

**Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD) and the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) hereby resolve to work cooperatively on the development of an agreement for the Integrated Use of Surface Water and Groundwater to promote efficient water use, water conservation and beneficial uses throughout the CMWD District.**

**Resolution No. 2017-4**

Whereas, the Casitas Municipal Water District, which encompasses the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management area in its entirety, and the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency both have come to the realization that a more effective means to cooperatively utilize groundwater and surface water conjunctively for all beneficial uses of our shared resources is needed, and

Whereas, the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Act of 1991 (SB 534) includes provision for Conjunctive Use of surface and ground water, and

Whereas, Section 307 of the Act, defines "Conjunctive use" to mean "the coordinated operation of groundwater and surface water supplies. Conjunctive use includes increased groundwater use or decreased groundwater replenishment with surface water supplies in years when surface supplies are less than normal and, in years of more abundant surface supplies, the increased use of surface water in lieu of groundwater, either to allow groundwater levels to recover or to replenish artificial groundwater supplies. Conjunctive use also includes long term storage of water in the basin," and

Whereas, Section 604(b) of the Act states that the Groundwater Management Plan the agency is required to adopt pursuant to Section 601 "shall investigate options of operating the basin to provide an increased ability to capture, recharge and maximize reasonable uses by fully utilizing the available ground water supply. The options may include the conjunctive operation of the basin with Casitas reservoir," and

Whereas, Conjunctive use began unofficially within Casitas Municipal Water District's (CMWD) boundaries when the Ventura River Project (Casitas Dam and appurtenances) became operational resulting in cost efficient water being available from Lake Casitas (circa 1961) thereby allowing agricultural and M&I interests alike to chose groundwater or surface water depending on economics and basin conditions, and

Whereas, the CMWD's Urban Water Management Plan mentions Conjunctive Use in Table 7-1 List of Efficient Water Management Practices Number 8 Conditional EWMP, and the UWMP states in part at Section 7.4.2.8, "Conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water is the planned balanced use of both types of water, so that the supplies and use of both types of water can be maximized," and

Whereas, CMWD acquired on June 8, 2017 the privately held local Golden State Water Company facilities and service area by eminent domain action, this purchase ushers in a new era of surface and groundwater conjunctive use possibilities, and

Whereas, both CMWD and OBGMA make annual evaluations of surface water and ground water respectively, and

Whereas, CMWD evaluates the Lake Casitas water level and establishes the appropriate stage of the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP) and sets allocation numbers for each category of water customer in April or May annually, and

Whereas, CMWD's WEAP and allocation numbers include demand reduction requirements for each category of water use customer, and

Whereas, OBGMA evaluates the springtime high groundwater level of the Ojai Groundwater Basin in May or June, depending on basin conditions from well monitoring, and estimates the capacity of the groundwater in the basin, and expects, as a measure to implement the requirements of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Plan update of 2017, to establish pumping regimes for well owners on an annual basis, and

Whereas, the thresholds and triggers for pumping regimes could range from advisory to mandatory based on basin conditions and all beneficial uses, and

Whereas, by coordinating the actions of CMWD and OBGMA, the two agencies can better manage integrated groundwater/surface water use, which in turn will improve water conservation and provide for the protection of all beneficial uses in the water service areas, and

Whereas, the coordinated development of a plan for integrated use of surface water and groundwater will be included in the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Plan Update of 2017.

Now, therefore be it resolved, CMWD and OBGMA hereby agree to work cooperatively on the development of an agreement for the Integrated Use of Surface Water and Groundwater to promote efficient water use, water conservation and beneficial uses throughout the CMWD District for the combined health of Lake Casitas and the Ojai Basin and the beneficial uses of both.

APPROVED by the Board of Directors of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency this 24th day of August of 2017.

*(u)* *Russ Baggerly*  
Dan Breen, President

*Cece VanDerMeer*, ATTEST  
Cece VanDerMeer, Secretary

*Russ Baggerly, VICE PRESIDENT*

Roll Call Vote: Yes or No  
Peter Thielke Mutual Water Companies  
Russ Baggerly Casitas Municipal District  
Johnny Johnston City of Ojai  
Emily Ayala Ojai Water Conservation District  
(Seat Vacant) Golden State Water Company

*yes*  
*yes*  
*yes*  
*yes*  
*yes*

*Jim Fench*