### **NOTICE**

# SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

will be held at
Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Meeting Room
3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California
at 6:30 pm, Thursday, October 19, 2023

### **AGENDA OF SPECIAL MEETING**

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Board relating to any non-agenda matter within the Board's jurisdiction. The total time for all public participation shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Board at this meeting on any public item.)
  - Staff recommends any potential new agenda items based on issues raised be held for discussion under the Agenda Item "Requests from the Board of Directors for items to be included on the next Agenda".
- 4. Discuss and Consider Approving a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- 5. Discuss and Consider Approving a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- 6. Groundwater Program Manager Report Status, discussion and possible Board action on the following:
  - a. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update
  - b. Consider Appointments of Board Representatives to:
    - i. Central Management Area GSA Committee
    - ii. Eastern Management Area GSA Committee
    - iii. Western Management Area GAS Committee
- 7. Requests from the Board of Directors for items to be included on the next Agenda.

8. The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2023, at 6:30 pm at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

In compliance with the California Water Code, regular meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday in March, June, September, and December at various locations within the District. Special meetings may be held at any location within the District.

#### 9. Closed Session

The Board will hold a closed session to discuss the following items:

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel Pending Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(1)): Wolff vs SYRWCD, Superior Court of California, County of Santa Barbara, Case No. 20CV01552 and Case No. 22CV02062
- b. Conference with Legal Counsel Pending Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(1)) relating to proceedings pending before the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) regarding Permits 11308 and 11310 issued on Applications 11331 and 11332 of the United States Bureau of Reclamation for the Cachuma Project, and complaints filed by the California Sport Fishing Protection Alliance regarding the operation of the Cachuma Project and SWRCB Order WR 89-18; proposed changes to the place and purpose of use of waters obtained through aforementioned permits for the Cachuma Project; and Reclamation's Petition for Reconsideration or Rehearing re Order WR 2019-0148; and proceedings related to SWRCB Permit No. 15878 (Application A022423) held by the City of Solvang including the City of Solvang's Petitions for Change and Extension of Time.
- c. Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(2)): Significant exposure to litigation (Two Matters).
- d. Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(4)): Possible initiation of litigation (Two Matters).
- 10. Reconvene into Open Session / Closed Session Report
- 11. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted on the District website (<u>SYRWCD.com</u>), at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California. Notice was delivered in accordance with Government Code Sections 54950-54963. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the District at (805) 693-1156. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

#### STAFF MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 19, 2023

TO: SYRWCD Board of Directors

FROM: Bill Buelow

SUBJECT: Joint Powers Agreement for WMA and CMA

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the background and rationale for the the Western Management Area GSA (WMA GSA) and Central Management Area GSA (CMA GSA) to convert from their own Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to their own Joint Powers Authority (JPA).

#### **Background**

The WMA GSA was formed by the January 11, 2017, MOA between the City of Lompoc, Vandenberg Village Community Services District, Mission Hills Community Services District, Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency. The MOA describes the formation and organization of the WMA GSA and establishes the governing body, powers, and proportional funding contribution from each agency, and the voting structure for decision making.

The CMA GSA was formed by the January 11, 2017, MOA between the City of Buellton, Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, and the Santa Barbara County Water Agency. The MOA describes the formation and organization of the CMA GSA and establishes the governing body, powers, and proportional funding contribution from each agency, and the voting structure for decision making.

Under the two MOAs, the WMA GSA and CMA GSA successfully prepared, approved, and submitted their own GSPs to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on January 18, 2022, as required by the SGMA. Since then, groundwater management activities have included monitoring and data collection, annual reporting to DWR, and projects and management actions. The conduct of these activities has been implemented in coordination between all three GSAs, consistent with the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement (IBAA).

The WMA GSA and CMA GSA each entered into the IBAA for the purpose of coordinating with the other two GSAs in the basin for implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and the three GSPs in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin). The IBAA was adopted by the three GSAs, effective January 1, 2022. The IBAA's primary purpose is to facilitate a cooperative and ongoing working relationship between the three GSAs in the basin. The IBAA also described the possibility of forming one or more new joint powers authorities (JPA) by the three GSAs.

The WMA GSA and the CMA GSA are each the sole GSA for their respective management areas. Both the existing WMA GSA and CMA GSA, established under the 2017 MOU, would reorganize as separate entities under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act in order to implement their respective GSPs and sustainably manage their areas under SGMA.

A JPA for the EMA GSA is also being considered by the agencies of the EMA. However, the negotiations and deliberations between the EMA agencies are still on-going.

#### **Discussion of Joint Powers Agreements**

A "Joint Powers Agreement" (JPA) is an agreement between two or more government agencies to combine their powers and resources for some common project. A JPA may also create a separate legal entity, commonly called a Joint Powers Authority (JPA), to work on common problem(s), in this case SGMA compliance and GSP implementation. Public agencies voluntarily create a JPA, and the JPA can exercise only those powers that are common to their member agencies. Their meetings are open to the public and subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act. Further, JPAs must follow the Public Records Act, the Political Reform Act, and other public interest laws that ensure political transparency. The JPA must also arrange for an annual audit.

As a separate agency, a JPA must have its own board of directors (Board) which will appoint officers as provided for in its JPA, in this case a chair, vice chair, treasurer, and secretary. The board will consist of representatives of each member. Certain functions may be delegated by the Board to the staff of a member agency, or an outside consultant. For example, the Treasurer's duties may be delegated to a certified public accountant.

There are financial resources needed to implement projects and management actions identified in the GSP to maintain SGMA compliance. Without outside funding sources, such as grants, these activities will be supported fully by each GSA's member agencies and require the imposition of some form of fee structure.

A JPA, formed as a legal entity separate from its members, would shield the general funds of its members from having to pay liabilities if the JPA is unable to generate sufficient revenue to pay its liabilities. In contrast, counsel for the CMA GSA and WMA GSA members are concerned that the existing MOA structures may not provide the same protection for its members. Finally, a JPA can combine services and share the resources of the member agencies to save time, reduce (or eliminate) overlapping services, increase efficiencies, and cut costs for their taxpayers.

From a practical perspective, the core provisions of the existing MOAs were integrated into the draft WMA JPA and the draft CMA JPA, so in effect each of the two JPAs is consistent with their respective MOA while simultaneously providing protection for the member agencies from the GSAs debts or other liabilities. The weighted voting arrangements from the MOAs are implemented in the JPAs. They also provide, in Article 14, for a cost-sharing arrangement based on an adopted budget. It is anticipated that contributions from member agencies will be necessary to cover initial expenditures, subject to reimbursement after adoption of a fee structure to fund the GSA. Article 9 provides the flexibility for staff of the member agencies to serve as the Plan Manager and other staff for the GSA, in order to limit costs.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There are several vehicles for the GSAs to capture costs for implementing SGMA pursuant to Water Code sections 10730, *et seq*. The Board of Directors may pursue funding through any means allowable by law, including but not limited to fees and/or charges, which reduces the financial obligations of the member agencies. To the extent other funds are not available to pay GSA expenses, under the JPA each Member's obligation remains unchanged from their current obligation under the MOA. Moreover, if the JPA is unable to pay its liabilities, as a separate legal entity the JPA can shield the general funds of its members from having to pay those liabilities. The adoption of fees and charges must be compliant with all applicable laws including Propositions 218 and 26.

#### **Recommendation:**

The Ad-hoc committee's recommendation is for the SYRWCD Board of Directors to approve the WMA JPA and the CMA JPA and to direct the General Manager or Assistant General Manager to sign both Joint Powers Agreements on behalf of the Board.

**Recommended Motion:** The SYRWCD Board of Directors hereby approves the Draft Final JPAs for the WMA and CMA and hereby directs the General Manager or Assistant General Manager to sign both Joint Powers Agreements on behalf of the Board.

### JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY BASIN WESTERN MANAGEMENT AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

	This Joint Exercise of F	owers Agreement ("Agreement") is made and entered into
this	day of	2023 by and between the City of Lompoc ("Lompoc")
Missio	n Hills Community Ser	vices District ("Mission Hills" or "MHCSD"), Vandenber
Village	Community Services	District ("Vandenberg Village" or "VVCSD"), Santa Yne
River	Water Conservation Di	istrict ("SYRWCD" or "District"), and the Santa Barbara
County	y Water Agency ("Santa	Barbara"), also each referred to individually as "Member
and co	llectively as "Members,'	for the purposes of forming a joint powers agency to serve
as the	Groundwater Sustaina	ability Agency for the Western Management Area of the
Santa	Ynez River Valley Grou	ındwater Basin. This joint powers agency shall hereinafte
be kno	wn as the Santa Ynez R	liver Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Are
Groun	dwater Sustainability Ac	jency ("WMA GSA" or "GSA").

#### **RECITALS**

THIS AGREEMENT is made with reference to the following facts:

- A. WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 ("SGMA"), including but not limited to Water Code section 10720 et seq., requires Groundwater Sustainability Agencies ("GSAs") to manage medium and high priority groundwater basins throughout the state through the adoption and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans ("GSPs"). SGMA defines "basin" as a basin or subbasin identified and defined in Bulletin 118, a publican of the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR").
- B. WHEREAS, the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (also referred to as the "Santa Ynez Groundwater Basin" or "Basin"), identified and defined by DWR in Bulletin 118 as Basin 3-15, has been designated by DWR as a medium priority basin.
- C. WHEREAS, Bulletin 118 describes the Basin as being in three portions, the eastern, central, and western. The western portion consists of the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Terrace, and Lompoc Upland; the central portion consists of the Buellton Upland, and the eastern portion consists of the Santa Ynez Uplands. For the purpose of implementing SGMA, each portion of the Basin as described by DWR has been designated as a separate "Management Area" as authorized by SGMA, where the three Management Areas cover the entire Basin defined by Bulletin 118.
- D. WHEREAS, for purposes of administering its groundwater usage program and other water management functions, the District also generally recognizes these hydrogeologic units.
  - E. WHEREAS, the map attached hereto as Exhibit A depicts the boundaries

of the three Management Areas of the Basin.

- F. WHEREAS, in 2016, local public agencies eligible to form a GSA or GSAs in the Basin determined that a separate GSA would be formed for each Management Area of the Basin (see Memorandum of Understanding for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, dated May 23, 2016).
- G. WHEREAS, effective January 11, 2017, the Members entered into a "Memorandum of Agreement for Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Western Management Area in the Santa Ynez Valley Groundwater Basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act" ("2017 MOA"), which established the Members as the participating agencies of the WMA GSA created by the 2017 MOA.
- H. WHEREAS, the District covers approximately 64 percent of the WMA, comprising the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Terrace, and Lompoc Uplands (including the Santa Rita Valley). This area includes the City of Lompoc, the communities of Vandenberg Village and Mission Hills, the Lompoc Federal Correctional Complex ("Lompoc FCC") and portions of Vandenberg Space Force Base ("VSFB"). VSFB covers the majority of the remaining WMA outside the District (approximately the remaining 35 percent of the WMA). As Federal entities, VSFB and Lompoc FCC are not required to be subject to SGMA. The Santa Barbara County Water Agency ("County Water Agency") covers approximately 1 percent of the WMA area not within the District, VSFB, and Lompoc FCC. Lompoc, the District, VVCSD, MHCSD, and the County Water Agency represent all of the public agencies (as defined by SGMA) that were eligible to form a GSA in the WMA. The formation of the WMA GSA was supported by the following:
  - a. The District has augmented the groundwater supply for the WMA through water rights releases under California State Water Resource Control Board ("SWRCB") Order 89-18 and preceding SWRCB orders since 1953.
  - b. The District has monitored groundwater production and groundwater storage in the Basin, including the WMA, since 1979.
  - c. The District, Lompoc, VVCSD, and MHCSD have a history of collaboration on projects that benefit groundwater use and management in the WMA. These include: 1) comprehensive studies of supplemental winter groundwater recharge from the river; 2) interconnections between the entities' water systems for operational flexibility and increased system reliability; and 3) comprehensive U.S. Geological Survey hydrogeologic studies of the WMA in the late 1980s through the early 1990s and ongoing monitoring of groundwater levels and groundwater quality.
- I. WHEREAS, pursuant to separate Memoranda of Understanding, the local public agencies in the Eastern Management Area ("EMA") and the Central Management Area ("CMA") of the Basin, respectively, formed an EMA GSA and a CMA GSA in the

Basin.

- J. WHEREAS, effective February 26, 2020, the local public agencies participating in the EMA GSA, the WMA GSA, and the CMA GSA entered into the "Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin."
- K. WHEREAS, in accordance with Water Code section 10727.6 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 357.4, the EMA GSA, the WMA GSA, and the CMA GSA entered into the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement, effective January 1, 2022.
- L. WHEREAS, the WMA GSA formed under the 2017 MOA has already developed, adopted, and submitted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP") for the WMA to DWR as required by SGMA; and
- M. WHEREAS, each of the Members is duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California and is a local agency qualified to become or form a GSA under the SGMA for the WMA of the Basin; and
- N. WHEREAS, pursuant to SGMA, specifically Water Code section 10723.6, and the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Government Code section 6500 et seq., the Members are authorized to create a joint powers agency to jointly exercise any power common to the Members together with such powers as are expressly set forth in the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and in SGMA.
- O. WHEREAS, the Members hereby intend to reform the existing WMA GSA established under the 2017 MOU as a separate entity under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act in order to implement the WMA GSP and sustainably manage the WMA under SGMA.
- **NOW, THEREFORE,** in consideration of the terms, conditions, and covenants contained herein, the Members hereby agree as follows:

# ARTICLE 1 INCORPORATION OF RECITALS

1.1 The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

### ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the following meanings for purposes of this

### Agreement:

- 2.1 "Agreement" means this Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement reforming the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency.
- 2.2 "Basin" means the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, as identified and defined by DWR in Bulletin 118 (as Basin 3-15) as of the Effective Date of this Agreement or as modified pursuant to Water Code section 10722.2.
- 2.3 "Bulletin 118" means DWR's report entitled "California Groundwater: Bulletin 118" updated in 2016 and 2020, and as it may be subsequently updated or revised in accordance with Water Code section 12924.
- 2.4 "Board of Directors" or "Board" means the governing body of the WMA GSA as established by Article 7 of this Agreement.
- 2.5 "WMA" means the Western Management Area of the Basin, as defined and depicted in the GSP for the WMA, as amended from time to time pursuant to SGMA.
- 2.6 "WMA GSA" or "GSA" means the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency, formed under the 2017 memorandum of agreement and reformed as a separate joint powers authority through this Agreement.
- 2.7 "Director(s)" and "Alternate Director(s)" means a Director or Alternate Director appointed by a Member or appointed by the Directors representing the Members pursuant to Articles 7.2 and 7.3 of this Agreement.
  - 2.8 "DWR" means the California Department of Water Resources.
- 2.9 "GSP" means a Groundwater Sustainability Plan, as defined by SGMA in Water Code section 10727 et seq.
- 2.10 "Joint Exercise of Powers Act" means Government Code section 6500 et seq., as amended from time to time.
- 2.11 "Member" or "Members" means an entity or the entities authorized by SGMA and other applicable law to participate in the WMA GSA as reformed by this Agreement and included in Article 6.1 of this Agreement, or any entity that becomes a new Member of the WMA GSA pursuant to Article 6.2 of this Agreement.
- 2.12 "Officer(s)" means the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer of the WMA GSA to be appointed by the Board of Directors pursuant to Article 8.2 of this Agreement.
- 2.13 "SGMA" means the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, including but not limited to Water Code section 10720 et seq., as SGMA may be amended from

time to time

- 2.14 "State" means the State of California.
- 2.15 "Voluntary Contribution" means a payment to the WMA GSA at the sole discretion of the payor that is neither a grant nor a direct Member payment made pursuant to Article 14.2(e).

# ARTICLE 3 CREATION OF THE WMA GSA

- 3.1 <u>Creation of a Joint Powers Agency.</u> There is hereby created, pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and ,SGMA, a joint powers agency, which is a public entity separate from the Members, and shall be known as the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("WMA GSA" or "GSA"). The boundaries of the WMA GSA shall be coterminous with the boundaries of the WMA portion of the Basin as established by the WMA GSP and depicted in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, which may be amended from time to time pursuant to SGMA. It is the intent of the Members that this Agreement reforms the GSA currently existing under the 2017 memorandum of understanding.
- 3.2 Notices. Within 30 days after the Effective Date, and after any amendment hereto, the GSA shall cause a notice of this Agreement to be prepared and filed with the office of the California Secretary of State containing the information required by Government Code section 6503.5. Within 30 days after the Effective Date, the GSA shall cause a statement of the information concerning the GSA, required by Government Code section 53051, to be filed with the office of the California Secretary of State and with the County Clerk for the County of Santa Barbara, setting forth the facts required to be stated pursuant to Government Code section 53051(a). Within 30 days after the Effective Date, the GSA shall inform DWR of the Members' decision and intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management within the WMA in accordance with Water Code section 10723.8 through this JPA.
- 3.3 <u>Purpose of the WMA GSA.</u> The purpose of the WMA GSA is to implement and comply with SGMA in the WMA portion of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin by serving as the WMA's GSA, implementing the GSP for the WMA, and coordinating with the EMA GSA and CMA GSA in sustainably managing the Basin pursuant to SGMA.

## ARTICLE 4 TERM

4.1 This Agreement shall become effective on the last date on which all of the Members listed in Article 6.1 sign this Agreement ("Effective Date"), after which notices

shall be filed in accordance with Article 3.2. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated pursuant to the provisions of Article 16 of this Agreement.

### ARTICLE 5 POWERS

- 5.1 The WMA GSA shall possess the common powers set forth in this Agreement together with such other powers as are expressly set forth in the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and in SGMA, subject to the limitations set forth therein.
- 5.2 For purposes of Government Code section 6509 and Water Code section 10730.6(d), the powers of the WMA GSA shall be exercised subject to the restrictions upon the manner of exercising such powers as are imposed on Santa Barbara, and in the event of the withdrawal of Santa Barbara as a Member under this Agreement the manner of exercising the GSA's powers shall be exercised subject to those restrictions imposed on Lompoc.
- 5.3 The WMA GSA shall have all powers that a GSA is authorized to exercise as provided by SGMA, including without limitation the power to implement the GSP, update the GSP every 5-years, and meet the requirements set forth in the Intra-Basin Coordination Agreement.
- 5.4 The WMA GSA shall have the power to impose and receive fees under SGMA to fund the WMA GSA and GSP implementation.
  - 5.5 The WMA GSA shall have the following additional powers:
    - a) To make and enter contracts, including contracts with its Members;
    - b) To employ agents, attorneys, consultants, and employees or to contract for personnel to fulfill its mission and purpose;
    - c) To lease, acquire, construct, manage, maintain, or operate any building, works or improvements;
    - d) To lease, acquire, hold, or dispose of real or personal property;
    - e) To borrow money, issue bonds, and incur debts, liabilities, or obligations for the purpose of paying all or any part of the costs of any other authorized activity of the GSA, which debts, liabilities, and obligations shall not constitute debts, liabilities, or obligations of any Members;
    - f) To receive gifts, contributions, and donations of property, funds, services, and other forms of assistance from persons, firms, corporations, and governmental entities, provided that the WMA GSA consents to such gifts, contributions, and donations;

- g) To fix the compensation, if any, paid to the Plan Manager, Secretary, Treasurer, and Legal Counsel, in compliance with all applicable laws;
- h) To prescribe the duties, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment of other agents, officers, and employees;
- To adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct of the day-today operations of the WMA GSA and other rules and regulations as permitted by SGMA;
- j) To apply for, accept, receive, and disburse grants, loans, and other aid from any agency of the United States of America or of the State of California;
- k) To sue and be sued in its own name;
- To invest money in the treasury, pursuant to Government Code section 6505.5, that is not required for the immediate necessities of the WMA GSA;
- m) To contract and pay compensation for professional, financial, and other services;
- n) To carry out and enforce all provisions of this Agreement;
- o) To exercise any power necessary or incidental to the foregoing powers.

### ARTICLE 6 MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 Members. The Members of the WMA GSA shall be:
  - (a) City of Lompoc;
  - (b) Santa Barbara County Water Agency;
  - (c) Vandenberg Village Community Services District;
  - (d) Mission Hills Community Service District; and
  - (e) Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District

as long as they have not, pursuant to the provisions hereof, withdrawn from this Agreement.

6.2 <u>New Members</u>. Any entity authorized by SGMA and other applicable law to participate in the WMA GSA, that is not a Member on the Effective Date of this Agreement,

may become a Member upon all of the following:

- (a) The approval of the Board of Directors as specified in Article 12.3;
- (b) Amendment of the Agreement in accordance with Article 18.2; and
- (c) Payment by the new Member of a pro rata share of all previously incurred costs that the Board of Directors determines are appropriate for assessment on the new Member.

### ARTICLE 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 7.1 <u>Formation of the Board of Directors</u>. The WMA GSA shall be governed by a Board of Directors ("Board"). Directors shall include one representative from each of the Members identified in Article 6.1.
- 7.2 <u>Appointment of Directors</u>. Directors shall be appointed by the represented Member's governing body. Each Director representing a Member shall be an elected official or member of management of the appointing Member.
- 7.3 Alternate Directors. Each Director shall have one Alternate Director to act as a substitute Director for that Director in his or her absence. All Alternate Directors shall be appointed in the same manner as set forth in Article 7.2. Alternate Directors shall not vote or participate in any deliberations of the Board unless appearing as a substitute for a Director due to absence or conflict of interest. If a Director is not present, or if a Director has a conflict of interest which precludes participation by the Director in any decision-making process of the Board, the Alternate Director appointed to act in his/her place shall assume all roles of the Director, and shall have the authority to act on behalf of the absent Director, including but not limited to participating in open session and closed session deliberations and casting votes on matters before the Board. An Alternate Director representing a Member shall be an elected official or member of management of the appointing Member.
- 7.4 Requirements. Each Director and Alternate Director shall be appointed as set forth in Article 7.2. Directors and Alternate Directors representing a Member shall serve at the pleasure of the governing body of the appointing Member. No individual Director or Alternate Director representing a Member may be removed except by the vote of the governing body of the Member that appointed him/her.
- 7.5 <u>Vacancies</u>. Upon the resignation or removal of a Director, the Alternate Director shall serve as Director until a new Director is appointed as set forth in Article 7.2. Upon the resignation or removal of an Alternate Director, a new Alternate Director shall be appointed as set forth in Articles 7.2 and 7.3. A Member shall submit any changes in

its Director or Alternate Director positions to the Board or Plan Manager.

- 7.6 <u>Duties of the Board of Directors</u>. The business and affairs of the WMA GSA, and all of its powers, including without limitation all powers set forth in Article 5, are reserved to and shall be exercised by and through the Board of Directors, except as may be expressly delegated to the Plan Manager or others pursuant to this Agreement, Bylaws of the GSA, the WMA GSP, or specific action of the Board of Directors.
- 7.7 <u>Director and Alternate Compensation</u>. No Director or Alternate Director shall be compensated by the WMA GSA in connection with any meetings or other activities undertaken as a representative of the GSA. Nothing in this Article is intended to prohibit a Member from compensating its Director or Alternate Director for compensable activities undertaken as a Director or Alternate Director of the GSA Board.

### ARTICLE 8 OFFICERS

- 8.1 Officers of the WMA GSA shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Additional officers may be appointed by the Board as it deems necessary.
  - (a) <u>Chair</u>. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall be a member of the Board.
  - (b) <u>Vice Chair</u>. The Vice Chair shall exercise all powers of the Chair in the Chair's absence or inability to act, and shall be a member of the Board.
  - (c) <u>Secretary</u>. The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and shall perform other duties and responsibilities as properly delegated by the Board. The Secretary may, but need not, be a member of the Board.
  - (d) <u>Treasurer</u>. The Treasurer shall perform the duties and responsibilities specified in Government Code sections 6505.5 and 6505.6. The Treasurer may, but need not, be a member of the Board.
- 8.2 Appointment of Officers. Officers shall be appointed annually by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Board of Directors. Officers shall be appointed at the first Board meeting, and thereafter at the first Board meeting following January 1st of each year. The Director from SYRWCD shall be designated as the Chair Pro Tem to preside at the first meeting of the Board until a Chair is appointed by resolution of the Board. An Officer may serve for multiple consecutive terms, with no term limit. Any Officer may resign at any time upon written notice to the Board, and may be removed and replaced by a decision of the Board in accordance with Article 11.3(a). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Treasurer shall be appointed in the manner specified in Government Code sections 6505.5 and 6505.6.
  - 8.3 Principal Office. The principal office of the WMA GSA shall be established

by the Board of Directors, and may thereafter be changed by the Board.

### ARTICLE 9 PLAN MANAGER & STAFF

- 9.1 <u>Hiring</u>. The Board may hire a Plan Manager or other designated manager of the WMA GSA, as well as any needed staff, consultants, and Legal Counsel, who may be hired as an employee of the WMA GSA or by contract with the WMA GSA. The Plan Manager and Legal Counsel may be, but need not be, officers, employees, or representatives of one of the Members.
- 9.2 <u>Compensation</u>. The Plan Manager, staff, consultants, and Legal Counsel's compensation shall be determined by the Board.
- 9.3 <u>Duties</u>. The Plan Manager, staff, consultant and Legal Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Plan Manager shall be responsible to the Board for the property and efficient administration of the GSA and act as a point of contact for the GSA. The Plan Manager shall have the powers designated by the Board, and otherwise as set forth in the GSA Bylaws.
- 10.4 <u>Termination</u>. The Plan Manager shall serve until his/her resignation or until the Board terminates the Plan Manager's employment or contract.

### ARTICLE 10 GSA DIRECTOR MEETINGS

- 10.1 <u>Initial Meeting</u>. The initial meeting of the WMA GSA Board of Directors shall be called by the Chair Pro Tem and held within the boundaries of the WMA, within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date of this Agreement.
- 10.2 <u>Time and Place</u>. The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly, at a date, time, and place set by the Board, and at such other dates, times, and places as may be determined by the Board.
- 10.3 <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Chair or by a simple majority of Directors, in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950 et seq.).
- 10.4 <u>Conduct</u>. All meetings of the Board of Directors, including special meetings, and any meetings involving teleconferencing to the extent allowed by law, shall be noticed, held, and conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950 et seq.).
- 10.5 <u>Local Conflict of Interest Code</u>. The Board of Directors shall adopt a local conflict of interest code pursuant to the provisions of the Political Reform Act of 1974

(Government Code section 81000 et seq.).

### ARTICLE 11 VOTING

- 11.1 <u>Quorum</u>. A quorum of any meeting of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the Directors. In the absence of a quorum, any meeting of the Directors may be adjourned by a vote of the simple majority of Directors present, but no other business may be transacted.
- 11.2 <u>Director Votes</u>. Voting by the Board of Directors shall be weighted as follows:
  - (a) The Director representing Lompoc shall have two (2) votes;
  - (b) The Director representing Vandenberg Village shall have one (1) vote;
  - (c) The Director representing Mission Hills shall have one (1) vote;
  - (d) The Director representing SYRWCD shall have four (4) votes; and
  - (e) The Director representing Santa Barbara shall be a non-voting member.

A Director, or an Alternate Director when acting in the absence of a Director, may vote on all matters of GSA business unless disqualified.

#### 11.3 Decisions of the Board.

- (a) <u>Majority Approval</u>. Except as otherwise specified in Article 11.3(b), all decisions of the Board of Directors shall require the affirmative vote of more than 50 percent of the vote total in accordance with Article 11.2
- (b) Supermajority Approval. Notwithstanding Article 11.3(a), a minimum 75 percent vote total in accordance with Article 11.2 shall be required to approve any of the following: (i) the annual budget; (ii) any substantive amendment to the WMA GSP; (iii) addition of new Members pursuant to Article 6.2; (iv) establishment and levying of any fee, charge, or assessment; (v) adoption or amendment of the GSA Bylaws; (vi) regulation, limitation, or suspension of extractions from groundwater wells; or (vii) issuance of bonds or other forms of

indebtedness.

### ARTICLE 12 BYLAWS

13.1 The Board of Directors may approve and amend, as needed, Bylaws for the WMA GSA.

### ARTICLE 13 ACCOUNTING PRACTICES

- 13.1 <u>General</u>. The Board of Directors shall establish and maintain such funds and accounts as may be required by generally accepted public agency accounting practices. The WMA GSA shall maintain strict accountability of all funds and a report of all receipts and disbursements of the GSA. The GSA shall hire an independent auditor to audit its funds and accounts as required by law.
- 13.2 <u>Fiscal Year</u>. Unless the Board of Directors decides otherwise, the fiscal year for the WMA GSA shall run from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

# ARTICLE 14 BUDGET AND EXPENSES

- 14.1 <u>Budget</u>. The Board of Directors shall adopt an annual budget for the WMA GSA.
  - 14.2 GSA Funding and Contributions.
    - (a) For the purpose of funding the expenses and ongoing operations of the WMA GSA, the Board of Directors shall maintain a funding account in connection with the annual budget process.
    - (b) The WMA GSA may endeavor to pursue and apply for grants and/or loans to fund a portion of the cost of implementing the WMA GSP as the Board may direct.
    - (c) The Board of Directors may accept Voluntary Contributions from Members or other persons or entities that are not subject to reimbursement by the GSA, and may accept Voluntary Contributions from Members or other persons or entities that are to be reimbursed by the GSA. The Board of Directors will execute a contract with any party making a Voluntary Contribution and such contract will contain

the terms by which the WMA GSA accepts the Voluntary Contribution.

- (d) There are several vehicles to capture costs for implementing SGMA pursuant to Water Code sections 10730, *et seq*. The Board of Directors may pursue funding through any means allowable by law, including but not limited to fees and/or charges.
- (e) To the extent other funds are not available to pay WMA GSA expenses, each Member will pay the following percentage of such expenses:

SYWRCD: 50%

Lompoc: 25%

Mission Hills: 12.5%

Vandenberg Village: 12.5%

Santa Barbara: 0%

- (f) The GSA will apply funds available in the funding account to WMA GSA expenses in the following order:
  - (i) Voluntary Contributions not subject to reimbursement by the GSA
  - (ii) Grant funds
  - (iii) Revenue generated from fees/charges
  - (iv) Bond proceeds from any bonds issued pursuant to this Agreement
  - (v) Voluntary Contributions subject to reimbursement by the GSA
  - (vi) Direct payments from Members made pursuant to Article 14.2(e).
- 14.3 <u>Issuance of Indebtedness</u>. The GSA may issue bonds, notes, or other forms of indebtedness, provided such issuance is approved at a meeting of the Board of Directors by supermajority vote in accordance with Article 11.3(b).

### ARTICLE 15 LIABILITIES

15.1 <u>Liability</u>. In accordance with Government Code section 6508.1, the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the WMA GSA, other than any retirement liabilities if it contracts with a public retirement system, shall be the debts, liabilities, and obligations of

the GSA alone, and not of any of the Members individually or jointly.

15.2 <u>Indemnity</u>. The WMA GSA, and those persons, agencies, consultants, entities, and instrumentalities used by it to perform the functions authorized by this Agreement, SGMA, and other applicable law, whether by contract, employment, or otherwise, shall be exclusively liable for any and all injuries, costs, expenses, claims, suits, actions, proceedings, losses, liabilities, damages, judgments, or other obligations of whatever kind arising from or related to activities of the GSA. The GSA agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless each Member, each Director and Alternate, and each Member's governing board, officers, officials, representatives, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, actions, arbitration proceedings, administrative proceedings, regulatory proceedings, losses, liabilities, damages, judgments, expenses, costs, including but not limited to attorney's fees, consultant' fees, and expert fees, and/or other obligations of whatever kind arising from or related or attributable to the GSA or this Agreement ("Claims").

In addition to the foregoing, funds of the WMA GSA may be used to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the GSA, each Member, each Director and Alternate Director, and any officers, officials, agents, or employees of the GSA for their actions taken within the course and scope of their duties while acting on behalf of the GSA against any such Claims.

The Members do not intend hereby to be obligated either jointly or severally for any Claims or any other debts, liabilities, or obligations of the GSA, except as may be specifically provided for in Government Code section 895.2. Provided, however, if any Member(s) of the GSA are, under such applicable law, held liable for the acts or omissions of the GSA, such parties shall be entitled to contribution from the other Members so that after said contributions each Member shall bear such liability in the proportions set forth in Article 14.2(e).

15.3 <u>Insurance</u>. The WMA GSA may procure appropriate policies of insurance providing coverage to the GSA and its Directors, Alternate Directors, officers, officials, agents, and employees for general liability, errors and omissions, property, workers compensation, and any other coverage the Board deems appropriate. Such policies shall, if feasible, name the Members as additional insureds.

### ARTICLE 16 WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERS

- 16.1 <u>Unilateral Withdrawal</u>. Any Member may unilaterally withdraw from this Agreement without causing or requiring termination of this Agreement, effective upon thirty (30) days written notice to the Board of Directors and all other Members.
- 16.2 <u>Termination of Agreement and GSA</u>. This Agreement and the WMA GSA established under this Agreement may be terminated by unanimous written consent of all

Members, except during the outstanding term of any WMA GSA indebtedness.

- 16.3 Effect of Withdrawal or Termination. After the effective date of withdrawal, any Member who withdraws from the GSA shall have no right to participate in the business and affairs of the GSA, except through public participation, and shall have no right to exercise any rights of a Member under this Agreement. Provided, however, that nothing contained in this Article 16.3 shall be construed as affecting a withdrawing Member's right to reimbursement or return of capital from the GSA in accordance with Article 14 or any agreement between the GSA and the withdrawing Member. Provided further, that notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing contained in this Article 16.3 shall be construed as prohibiting a Member that has withdrawn from the GSA to become a separate groundwater sustainability agency within its jurisdiction in accordance with SGMA. Nothing in this section shall be construed as obligating the WMA GSA to consent to formation or designation of another GSA for any portion of the Basin.
- 16.4 Return of Contribution. Upon termination of this Agreement, and to the extent a successor public entity is established which will carry on the functions of the WMA GSA and assume its assets, the assets of the GSA shall be transferred to the successor public entity. If there is no successor public entity which will carry on the functions of the GSA, then, subject to the requirements of Article 14, any surplus capital on-hand shall be returned to the Members in proportion to their payment obligations in Article 14.2(e) and the Board of Directors shall first offer any property, works, rights, and interests of the GSA for sale to the Members on terms and conditions determined by the Board of Directors. If any property, works, rights, and interests of the GSA remain after first being offered for sale to the Members, the Board of Directors shall then offer the property, works, rights, and interests of the GSA for sale to any non-Member for good and adequate consideration. Subject to the requirements of Article 14, the net proceeds from any such sales shall be distributed among the Members in proportion to their payment obligations in Article 14.2(e). The Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, determine whether an entity constitutes a successor public entity under this paragraph.

