



## Resolution 2019-19

A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the  
Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

### Selecting, Approving, and Adopting the College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project

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The Board of Directors of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency does resolve as follows:

**Section 1. Procedural Findings.** The Board of Directors of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (“Agency”) does hereby find, determine, and declare that:

A. The Agency was formed, among other reasons, to provide integrated management of the ground and surface water resources within the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Basin (“Pajaro Basin”). As the sole local agency responsible for the integrated management of water resources for the Pajaro Basin, the Agency bears responsibility for the management and augmentation of water supplies for domestic, agricultural, municipal and industrial purposes.

B. In 1994, the Agency adopted a long-term Basin Management Plan (“BMP”) which identified various water supply projects involving local water sources and importation of supplemental water, to balance water demands with water supplies in the Pajaro Basin. In 2002, the Agency adopted a revised BMP.

C. In 2010, the Agency formed an Ad Hoc BMP Committee to develop a further updated BMP that would include a portfolio of projects and programs to address the problems of seawater intrusion and basin overdraft in the Pajaro Basin. This work resulted in the Agency’s adoption in 2014 of an updated BMP (“BMP Update”).

D. In 2015, the Agency elected to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and in 2019, the California Department of Water Resources notified the Agency that it had approved the BMP Update and associated documents as functionally equivalent to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

E. Throughout much of the Pajaro Basin, groundwater levels have declined as a result of long-term groundwater overdraft. Overdraft conditions result in seawater intrusion, groundwater quality degradation, and groundwater storage depletion. To address these circumstances, and in furtherance of the BMP Update, the College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project (“Project”) was developed. The primary purposes of the Project are to help balance the groundwater basin, prevent further seawater intrusion, and meet water supply needs in the Agency’s service area by developing College Lake as a water storage and supply source.

F. The Project is located in the City of Watsonville and portions of unincorporated Santa Cruz County. Project components include a weir structure and intake pump station, a water treatment plant, and an approximately 5.5-mile long pipeline to convey water from the water treatment plant to the City of Watsonville Recycled Water Facility and to the Agency’s Coastal Distribution System. On average, the Project would generally supply approximately 1,800 to 2,300 acre-feet per year of water to

growers in the Pajaro Valley.

G. The Project was processed, including but not limited to all public notices, in the time and manner prescribed by State and local law, including the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code § 21000, *et seq.* (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines, 14. Cal. Code Regs. § 15000, *et seq.* On October 16, 2019, the Agency’s Board of Directors, at a duly noticed public hearing, considered the Final Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) prepared for the Project, and certified it in Resolution 2019-19, including adopting written findings, adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and adopting a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

H. A notice of public hearing describing the Project, the date, time, and location of the public hearing was published and posted in compliance with all legal requirements.

I. Prior to taking action, the Agency Board of Directors has heard, been presented with, reviewed, and considered the information and data in the administrative record regarding the Project, including staff reports and presentations, and all oral and written testimony presented during the public hearing on the Project.

J. The Agency’s General Manager is the custodian of records, and the documents and other materials that constitute the record of proceedings upon which this decision is based are located at the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, 36 Brennan Street, Watsonville, California, 95076.

**Section 2. Substantive Findings.** The Board of Directors of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency does hereby:

A. Declare that the above Procedural Findings are true and correct, and incorporate them herein by this reference.

B. Select, approve, and adopt the Project as described in the Final EIR.

C. Impose as a condition on the Project each mitigation measure specified in Exhibit C to Resolution 2019-18, and direct Agency staff to implement and to monitor the mitigation measures as described in Exhibit C.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this **16th** day of **October, 2019** by the following vote:

**AYES:** Newell, Culbertson, Zamora, Bannister, Broz  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** Bussey  
**ABSTAIN:** None

  
Amy Newell, Chair

**Attest:**

  
Laura R. Taay, Board Secretary