiscal resources may be necessary to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the basin and the subsequent administration, management and updating of the GSP, and the exercise of powers and authorities under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA),

Discussion:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 requires that by June 30, 2017, all groundwater basins designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as high- or medium priority shall be managed by a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA). On December 16, 2014, your Board directed staff to meet with all agencies having an interest in high and medium priority groundwater basins and form partnerships to create a GSA for each basin or grouping of basins as appropriate. Accordingly, staff met with the Camrosa Water District (Camrosa) to discuss establishing a GSA for the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin (Santa Rosa Basin). The basin and agency boundaries are shown on Exhibit 1.

On March 4, 2015, Camrosa filed with DWR notification of its intent to become the GSA for the Santa



Rosa Basin. Per direction from your Board on May 5, 2015, the County also declared its intention to become the GSA of the Basin. In the intervening period Camrosa, the County and the City of Camarillo have met to discuss creating a Joint Powers Agency (JPA) to serve as the GSA for the Basin. This includes only the portion of the Basin outside the boundaries of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA). The portion of the Santa Rosa Basin, west of the Bailey Fault, is under the jurisdiction of the FCGMA, which will serve as the GSA for that portion of the Basin. Pursuant to the SGMA, the JPA will be required to coordinate its management of the Basin with FCGMA.

Accordingly, attached is a proposed resolution authorizing and directing the execution of a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement creating the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin Groundwater Agency. The agreement (Exhibit 1 of the Resolution) outlines the governance structure, SGMA requirements, and other key information necessary to form the GSA. Also attached is a resolution appointing a Director and Alternate Director for the Santa Rosa Basin GSA Board of Directors.

If your Board and the other local agencies approve the agreement notification will need to be given to DWR. The GSA will then carry the burden of bringing the basin to a sustainable state by January 31, 2042.

If your Board subsequently determines the County does not have a role as part of the GSA for the Santa Rosa Basin, there is a withdrawal clause included in the agreement

Accordingly, staff recommends your Board name a Director and Alternate Director, then approve the resolutions authorizing the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement creating the Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin Groundwater Agency and appointing a Director and Alternate Director for the Santa Rosa Basin GSA Board of Directors.

The Auditor-Controller's Office, County Executive Office, and County Counsel have reviewed this item.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please call me at (805) 654-2073 or Tully Clifford at (805) 654-2040.



Jeff Pratt
Director, Ventura County Public Works Agency

Attachments:

Resolution – Santa Rosa Groundwater JPA Authorization Resolution – Santa Rosa Groundwater Agency Director Selection
Exhibit 1 - Arroyo Santa Rosa Valley Basin Boundaries

