

**WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FINDING PROCLAIMED
STATE OF EMERGENCY AND THAT MEETING IN PERSON WOULD
PRESENT IMMINENT RISKS TO THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF
ATTENDEES; AND RE-AUTHORIZING MEETINGS BY
TELECONFERENCE OF LEGISLATIVE BODIES**

WHEREAS, the Restructured Agreement for Water Supply (RA), was executed on June 23, 2006, by and between the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA), the Cities of Cotati, Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sonoma and Forestville, the North Marin and Valley of the Moon Water Districts and the Town of Windsor; and

WHEREAS, the Restructured Agreement defines Water Contractors as the signatories to the Restructured Agreement except SCWA and Forestville and creates the Water Advisory Committee (WAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the WAC is to perform the functions specified in the Restructured Agreement and to consider and make recommendations to SCWA on important matters impacting significant budget outlays, changes in level of service, as well as water policy and water management issues, and in so doing the WAC functions in the same manner as a local agency legislative body; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the Water Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Committee are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code Section 54950, *et seq*, and any member of the public may observe, attend, and participate in the business of such legislative bodies; and

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

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency due to the outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19) and that State of Emergency is still in effect in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Public Health Officer continues to recommend teleconferencing or social distancing during public meetings of all legislative bodies to protect the community's health against the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the WAC, acting as a legislative body pursuant to Government Code section 54952(a), finds that the current conditions meet the circumstances set forth in Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to allow Legislative Bodies to continue to use teleconferencing to hold open and public meetings if the Legislative Bodies comply with the requirements set forth in Government Code section 54953(e)(2) to ensure the public can safely participate in and observe local government meetings.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Water Advisory Committee as follows:

1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and hereby incorporated into this Resolution.
2. Current Conditions Authorize Teleconference Public Meetings of Legislative Bodies. Based on the California Governor's continued declaration of a State of Emergency and the Sonoma County Public Health Officer's recommendation to continue teleconferencing or social distancing during public meetings, the WAC finds that the conditions continue to exist pursuant to Government Code section 5453(e)(3) to allow legislative bodies to use teleconferencing to hold public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(2) to ensure members of the public have continued access to safely observe and participate in local government meetings.
3. Authorize WAC to Conduct Teleconference Meetings. The WAC is hereby authorized 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)(2) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

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ADOPTED this 7th day of February, 2022 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN: