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Date: October 8, 2024

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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4/5 Vote Required

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**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,  
And The Board Of Directors Of The Sonoma County Water Agency To Recognize The 75th  
Anniversary Of The Sonoma County Water Agency**

**Whereas**, on October 1, 1949, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors voted to establish the Sonoma County Flood Control and Water Conservation District following decades of catastrophic floods and the threat of declining groundwater, and

**WHEREAS**, the organization was renamed the Sonoma County Water Agency on April 2, 1968, and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water) manages and maintains a water transmission system that provides naturally filtered Russian River water to nine cities and special districts that in turn deliver drinking water to more than 600,000 residents in portions of Sonoma and Marin counties, and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma Water provides drinking water to the following cities and special districts: City of Cotati, Marin Municipal Water District, North Marin Water District, City of Petaluma, City of Rohnert Park, City of Santa Rosa, City of Sonoma, Valley of the Moon Water District and Town of Windsor, and

**WHEREAS**, in 1995, Sonoma Water assumed responsibility from the County of Sonoma for managing county sanitation zones and districts, which provide wastewater collection/treatment, and recycled water distribution/disposal services for approximately 22,000 residences and businesses, and

**WHEREAS**, in partnership with federal agencies, Sonoma Water built and now manages a variety of flood protection projects, including Warm Springs Dam, Spring Lake, Coyote Valley Dam, Matanzas Creek Reservoir, Piner Creek Reservoir and Brush Creek Reservoir, and also manages a proactive stream maintenance program that maintains more than 80 miles of creeks throughout its service area, and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma Water was the first in the nation to implement Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) with Lake Mendocino, leveraging data and advanced weather forecasting to develop a flexible water management approach that adds vital water supply, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, Sonoma Water investigated Community Choice Energy to allow one or more cities and/or counties to form a service area that provides for the option to purchase power generation from local sources that has a different electricity mix than that of the original investor-owned utility, resulting in the creation of Sonoma Clean Power, and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma Water is also an electricity producer with an enabling statute including the production of electrical power and owns hydroelectric and solar facilities which support Sonoma Water's core functions with renewable, carbon-free electricity, and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma Water is a leader in procuring power from projects and programs that minimize the emissions of greenhouse gases and has explored alternative renewable power sources and deployed cost-effective energy-conserving measures such as load shifting, plug-in hybrid vehicles, and LED lighting, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, Sonoma Water achieved the goal of operating a carbon-free water system by utilizing energy that comes from non-fossil fuel-based resources and actively analyzing its energy portfolio to reduce its energy and fuel needs through cost-effective strategies involving energy efficiency, renewable energy development, and power purchases from carbon free sources, and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma Water partners with local water suppliers to provide Water Use Efficiency programs that help save water by using it more efficiently and effectively, and

**WHEREAS**, since 1974, Sonoma Water has provided environmental services to improve the native fish resources of the Russian River and its tributaries by conducting and coordinating fishery enhancement projects, and

**WHEREAS**, since 2008, Sonoma Water has been implementing responses to the federal Biological Opinion for the Russian River, including an adaptive management plan for the Russian River Estuary Management Project, constructing six miles of salmon and steelhead habitat along

Dry Creek and by making improvements to the seismic stability of the Russian River Diversion Structure and Inflatable dam, the fish ladder, fish screens and viewing gallery, and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, Sonoma Water created its Climate Adaptation Plan to guide the assessment of climate risks to water supply, flood management, wastewater systems infrastructure and operations, and to serve as a roadmap for developing, evaluating, and implementing adaptation strategies to improve the resilience of its systems, and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma Water is a member of the North Bay Water Reuse Program, a regional water recycling initiative encompassing 350 square miles surrounding the San Francisco Bay and is a coordinated effort of 11 water and wastewater agencies working to develop recycled water to build capacity and resiliency into the region's water supply, and

**WHEREAS**, none of Sonoma Water's 75 years of accomplishments would have been possible without the concerted efforts of the dedicated professionals who have worked there throughout the years or who work there currently; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma and the Board of Directors of the Sonoma County Water Agency honor and celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sonoma Water.

**Supervisors / Directors:**

Gorin:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

**So Ordered.**