

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

**IN THE MATTER OF RE-RATIFICATION  
OF PROCLAMATION OF THE  
EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
CAUSED BY DROUGHT CONDITIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-70**

**WHEREAS**, Government Code, Sections 8558 and 8630, *et seq.*, empower the Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and

**WHEREAS**, Government Code, Sections 8558 and 8630, *et seq.*, and Chapter 12 of the Santa Barbara County Code empower the Director of Emergency Services to request the Board of Supervisors to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the County is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity when the Board of Supervisors is in session; and

**WHEREAS**, drought conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the County of Santa Barbara; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2019, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors passed Resolution 19-93 Concern Regarding Prolonged Water Supply Shortage within Santa Barbara County, which recognized the long-term impacts of that drought and the need for Water Purveyors, the County and its residents to continue to work together to conserve and to improve water security from future droughts; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 8, 2021, the US Small Business Administration and the US Department of Agriculture declared the County of Santa Barbara and 10 other counties to be Agricultural Disaster areas due to drought intensity levels as identified by the US Drought Monitor, therefore providing technical and fiscal assistance to agricultural businesses and non-profits; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 8, 2021, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist due to drought conditions in the County of Santa Barbara; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 8, 2021, the Governor issued Executive Order N-10-21 calling on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels, and setting forth commonsense measures that can be undertaken to save water and money; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order N-10-21 directed State agencies, led by the California Department of Water Resources and in coordination with local agencies, to encourage actions by all Californians, whether in their residential, industrial, commercial, agricultural, or institutional use, to

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reduce water usage, including through the statewide Save Our Water conservation campaign at SaveOurWater.com, which provides simple ways for Californians to reduce water use in their everyday lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the Executive Order N-10-21 directed the State Department of Water Resources to monitor hydrologic conditions such as cumulative precipitation, reservoir storage levels, soil moisture and other metrics, and for the State Water Resources Control Board to monitor progress on voluntary conservation as ongoing indicators of water supply risk that may inform future drought response actions; and

**WHEREAS**, there are reduced supplies available from the State Water Project, local surface supplies, and groundwater for most water agencies in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, reliance on the State water system as the primary source of water for many parts of the County leaves the County vulnerable to water outages and shortages; and

**WHEREAS**, most of California is also under a State drought emergency, making availability of additional supplies costly if available in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Santa Barbara's Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant is operational and producing drinking water for the City of Santa Barbara. The facility has the capacity to produce nearly 3 million gallons of water per day, which is equivalent to 3,125 acre-feet of water annually; and

**WHEREAS**, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies have been established within Santa Barbara County, and many of these basins have water levels at or near historical lows due to extended drought; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 13, 2021, the Board of Supervisors found that conditions of extreme peril warranted and necessitated a Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, Government Code Section 8630(c) requires the Board of Supervisors to review the need for the continued existence of a Proclamation of Local Emergency at least every 60 days and Government Code Section 8630(d) requires termination of a Proclamation of Local Emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant; and

**WHEREAS**, drought conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property in Santa Barbara County persist, and warrant the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that the conditions warranting a Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions exist; and

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**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that the Board of Supervisors will review the need for the continued existence of a Proclamation of Local Emergency at least every 60 days; and

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that the Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions will be terminated at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

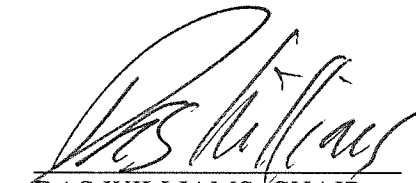
**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California this 4th day of April, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Williams, Capps, Hartmann, Nelson and Lavagnino

NOES: None


ABSTAIN: None

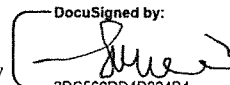
ABSENT: None

  
DAS WILLIAMS, CHAIR  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

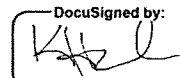
**ATTEST:**  
MONA MIYASATO  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
RACHEL VAN MULLEM  
COUNTY COUNSEL

By:   
Deputy

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Deputy

KELLY HUBBARD  
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

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