## RESOLUTION NO. 2021-04 OF THE CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

## AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER BOARD FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 26, 2021

- 1. **WHEREAS,** the Chino Basin Watermaster (Watermaster) is committed to preserving and fostering public access and participation in meetings of Watermaster Board (Watermaster Meetings), consistent with its policy to generally operate in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54950 *et seq.*) (Brown Act), so that any member of the public may attend and participate as the Watermaster conducts its business; and
- 2. **WHEREAS,** the Brown Act contains special provisions for remote teleconference participation in meetings when the Governor has declared a state of emergency pursuant to Government Code section 8625, and either state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or an in-person meeting would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees (Gov. Code § 54953(e)); and
- 3. **WHEREAS**, such conditions now exist within the County of San Bernardino (County). On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic. As an arm of the court, Watermaster has followed guidance issued by the County Superior Court. On July 21, 2021, the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, the Honorable Michael A. Sachs issued the Fourth Amendment to General Order: Face Coverings and Social Distance, requiring face coverings at all times indoors. Although the General Order does not require social distancing, the County Superior Court required social distancing until its June 30, 2021 Third Amendment to General Order: Face Coverings and Social Distance. Social distancing is also a known and effective method in reducing the spread of COVID-19.
- 4. **WHEREAS,** Watermaster finds that the current situation with regard to COVID-19, and particularly the Delta variant, is causing, and will continue to cause, risks to the safety of persons within the County and finds that Watermaster shall conduct Watermaster Meetings with remote teleconference participation in the manner authorized by Government Code Section 54953, subdivision (e) and in compliance with the requirements to provide public access in Government Code Section 54953, subdivision (e)(2); and

## 5. NOW THEREFORE, WATERMASTER DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

- **Section 1.** Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.
- **Section 2.** Affirmation that Local Emergency Conditions Persist. The Watermaster Board hereby considers the conditions of the state of emergency in the Chino Basin and finds that local emergency conditions persist throughout the Chino Basin, and due to the high transmission rate of the Delta variant, risk to unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals, greater risk of transmission at indoor gatherings, and significant increase in the County's number of COVID-19 cases since June, meeting in person could present imminent risk to the health and safety of Board members and the public.

**Section 3.** Remote Teleconference Meetings. shall conduct Watermaster Meetings with remote teleconference participation in the manner authorized by Government Code Section 54953, subdivision (e), and in compliance with the requirements to provide public access in Government Code Section 54953, subdivision (e)(2).

**Section 4.** Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of November 26, 2021, or such time as Watermaster adopts a resolution in accordance with Government Code Section 54953, subdivision (e)(3) to extend the time during which meetings may continue to be held via remote teleconference in compliance with that section.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Chino Basin Watermaster Board, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021, by the following vote:

APPROVED:

By:

Board Chair

Chino Basih Watermaster

ATTEST:

By:

Board Secretary/Treasurer Chino Basin Watermaster

| STATE OF CA | ALIFORNIA              | )  |
|-------------|------------------------|--|
| COUNTY OF   | SAN BERNARDINO         | ) ss<br>)  |
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|             | RTIFY that the foregoi | , Secretary/Treasurer of the Chino Basin Watermaster, DO ng Resolution being No. 2021-04, was adopted at a regular aster Board on October 28, 2021, by the following vote: |
| AYES:       | 9                      |  |
| NOES:       | 0                      |  |
| ABSENT:     | 0                      |  |
| ABSTAIN:    | 0                      |  |
|             |                        |  |
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|             |                        | CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  |
|             |                        | Watermaster Board Secretary/Treasurer  |
|             |                        |  |
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