# ARTICLE 17 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 17.1 <u>Notices</u>. Notices to a Member shall be sufficient if delivered to the clerk or secretary of the respective Member's governing body and addressed to the Member at the address noted on the signature page or at such other address or to such other person that the Member may designate in accordance with this Article. Delivery may be accomplished by personal delivery, with postage prepaid by first class mail, registered or certified mail, express courier, facsimile, or electronic mail (email). The date of receipt of the notice shall be the date of actual personal service or three days after the postmark on certified mail.
- 17.2 <u>Amendments to Agreement</u>. This Agreement may be amended or modified at any time only by subsequent written agreement approved and executed by all of the

Members.

- 17.3 Agreement Complete. This Agreement constitutes the full and complete agreement of the Members with respect to the matters set forth by this Agreement. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, whether in writing or oral, related to the subject matter of this Agreement that are not set forth in writing. Notwithstanding this paragraph, this Agreement does not alter the parties' obligations under the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, dated February 26, 2020. In regards to the 2017 MOA, as soon as DWR accepts this Agreement and the WMA GSA formed hereunder as the governing GSA for the Western Management Area of the Basin, then this Agreement will supersede the 2017 MOA in its entirety and this Agreement and the WMA GSA formed hereunder will take over all activities as the governing GSA for the Western Management Area of the Basin.
- 17.4 <u>Severability</u>. Should any part, term, or provision of this Agreement be decided by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any applicable federal law or any law of the State of California, or otherwise be rendered unenforceable or ineffectual, the validity of the remaining parts, terms, or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby, provided however, that if the remaining parts, terms, or provisions do not comply with the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, this Agreement shall terminate.
- 17.5 <u>Withdrawal by Operation of Law</u>. Should the participation of any Member to this Agreement be decided by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in excess of that Member's authority or in conflict with any law, resulting in the withdrawal of such Member from this Agreement, the validity of this Agreement as to the remaining Members shall not be affected thereby.
- 17.6 <u>Assignment</u>. The rights and duties of the Members may not be assigned or delegated without the written consent of all other Members. Any attempt to assign or delegate such rights or duties in contravention of this Agreement shall be null and void.
- 17.7 <u>Binding on Successors</u>. Subject to Article 17.6, this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successor of any Member.
- 17.8 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 17.9 <u>Member Authorization</u>. The governing bodies of the Members have each authorized execution of this Agreement and all signatories to this Agreement warrant and represent that they have the power and authority to enter into this Agreement in the names, titles, and capacities stated herein and on behalf of the respective Members.
- 17.10 <u>No Third Party Beneficiary</u>. Except as expressly set forth herein, this Agreement is not intended to benefit any person or entity not a party hereto.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Members have executed this Agreement to be effective on the date executed by the last Member as set forth in Article 4.1.

CITY OF LOMPOC A California Municipal Corporation	MISSION HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
100 Civic Center Plaza Lompoc, California 93438-8001	1550 Burton Mesa Blvd. Lompoc, California 93436
•	•
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
By:	By:
(Print name)	(Print name)
(Title)	(Title)
Date:	Date:
VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT 3745 Constellation Road Lompoc, California 93436-1401	SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT P.O. Box 719 Santa Ynez, CA 93460
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
By:	By:
(Print name)	(Print name)
(Title)	(Title)
Date:	Date:

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WATER AGENCY:
Ву:
Chair, Board of Directors
Date:
APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Risk Management
By:
Risk Management
APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:
INSERT NAME
Auditor-Controller
By:
Deputy

# JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY BASIN CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

	This Joint Exercise of P	owers Agreeme	ent ("Agreen	nent") is made a	nd ente	red into
this _	day of	2023 by and	d between th	ne City of Buellt	on ("Bu	ellton");
Santa	Ynez River Water Cons	servation Distric	ct ("SYRWC	D" or "District"),	and the	e Santa
Barba	ra County Water Agenc	y ("Santa Barb	ara"), also e	ach referred to	individu	ually as
"Mem	ber" and collectively as	"Members," fo	r the purpo	ses of forming	a joint	powers
agend	y to serve as the Groun	dwater Sustain	ability Agend	cy for the Centra	al Mana	gement
Area o	of the Santa Ynez River	Valley Ground	water Basin.	This joint powe	rs agen	cy shall
hereir	after be known as the	Santa Ynez	River Valle	y Groundwater	Basin	Čentral
Mana	gement Area Groundwat	er Sustainabilit	y Agency ("Č	MA GSA" or "G	SA").	

#### **RECITALS**

THIS AGREEMENT is made with reference to the following facts:

- A. WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 ("SGMA"), including but not limited to Water Code section 10720 et seq., requires Groundwater Sustainability Agencies ("GSAs") to manage medium and high priority groundwater basins throughout the state through the adoption and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans ("GSPs"). SGMA defines "basin" as a basin or subbasin identified and defined in Bulletin 118, a publication of the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR").
- B. WHEREAS, the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (also referred to as the "Santa Ynez Groundwater Basin" or "Basin"), identified and defined by DWR in Bulletin 118 as Basin 3-15, has been designated by DWR as a medium priority basin.
- C. WHEREAS, Bulletin 118 describes the Basin as being in three portions, the eastern, central, and western. The western portion consists of the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Terrace, and Lompoc Upland; the central portion consists of the Buellton Upland, and the eastern portion consists of the Santa Ynez Uplands. For the purpose of implementing SGMA, each portion of the Basin as described by DWR has been designated as a separate "Management Area" as authorized by SGMA, where the three Management Areas cover the entire Basin defined by Bulletin 118.
- D. WHEREAS, for purposes of administering its groundwater usage program and other water management functions, the District also generally recognizes these hydrogeologic units.
- E. WHEREAS, the map attached hereto as Exhibit A depicts the boundaries of the three Management Areas of the Basin.
- F. WHEREAS, in 2016, local public agencies eligible to form a GSA or GSAs in the Basin determined that a separate GSA would be formed for each Management

Area of the Basin (see Memorandum of Understanding for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, dated May 23, 2016).

- G. WHEREAS, effective January 11, 2017, the Members entered into a "Memorandum of Agreement for Formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Central Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act" ("2017 MOA"), which established the Members as the participating agencies of the CMA GSA created by the 2017 MOA.
- H. WHEREAS, the District covers approximately 99.95% of the CMA including the City of Buellton and the Bobcat Springs Mutual Water Company. The Santa Barbara County Water Agency ("County Water Agency") covers the remaining 0.05% of the CMA that is not within the District. The City of Buellton, the District and the County Water Agency represent all of the public agencies (as defined by the Act) that are eligible to form a GSA in the CMA. The formation of the CMA GSA is supported by the following:
  - a. The District has monitored groundwater production and groundwater storage in the Basin, including the CMA, since 1979.
  - b. The District and the City of Buellton prepared a Groundwater Basin Management Plan for the CMA in October 1995. The plan was approved under AB 3030.
  - c. Buellton practices conjunctive use during wet and dry periods between the Santa Ynez River channel and the CMA in coordination with the Districts' water rights releases under SWRCB Order 89-18.
  - d. Areas of the CMA represented by the County Water Agency have "de minimis" groundwater production, if any, and represent less than 0.05% of the total Management Area. Therefore, the County Water Agency is not a voting Committee member of the CMA GSA and will not be a voting Director of the CMA GSA when reorganized as a JPA, nor will it have any financial responsibility for funding the GSA or GSP activities for the CMA, except for the cost of its staff participation in meetings.
  - e. In addition to the consideration of the interests of groundwater users in the CMA GSA, the Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Department, Bob Cat Springs Mutual Water Company, and members of the agricultural community, have been invited to participate on the GSA's Advisory Committee.
- I. WHEREAS, pursuant to separate Memoranda of Understanding, the local public agencies in the Eastern Management Area ("EMA") and the Western Management Area ("WMA") of the Basin, respectively, formed an EMA GSA and a WMA GSA in the Basin.
  - J. WHEREAS, effective February 26, 2020, the local public agencies

participating in the EMA GSA, the WMA GSA, and the CMA GSA entered into the "Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin."

- K. WHEREAS, in accordance with Water Code section 10727.6 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 357.4, the EMA GSA, the WMA GSA, and the CMA GSA entered into the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement, effective January 1, 2022.
- L. WHEREAS, the CMA GSA formed under the 2017 MOA has already developed, adopted, and submitted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP") for the CMA to DWR as required by SGMA.
- M. WHEREAS, each of the Members is duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of California and is a local agency qualified to become or form a GSA under the SGMA for the CMA of the Basin.
- N. WHEREAS, pursuant to SGMA, specifically Water Code section 10723.6, and the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, Government Code section 6500 et seq., the Members are authorized to create a joint powers agency to jointly exercise any power common to the Members together with such powers as are expressly set forth in the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and in SGMA.
- O. WHEREAS, the Members hereby intend to reform the existing CMA GSA established under the 2017 MOU as a separate entity under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act in order to implement the CMA GSP and sustainably manage the CMA under SGMA and intend for the CMA GSA as a JPA to act as the successor of the CMA GSA as a MOA.
- **NOW, THEREFORE,** in consideration of the terms, conditions, and covenants contained herein, the Members hereby agree as follows:

# ARTICLE 1 INCORPORATION OF RECITALS

1.1 The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

# ARTICLE 2 DEFINITIONS

The following terms shall have the following meanings for purposes of this Agreement:

2.1 "Agreement" means this Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement reforming the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater

Sustainability Agency.

- 2.2 "Basin" means the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, as identified and defined by DWR in Bulletin 118 (as Basin 3-15) as of the Effective Date of this Agreement or as modified pursuant to Water Code section 10722.2.
- 2.3 "Bulletin 118" means DWR's report entitled "California Groundwater: Bulletin 118" updated in 2016 and 2020, and as it may be subsequently updated or revised in accordance with Water Code section 12924.
- 2.4 "Board of Directors" or "Board" means the governing body of the CMA GSA as established by Article 7 of this Agreement.
- 2.5 "CMA" means the Central Management Area of the Basin, as defined and depicted in the GSP for the CMA, as amended from time to time pursuant to SGMA.
- 2.6 "CMA GSA" or "GSA" means the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency, formed under the 2017 MOA and reformed as a separate joint powers authority through this Agreement.
- 2.7 "Director(s)" and "Alternate Director(s)" means a Director or Alternate Director appointed by a Member or appointed by the Directors representing the Members pursuant to Articles 7.2 and 7.3 of this Agreement.
  - 2.8 "DWR" means the California Department of Water Resources.
- 2.9 "GSP" means a Groundwater Sustainability Plan, as defined by SGMA in Water Code section 10727 et seg.
- 2.10 "Joint Exercise of Powers Act" means Government Code section 6500 et seq., as amended from time to time.
- 2.11 "Member" or "Members" means an entity or the entities authorized by SGMA and other applicable law to participate in the CMA GSA as reformed by this Agreement and included in Article 6.1 of this Agreement, or any entity that becomes a new Member of the CMA GSA pursuant to Article 6.2 of this Agreement.
- 2.12 "Officer(s)" means the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, or Treasurer of the CMA GSA to be appointed by the Board of Directors pursuant to Article 8.2 of this Agreement.
- 2.13 "SGMA" means the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, including but not limited to Water Code section 10720 et seq., as SGMA may be amended from

time to time.

- 2.14 "State" means the State of California.
- 2.15 "Voluntary Contribution" means a payment to the CMA GSA at the sole discretion of the payor that is neither a grant nor a direct Member payment made pursuant to Article 14.2(e).

# ARTICLE 3 CREATION OF THE CMA GSA

- 3.1 <u>Creation of a Joint Powers Agency</u>. There is hereby created, pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and SGMA, a joint powers agency, which is a public entity separate from the Members, and shall be known as the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("CMA GSA" or "GSA"). The boundaries of the CMA GSA shall be coterminous with the boundaries of the CMA portion of the Basin as established by the CMA GSP and depicted in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, which may be amended from time to time pursuant to SGMA. It is the intent of the Members that this Agreement reforms the GSA currently existing under the 2017 MOA as a separate and distinct legal entity. In addition, the CMA GSA as a JPA shall act as the successor to the MOA.
- 3.2 <u>Notices</u>. Within 30 days after the Effective Date, and after any amendment hereto, the GSA shall cause a notice of this Agreement to be prepared and filed with the office of the California Secretary of State containing the information required by Government Code section 6503.5. Within 30 days after the Effective Date, the GSA shall cause a statement of the information concerning the GSA, required by Government Code section 53051, to be filed with the office of the California Secretary of State and with the County Clerk for the County of Santa Barbara, setting forth the facts required to be stated pursuant to Government Code section 53051(a). Within 30 days after the Effective Date, the GSA shall inform DWR of the Members' decision and intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management within the CMA in accordance with Water Code section 10723.8 through this JPA.
- 3.3 <u>Purpose of the CMA GSA.</u> The purpose of the CMA GSA is to implement and comply with SGMA in the CMA portion of the Basin by serving as the CMA's GSA, implementing the GSP for the CMA, and coordinating with the EMA GSA and WMA GSA in sustainably managing the Basin pursuant to SGMA.

### ARTICLE 4 TERM

4.1 This Agreement shall become effective on the last date on which all of the Members listed in Article 6.1 sign this Agreement ("Effective Date"), after which notices

shall be filed in accordance with Article 3.2. This Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated pursuant to the provisions of Article 16 of this Agreement.

### ARTICLE 5 POWERS

- 5.1 The CMA GSA shall possess the common powers set forth in this Agreement together with such other powers as are expressly set forth in the Joint Exercise of Powers Act and in SGMA, subject to the limitations set forth therein.
- 5.2 For purposes of Government Code section 6509 and Water Code section 10730.6(d), the powers of the CMA GSA shall be exercised subject to the restrictions upon the manner of exercising such powers as are imposed, and in the event of the withdrawal of Santa Barbara as a Member under this Agreement the manner of exercising the GSA's powers shall be exercised subject to those restrictions imposed on Buellton.
- 5.3 The CMA GSA shall have all powers that a GSA is authorized to exercise as provided by SGMA, including without limitation the power to implement the GSP, update the GSP every 5-years, and meet the requirements set forth in the Intra-Basin Coordination Agreement.
- 5.4 The CMA GSA shall have the power to impose fees under SGMA to fund the CMA GSA and GSP implementation.
  - 5.5 The CMA GSA shall have the following additional powers:
    - a) To make and enter contracts, including contracts with its Members;
    - b) To employ agents, attorneys, consultants, and employees or to contract for personnel to fulfill its mission and purpose;
    - c) To lease, acquire, construct, manage, maintain, or operate any building, works or improvements;
    - d) To lease, acquire, hold, or dispose of real or personal property;
    - e) To borrow money, issue bonds, and incur debts, liabilities, or obligations for the purpose of paying all or any part of the costs of any other authorized activity of the GSA, which debts, liabilities, and obligations shall not constitute debts, liabilities, or obligations of any Members;
    - f) To receive gifts, contributions, and donations of property, funds, services, and other forms of assistance from persons, firms, corporations, and governmental entities, provided that the CMA GSA consents to such gifts, contributions, and donations;

- g) To fix the compensation, if any, paid to the Plan Manager, Secretary, Treasurer, and Legal Counsel, in compliance with all applicable laws;
- h) To prescribe the duties, compensation, and other terms and conditions of employment of other agents, officers, and employees;
- To adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the conduct of the day-today operations of the CMA GSA and other rules and regulations as permitted by SGMA;
- j) To apply for, accept, receive, and disburse grants, loans, and other aid from any agency of the United States of America or of the State of California;
- k) To sue and be sued in its own name;
- To invest money in the treasury, pursuant to Government Code section 6505.5, that is not required for the immediate necessities of the CMA GSA;
- m) To contract and pay compensation for professional, financial, and other services;
- n) To carry out and enforce all provisions of this Agreement;
- o) To exercise any power necessary or incidental to the foregoing powers.

### ARTICLE 6 MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1 Members. The Members of the CMA GSA shall be:
  - (a) City of Buellton;
  - (b) Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District; and
  - (c) Santa Barbara County Water Agency;

as long as they have not, pursuant to the provisions hereof, withdrawn from this Agreement.

- 6.2 <u>New Members</u>. Any entity authorized by SGMA and other applicable law to participate in the CMA GSA, that is not a Member on the Effective Date of this Agreement, may become a Member upon all of the following:
  - (a) The approval of the Board of Directors as specified in Article 12.3;
  - (b) Amendment of the Agreement in accordance with Article 18.2; and
  - (c) Payment by the new Member of a pro rata share of all previously incurred costs that the Board of Directors determines are appropriate

for assessment on the new Member.

### ARTICLE 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 7.1 <u>Formation of the Board of Directors</u>. The CMA GSA shall be governed by a Board of Directors ("Board"). Directors shall include one representative from each of the Members identified in Article 6.1.
- 7.2 <u>Appointment of Directors</u>. Directors shall be appointed by the represented Member's governing body. Each Director representing a Member shall be an elected official or member of management of the appointing Member.
- 7.3 Alternate Directors. Each Director shall have one Alternate Director to act as a substitute Director for that Director in his or her absence. All Alternate Directors shall be appointed in the same manner as set forth in Article 7.2. Alternate Directors shall not vote or participate in any deliberations of the Board unless appearing as a substitute for a Director due to absence or conflict of interest. If a Director is not present, or if a Director has a conflict of interest which precludes participation by the Director in any decision-making process of the Board, the Alternate Director appointed to act in his/her place shall assume all roles of the Director, and shall have the authority to act on behalf of the absent Director, including but not limited to participating in open session and closed session deliberations and casting votes on matters before the Board. An Alternate Director representing a Member shall be an elected official or member of management of the appointing Member.
- 7.4 <u>Requirements.</u> Directors and Alternate Directors representing a Member shall serve at the pleasure of the governing body of the appointing Member. No individual Director or Alternate Director representing a Member may be removed except by the vote of the governing body of the Member that appointed him/her.
- 7.5 <u>Vacancies</u>. Upon the resignation or removal of a Director, the Alternate Director shall serve as Director until a new Director is appointed as set forth in Article 7.2. Upon the resignation or removal of an Alternate Director, a new Alternate Director shall be appointed as set forth in Articles 7.2 and 7.3. A Member shall submit any changes in its Director or Alternate Director positions to the Board or Plan Manager.
- 7.6 <u>Duties of the Board of Directors</u>. The business and affairs of the CMA GSA, and all of its powers, including without limitation all powers set forth in Article 5, are reserved to and shall be exercised by and through the Board of Directors, except as may be expressly delegated to the Plan Manager or others pursuant to this Agreement, Bylaws of the GSA, the CMA GSP, or specific action of the Board of Directors.
- 7.7 <u>Director and Alternate Compensation</u>. No Director or Alternate Director shall be compensated by the CMA GSA in connection with any meetings or other activities undertaken as a representative of the GSA. Nothing in this Article is intended to prohibit

a Member from compensating its Director or Alternate Director for compensable activities undertaken as a Director or Alternate Director of the GSA Board.

### ARTICLE 8 OFFICERS

- 8.1 Officers of the CMA GSA shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Additional officers may be appointed by the Board as it deems necessary.
  - (a) <u>Chair</u>. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall be a member of the Board.
  - (b) <u>Vice Chair</u>. The Vice Chair shall exercise all powers of the Chair in the Chair's absence or inability to act, and shall be a member of the Board.
  - (c) <u>Secretary</u>. The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and shall perform other duties and responsibilities as properly delegated by the Board. The Secretary may, but need not, be a member of the Board.
  - (d) <u>Treasurer</u>. The Treasurer shall perform the duties and responsibilities specified in Government Code sections 6505.5 and 6505.6. The Treasurer may, but need not, be a member of the Board.
- 8.2 Appointment of Officers. Officers shall be appointed annually by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Board of Directors. Officers shall be appointed at the first Board meeting, and thereafter at the first Board meeting following January 1st of each year. The Director from SYRWCD shall be designated as the Chair Pro Tem to preside at the first meeting of the Board until a Chair is appointed by resolution of the Board. An Officer may serve for multiple consecutive terms, with no term limit. Any Officer may resign at any time upon written notice to the Board, and may be removed and replaced by a decision of the Board in accordance with Article 11.3(a). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Treasurer shall be appointed in the manner specified in Government Code sections 6505.5 and 6505.6.
- 8.3 <u>Principal Office</u>. The principal office of the CMA GSA shall be established by the Board of Directors, and may thereafter be changed by the Board.

# ARTICLE 9 PLAN MANAGER & STAFF

9.1 <u>Hiring</u>. The Board may hire a Plan Manager or other designated manager of the CMA GSA, as well as any needed staff, consultants, and Legal Counsel, who may be hired as an employee of the CMA GSA or by contract with the CMA GSA. The Plan Manager and Legal Counsel may be, but need not be, officers, employees, or

representatives of one of the Members.

- 9.2 <u>Compensation</u>. The Plan Manager, staff, consultants, and Legal Counsel's compensation shall be determined by the Board.
- 9.3 <u>Duties</u>. The Plan Manager, staff, consultant and Legal Counsel shall serve at the pleasure of the Board. The Plan Manager shall be responsible to the Board for the property and efficient administration of the GSA and act as a point of contact for the GSA. The Plan Manager shall have the powers designated by the Board, and otherwise as set forth in the GSA Bylaws.
- 10.4 <u>Termination</u>. The Plan Manager shall serve until his/her resignation or until the Board terminates the Plan Manager's employment or contract.

### ARTICLE 10 GSA DIRECTOR MEETINGS

- 10.1 <u>Initial Meeting</u>. The initial meeting of the CMA GSA Board of Directors shall be called by the Chair Pro Tem and held within the boundaries of the CMA, within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date of this Agreement.
- 10.2 <u>Time and Place</u>. The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly, at a date, time, and place set by the Board, and at such other dates, times, and places as may be determined by the Board.
- 10.3 <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Chair or by a simple majority of Directors, in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950 et seq.).
- 10.4 <u>Conduct</u>. All meetings of the Board of Directors, including special meetings, and any meetings involving teleconferencing to the extent allowed by law, shall be noticed, held, and conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code section 54950 et seq.).
- 10.5 <u>Local Conflict of Interest Code</u>. The Board of Directors shall adopt a local conflict of interest code pursuant to the provisions of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Government Code section 81000 et seq.).

### ARTICLE 11 VOTING

11.1 Quorum. A quorum of any meeting of the Board of Directors shall consist of a majority of the Directors. In the absence of a quorum, any meeting of the Directors may be adjourned by a vote of the simple majority of Directors present, but no other business

may be transacted.

- 11.2 <u>Director Votes</u>. Voting by the Board of Directors shall be weighted as follows:
  - (a) The Director representing SYRWCD shall have one (1) vote; and
  - (b) The Director representing Buellton shall have one (1) vote; and
  - (c) The Director representing Santa Barbara shall be a non-voting member.

A Director, or an Alternate Director when acting in the absence of a Director, may vote on all matters of GSA business unless disqualified.

### 11.3 Decisions of the Board.

- (a) <u>Majority Approval</u>. Except as otherwise specified in Article 11.3(b), all decisions of the Board of Directors shall require the affirmative vote of more than 50 percent of the vote total in accordance with Article 11.2.
- (b) Supermajority Approval. Notwithstanding Article 11.3(a), a minimum 75 percent vote total in accordance with Article 11.2 shall be required to approve any of the following: (i) the annual budget; (ii) any substantive amendment to the CMA GSP; (iii) addition of new Members pursuant to Article 6.2; (iv) establishment and levying of any fee, charge, or assessment; (v) adoption or amendment of the GSA Bylaws; (vi) regulation, limitation, or suspension of extractions from groundwater wells; or (vii) issuance of bonds or other forms of indebtedness.

### ARTICLE 12 BYLAWS

13.1 The Board of Directors may approve and amend, as needed, Bylaws for the CMA GSA.

### ARTICLE 13 ACCOUNTING PRACTICES

- 13.1 <u>General</u>. The Board of Directors shall establish and maintain such funds and accounts as may be required by generally accepted public agency accounting practices. The CMA GSA shall maintain strict accountability of all funds and a report of all receipts and disbursements of the GSA. The GSA shall hire an independent auditor to audit its funds and accounts as required by law.
- 13.2 <u>Fiscal Year</u>. Unless the Board of Directors decides otherwise, the fiscal year for the CMA GSA shall run from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

# ARTICLE 14 BUDGET AND EXPENSES

- 14.1 <u>Budget</u>. The Board of Directors shall adopt an annual budget for the CMA GSA.
  - 14.2 GSA Funding and Contributions.
    - (a) For the purpose of funding the expenses and ongoing operations of the CMA GSA, the Board of Directors shall maintain a funding account in connection with the annual budget process.
    - (b) The CMA GSA may apply for grants and/or loans to fund a portion of the cost of implementing the CMA GSP as the Board may direct.
    - (c) The Board of Directors may accept Voluntary Contributions from Members or other persons or entities that are not subject to reimbursement by the GSA, and may accept Voluntary Contributions from Members or other persons or entities that are to be reimbursed by the GSA. The Board of Directors will execute a contract with any party making a Voluntary Contribution and such contract will contain the terms under which the CMA GSA accepts the Voluntary Contribution.
    - (d) The Board of Directors may pursue funding through any means allowable by law, including but not limited to fees and/or charges

pursuant to Water Code sections 10730, et seq.

