

RESOLUTION NO.: 001-2021

Dated: October 28, 2021

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION AND ON BEHALF OF GROUPS AND COMMITTEES CREATED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY EXECUTIVE ORDER N-25-20, MARCH 4, 2020 AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS IN COMPLIANCE WITH ASSEMBLY BILL 361 TO CONTINUE TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SAFELY PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF THE RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION FOR OCTOBER 28, 2021 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of RRWA's Board and Advisory Committee are open and public, as guided by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the Board and Technical Working Group conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, a proclamation is made when there is an actual incident, threat of disaster, or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the jurisdictions that are within the Association's boundaries, caused by natural, technological, or human-caused disasters; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the watershed, specifically, a state of

emergency exists in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19 and subsequent variants;
and

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Public Health Officer's Order C19-25 requires mandatory face coverings be worn indoors, and public health guidelines recommend maintaining 3-6 feet between individuals and recommend that people in congregate settings are either vaccinated or show proof of a negative COVID test taken within 72 hours of congregating; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors does hereby find that COVID-19 exposure has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons within the watershed that are likely to be beyond the control of services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the Association, and desires to proclaim a local emergency and ratify the proclamation of state of emergency by the Governor of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the local emergency, the Board of Directors does hereby find that the legislative bodies of RRWA shall conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e) of section 54953, and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

WHEREAS, RRWA makes all agendas and materials available online, and provides free access to meetings via telephone or Zoom, and persons requiring additional assistance to access meetings may contact the Administrator to request reasonable accommodations.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RRWA 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. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Board hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the watershed, and

Section 3. Ratification of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The Board hereby ratifies the Governor of the State of California's Proclamation of State of Emergency, effective as of its issuance date of March 4, 2020

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The Administrator and legislative bodies of RRWA are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of (i) October 28, 2021, or such time as the Board

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of Directors adopts a subsequent resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of RRWA may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Russian River Watershed Association, this 28 day of October 2021, by the following vote:

MEMBERS:

Mulheren: Hinton: Rodin: Cruz-Concepción: Jimenez:

Salmon: Alvarez: Ford: DuBay: Garayalde:

AYES: 7 NOES: 0 ABSENT: 3 ABSTAIN: 0

SO ORDERED

The within instrument is a correct copy of the original on file with this office.

ATTEST:

DATE: October 28, 2021

Maureen Mulheren

Chair, Board of Directors of the Russian River Watershed Association