



# County of Sonoma

## State of California

Date: December 16, 2025

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

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

4/5 Vote Required

### **Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, Approving the Amended Conflict of Interest Code for the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

**Whereas**, the Political Reform Act, Government Code section 81000 et seq. requires state and local government agencies to adopt conflict of interest codes; and

**Whereas**, state law requires every agency shall amend its conflict of interest code when change is necessitated by changed circumstances, including the creation of new positions which must be designated and relevant changes in the duties assigned to existing positions; and

**Whereas**, the Board of Supervisors is the code reviewing body for agencies within the geographic jurisdiction of the County, and charged with the responsibility of ensuring that the amended codes comply with law; and

**Whereas**, the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency has proposed an amendment to update its code to comply with a change in state law; and

**Whereas**, County Counsel has reviewed the amended code and determined that it complies with the Political Reform Act; and

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the conflict of interest code of the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency is approved as amended. The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Agency and County Counsel.

#### **Supervisors:**

Hermosillo:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

**So Ordered.**

**Resolution No. PV-006-2025**

**RESOLUTION NO. 006-2025 OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE PETALUMA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (PVGSA)  
ADOPTING AN UPDATE TO THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE OF THE AGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the Political Reform Act, Government Code section 81000, et seq., requires state and local government agencies to adopt conflict of interest codes, and

**WHEREAS**, the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency adopted a Conflict of Interest Code on March 22, 2018 in conformance with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) regulation, 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18730, which contains the terms of a standard conflict of interest code and which can be incorporated by reference and may be amended by the Fair Political Practices Commission after public notice and hearings to conform to amendments to the Political Reform Act, and

**WHEREAS**, on September 22, 2024, Governor Newsom signed SB1156 into law, requiring the Board Directors and the Executive Director, or other person with an equivalent position of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency, to file their Statement of Economic Interests (SEIs) directly with the FPPC by using the FPPC's electronic filing system, and

**WHEREAS**, the PVGSA Conflict of Interest Code now inaccurately describes the filing requirements for the Board of Directors and Administrator and PVGSA wishes to adopt an updated conflict of interest code which accurately describes the filing requirements of the designated filers,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency as follows:

1. The terms of 2 California Code of Regulations Section 18730 and any amendments to it duly adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission are hereby incorporated by reference and, along with the attached Conflict of Interest Code, in which Agency members and employees are designated and disclosure categories are set forth, constitute the Conflict of Interest Code of the Agency, and
2. Pursuant to Government Code section 87200.5, members of the board of directors and the executive director, general manager, or other person with an equivalent position of a groundwater sustainability agency must file a statement of economic interests ("Form 700") directly with the FPPC using the FPPC's electronic filing system. Other "designated employees," or "code filers," shall file statements with the Agency Secretary, who shall retain them at the main place of business of the Agency. Any Agency board member or other designated employee already required to submit a disclosure statement (Form 700) pursuant to Government Code section 87203 may submit a copy of that statement in lieu of any filing required by this code provided that no additional disclosure would be required by this code.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

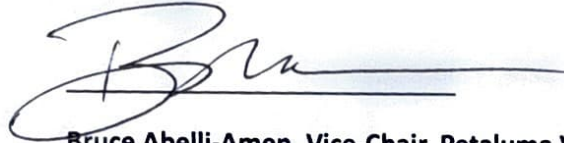
The forgoing resolution was duly passed at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency on October 23, 2025 by the following vote on roll call:

**DIRECTORS:**

Abelli-Amen: Aye Cader-Thompson: Aye Hermosillo: Aye Rabbitt: Absent Wasem: Absent

Ayes: 3 Noes: 0 Absent: 2 Abstain: 0

By:



**Bruce Abelli-Amen, Vice-Chair, Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

Attested by:



Date: 10/23/2025

**Sandi Potter, Administrator, Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

**PETALUMA VALLEY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**  
**CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE - AMENDED OCTOBER 2025**

The Political Reform Act, