

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**IN THE MATTER OF CONCERN  
REGARDING A PROLONGED  
WATER SUPPLY SHORTAGE  
WITHIN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

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**WHEREAS**, on January 17, 2014, the Director of Emergency Services of the County of Santa Barbara proclaimed a Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions within Santa Barbara County and on January 21, 2014, the Board of Supervisors found that conditions of extreme peril warranted and necessitated the ratification of the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, since that time, Santa Barbara County, and much of California endured prolonged serious drought conditions that extended up to this year; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2017 water year in Santa Barbara County was above average rainfall, and the current water year is well above average rainfall, which has improved local hydrological conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, due to improved hydrologic conditions, the Board of Supervisors on this date, March 19, 2019 terminated the Proclamation of a Drought Emergency in Santa Barbara County; and

**WHEREAS**, the cumulative effect of the seven year drought on local water supplies has been extreme. It will take several years for critical ground water sources to fully recover, and thus County water purveyors still have a water supply shortage; and

**WHEREAS**, despite the termination of the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions, ongoing water conservation efforts by the public is necessary to save our critical supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change will likely lead to more prolonged droughts and hotter average temperatures; and

**WHEREAS**, the recent drought has exposed the vulnerability of supplies on the South Coast in that surface water supplies, including Lake Cachuma, and the State Water Project, no longer have the ability to supply what they historically have; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 11, 2017, the Board of Supervisors joined with the County major water purveyor governing bodies to recognize the impacts of long term droughts in the County by approving resolutions to support the local Action Working Group's Proposal to the State Drought Task Force. The Proposal identified three projects that will help to secure additional water for the region and three projects that will protect the existing water supply in the region; and

**WHEREAS**, the South Coast Water Purveyors and the County need to work together on the ongoing need for conservation and work to ensure current supplies can last through future droughts, while also seeking long term water supply security through long term yields of existing supplies and adding new supplies as needed.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED AND RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara determine that a critical water supply shortage still exists in Southern Santa Barbara County and urges all residents throughout the County to continue conserving water now and into the future and that water purveyors continue their efforts to improve water security from future droughts.

Resolution of Concern Regarding Prolonged Water Supply Storage within  
Santa Barbara County

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**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa  
Barbara, State of California this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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STEVE LAVAGNINO, CHAIR  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:  
MONA MIYASATO  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
MICHAEL C. GHIZZONI  
COUNTY COUNSEL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
ROBERT LEWIN  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



By \_\_\_\_\_