



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: County Counsel
Department No.: 0710
For Agenda Of: August 20, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Rachel Van Mullem, County Counsel, (805) 568-2950
Director(s)
Contact Info: Bo Bae, Deputy County Counsel, (805) 568-2950
SUBJECT: **Proposed Conflict of Interest Code of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve the proposed Conflict of Interest Code of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency; and
- b) Determine that the above action is an organizational or administrative activity of the government that will not result in direct or indirect changes in the environment and is therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

The Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency submits its proposed Conflict of Interest Code to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The Board is designated as the “code reviewing body” for independent districts and agencies with jurisdiction wholly within the County. When approved by the Board, the Conflict of Interest Code of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency is deemed adopted. (Gov. Code, §§ 82011, subd. (b); 87303.)

Background:

The Political Reform Act of 1974 requires every local agency to:

- 1) Adopt and promulgate a conflict of interest code setting forth the disclosure and disqualification requirements of designated positions;

- 2) Review its code for changes necessitated by changed circumstances biennially; and
- 3) Submit its proposed code or code amendments or revisions to the code reviewing body. (Gov. Code, §§ 82011, subd. (b); 87300; 87302; 87306.5, subd. (a).)

The Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Agency”) is a newly created local agency formed under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Water Code, § 10720 et seq.) on November 28, 2023. The Agency adopted its proposed Conflict of Interest Code through its Board of Directors on May 22, 2024.

Special Instructions:

Please forward a copy of the minute order reflecting the Board’s action to the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency and Deputy County Counsel Bo Bae.

Attachments:

Attachment A—Conflict of Interest Code, Final Version

Attachment B—May 22, 2024, Resolution No. WMA-2024-02 of the Board of Directors

Authored by:

Deputy County Counsel Bo Bae

cc:

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency