RESOLUTION NO. 04-2021

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CABAZON WATER DISTRICT AUTHORIZING VIRTUAL BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361

WHEREAS, the Cabazon Water District ("District") is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings of the District's legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963), so that any member of the public may attend and participate in the District's meetings; and

WHEREAS, starting in March 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19 in the State of California, the Governor issued a number of executive orders aimed at containing the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, among other things, these orders waived certain requirements of the Brown Act to allow legislative bodies to meet virtually; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Governor's executive orders, the District has been holding virtual meetings during the pandemic in the interest of protecting the health and safety of the public, District staff and Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's executive order related to the suspension of certain provisions of the Brown Act expires on September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021 the Governor signed AB 361 (in effect as of October 1, 2021 – Government Code Section 54953(e)), which allows legislative bodies to meet virtually provided there is a state of emergency, and either (1) state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; or (2) the legislative body determines by majority vote that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, such conditions now exist in the District, specifically, a state of emergency has been proclaimed related to COVID-19, state or local officials are recommending measures to promote social distancing, and because of the ongoing threat of COVID-19, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CABAZON WATER DISTRICT 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. Remote Teleconference Meetings: Consistent with the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e), the Board of Directors finds and determines that (1) a state of emergency related to COVID-19 is currently in effect; (2) state or local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19; and (3) due to the COVID-19 emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees. Based on such facts, findings and determinations, the Board authorizes staff to conduct remote teleconference meetings of the Board of Directors, including Committee meetings, under the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e).

Section 3. <u>Effective Date of Resolution</u>. This Resolution shall take effect upon adoption and shall be effective for 30 days unless earlier extended by a majority vote of the Board of Directors in accordance with Section 4 of this Resolution.

Section 4. Extension by Motion. The Board of Directors may extend the application of this Resolution by motion and majority vote by up to 30 days at a time, provided that it makes all necessary findings consistent with and pursuant to the requirements of Section 54953(e)(3).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Cabazon Water District this 16th day of November 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTOR SANDERSON, DIRECTOR MORRIS DIRECTOR TINCHER, DIRECTOR WARGO, DIRECTOR

NOES: NONE.

ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Sarah Wargo

Vice Board Chair

Cabazon Water District

Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Evelyn Aguilar Board Secretary

Cabazon Water District