(e) To the extent other funds are not available to pay CMA GSA expenses set forth in the annual budget adopted pursuant to Article 14.1, each Member will pay the following percentage of such expenses:

SYWRCD: 50%
Buellton: 50%
Santa Barbara: 0%

- (f) The GSA will apply funds available in the funding account to CMA GSA expenses identified in the annual budget adopted pursuant to Article 14.1, in the following order:
  - (i) Voluntary Contributions not subject to reimbursement by the GSA
  - (ii) Grant funds
  - (iii) Revenue generated from fees/charges
  - (iv) Bond proceeds from any bonds issued pursuant to this Agreement
  - (v) Voluntary Contributions subject to reimbursement by the GSA
  - (vi) Direct payments from Members made pursuant to Article 14.2(e).
- 14.3 <u>Issuance of Indebtedness</u>. The GSA may issue bonds, notes, or other forms of indebtedness, provided such issuance is approved at a meeting of the Board of Directors by supermajority vote in accordance with Article 11.3(b).

### ARTICLE 15 LIABILITIES

- 15.1 <u>Liability</u>. In accordance with Government Code section 6508.1, the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the CMA GSA, other than any retirement liabilities if it contracts with a public retirement system, shall be the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the GSA alone, and not of any of the Members individually or jointly.
- 15.2 <u>Indemnity</u>. The CMA GSA, and those persons, agencies, consultants, entities, and instrumentalities used by it to perform the functions authorized by this Agreement, SGMA, and other applicable law, whether by contract, employment, or otherwise, shall be exclusively liable for any and all injuries, costs, expenses, claims, suits, actions, proceedings, losses, liabilities, damages, judgments, or other obligations of whatever kind arising from or related to activities of the GSA. The GSA agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless each Member, each Director and Alternate, and each Member's governing board, officers, officials, representatives, agents, and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, actions, arbitration proceedings, administrative proceedings, regulatory proceedings, losses, liabilities, damages, judgments, expenses, costs, including but not limited to attorney's fees, consultant' fees,

and expert fees, and/or other obligations of whatever kind arising from or related or attributable to the GSA or this Agreement ("Claims").

In addition to the foregoing, funds of the CMA GSA may be used to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the GSA, each Member, each Director and Alternate Director, and any officers, officials, agents, or employees of the GSA for their actions taken within the course and scope of their duties while acting on behalf of the GSA against any such Claims.

The Members do not intend hereby to be obligated either jointly or severally for any Claims or any other debts, liabilities, or obligations of the GSA, except as may be specifically provided for in Government Code section 895.2. Provided, however, if any Member(s) of the GSA are held liable for the acts or omissions of the GSA, such parties shall be entitled to contribution from the other Members pursuant to Government Code section 895.4 so that after said contributions each Member shall bear such liability in the proportions set forth in Article 14.2(e).

15.3 <u>Insurance</u>. The CMA GSA may procure appropriate policies of insurance providing coverage to the GSA and its Directors, Alternate Directors, officers, officials, agents, and employees for general liability, errors and omissions, property, workers compensation, and any other coverage the Board deems appropriate. Such policies shall, if feasible, name the Members as additional insureds.

# ARTICLE 16 WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERS

- 16.1 <u>Unilateral Withdrawal</u>. Any Member may unilaterally withdraw from this Agreement without causing or requiring termination of this Agreement, effective upon thirty (30) days written notice to the Board of Directors and all other Members.
- 16.2 <u>Termination of Agreement and GSA</u>. This Agreement and the CMA GSA established under this Agreement may be terminated by unanimous written consent of all Members, except during the outstanding term of any CMA GSA indebtedness.
- 16.3 Effect of Withdrawal or Termination. After the effective date of withdrawal, any Member who withdraws from the GSA shall have no right to participate in the business and affairs of the GSA, except through public participation, and shall have no right to exercise any rights of a Member under this Agreement. Provided, however, that nothing contained in this Article 16.3 shall be construed as affecting a withdrawing Member's right to reimbursement from the GSA in accordance with Article 14 or any agreement between the GSA and the withdrawing Member. Provided further, that notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing contained in this Article 16.3 shall be construed as prohibiting a Member that has withdrawn from the GSA to become a separate groundwater sustainability agency within its jurisdiction in accordance with SGMA. Nothing in this section shall be construed as obligating the CMA GSA to consent to

formation or designation of another GSA for any portion of the Basin.

16.4 Return of Contribution. Upon termination of this Agreement, and to the extent a successor public entity is established which will carry on the functions of the CMA GSA and assume its assets, the assets of the GSA shall be transferred to the successor public entity. If there is no successor public entity which will carry on the functions of the GSA, then, subject to the requirements of Article 14, any assets on-hand shall be returned to the Members in proportion to their payment obligations in Article 14.2(e) and the Board of Directors shall first offer any property, works, rights, and interests of the GSA for sale to the Members on terms and conditions determined by the Board of Directors. If any property, works, rights, and interests of the GSA remain after first being offered for sale to the Members, the Board of Directors shall then offer the property, works, rights, and interests of the GSA for sale to any non-Member for good and adequate consideration. Subject to the requirements of Article 14, the net proceeds from any such sales shall be distributed among the Members in proportion to their payment obligations in Article 14.2(e). The Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, determine whether an entity constitutes a successor public entity under this paragraph.

### ARTICLE 17 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 17.1 <u>Notices</u>. Notices to a Member shall be sufficient if delivered to the clerk or secretary of the respective Member's governing body and addressed to the Member at the address noted on the signature page or at such other address or to such other person that the Member may designate in accordance with this Article. Delivery may be accomplished by personal delivery, with postage prepaid by first class mail, registered or certified mail, express courier, facsimile, or electronic mail (email). The date of receipt of the notice shall be the date of actual personal service or three days after the postmark on certified mail.
- 17.2 <u>Amendments to Agreement</u>. This Agreement may be amended or modified at any time only by subsequent written agreement approved and executed by all of the Members.
- Agreement Complete. This Agreement constitutes the full and complete agreement of the Members with respect to the matters set forth by this Agreement. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, whether in writing or oral, related to the subject matter of this Agreement that are not set forth in writing. Notwithstanding this paragraph, this Agreement does not alter the parties' obligations under the Intra-Basin Administrative Agreement for Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, dated February 26, 2020. In regards to the 2017 MOA, as soon as DWR accepts this Agreement and the CMA GSA formed hereunder as the governing GSA for the Central Management Area of the Basin, then this Agreement will supersede the 2017 MOA in its entirety and this Agreement and the CMA GSA formed hereunder will take over all activities as the

governing GSA for the Central Management Area of the Basin.

- 17.4 <u>Severability</u>. Should any part, term, or provision of this Agreement be decided by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any applicable federal law or any law of the State of California, or otherwise be rendered unenforceable or ineffectual, the validity of the remaining parts, terms, or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby, provided however, that if the remaining parts, terms, or provisions do not comply with the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, this Agreement shall terminate.
- 17.5 <u>Withdrawal by Operation of Law</u>. Should the participation of any Member to this Agreement be decided by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in excess of that Member's authority or in conflict with any law, resulting in the withdrawal of such Member from this Agreement, the validity of this Agreement as to the remaining Members shall not be affected thereby.
- 17.6 <u>Assignment</u>. The rights and duties of the Members may not be assigned or delegated without the written consent of all other Members. Any attempt to assign or delegate such rights or duties in contravention of this Agreement shall be null and void.
- 17.7 <u>Binding on Successors</u>. Subject to Article 17.6, this Agreement shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the successor of any Member.
- 17.8 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 17.9 <u>Member Authorization</u>. The governing bodies of the Members have each authorized execution of this Agreement and all signatories to this Agreement warrant and represent that they have the power and authority to enter into this Agreement in the names, titles, and capacities stated herein and on behalf of the respective Members.
- 17.10 <u>No Third Party Beneficiary</u>. Except as expressly set forth herein, this Agreement is not intended to benefit any person or entity not a party hereto.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** the Members have executed this Agreement to be effective on the date executed by the last Member as set forth in Article 4.1.

CITY OF BUELLTON A California Municipal Corporation	SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
3745 Constellation Road Lompoc, California 93436-1401	P.O. Box 719 Santa Ynez, CA 93460
Lompoc, Camornia 93450-1401	Santa Thez, CA 93400
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:
By:	By:
(Print name)	(Print name)
City Attorney, City of Buellton	(Title)
Date:	Date:
By:	_
(Print name)	_
Mayor, City of Buellton	
Date:	_
ATTEST:	
By:	_
(Print name)	<u> </u>
City Clerk, City of Buellton	
Date:	_

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

By: <u>(Signature on following page)</u>

ATTEST: INSERT NAME County Executive Officer Clerk of the Board, Ex Officio Clerk of the Santa Barbara County Water Agency	SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WATER AGENCY:		
By: Deputy Clerk	By:  Chair, Board of Directors		
Deputy Clerk	Date:		
RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:	APPROVED AS TO FORM:		
Santa Barbara County Water Agency	Risk Management		
By: Department Head	By: Risk Management		
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	APPROVED AS TO ACCOUNTING FORM:		
INSERT NAME	INSERT NAME		
County Counsel	Auditor-Controller		
By:	By:		
Deputy County Counsel	Deputy		