RESOLUTION NO. 2022-04 OF THE CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER BOARD FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 24 – APRIL 23, 2022

- 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. As of March 24, 2022, the County Superior Court has encouraged all court users to access remote service options to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and strongly recommends the use of face coverings in court facilities.
- 4. **WHEREAS,** Watermaster finds that the current situation with regard to COVID-19 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. <u>Recitals.</u> The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. <u>Affirmation that Local Emergency Conditions Persist.</u> 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 Omicron 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 December, meeting in person could present risk to the health and safety of Board members and the public.

Section 3. <u>Remote Teleconference Meetings</u>. 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. <u>Effective Date.</u> This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of April 23, 2022, 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 24th day of March 2022, by the following vote:

APPROVED: By: Board Chair Chino Basin Watermaster ATTEST: By: Board Secretary/Treasurer Chino Basin Watermaster

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

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I, <u>Bob Kuhn</u>, Secretary/Treasurer of the Chino Basin Watermaster, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution being No. 2022-04, was adopted at a regular meeting of the Chino Basin Watermaster Board on March 24, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: 9

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

Watermaster Board Secretary/Treasurer

4/29/2022 Date: