STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2024-0037

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH THE CALIFORNIA WATER COMMISSION TO REIMBURSE THE STATE WATER BOARD FOR STAFFING COSTS IN SUPPORT OF ACCELERATED PROCESSING OF WATER RIGHT APPLICATIONS OR PETITIONS FOR WATER STORAGE INVESTMENT PROGRAM PROJECTS

WHEREAS:

- The Governor's April 29, 2019 <u>Executive Order N-10-19</u> directed the development of the Water Resilience Portfolio (WRP) Report, which includes recommendations and future actions to implement the Executive Order, including Proposal 7.1 to accelerate state permitting of projects that protect and enhance fish and wildlife and water supply reliability that were selected under the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP).
- 2. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) is responsible for the administration of water rights in California. (Wat. Code, § 174.) The California Water Commission (CWC), which administers the WSIP, has approved conditional funding for multiple projects. Many of the WSIP projects approved for conditional funding by the CWC must obtain approval of new water right applications or change petitions before the projects can move forward.
- 3. The State Water Board has pending actions and expects to receive additional WSIP-related water right applications and petitions; however, the State Water Board does not currently have the capacity to expedite WSIP applications and petitions without impacting existing permitting backlogs.
- 4. The State Water Board received two permanent positions, funded through a reimbursable interagency agreement with the CWC, to provide technical services to support the processing of WSIP water right permitting actions.
- 5. Additional contracting authority is required in order to extend the reimbursable agreement between the State Water Board and the CWC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

 Authorizes the Executive Director or designee to execute reimbursement agreements between the State Water Board and the CWC to support accelerated processing of water right requests for proposed projects under the WSIP.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on November 19, 2024.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel

Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo Board Member Sean Maguire Board Member Laurel Firestone Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board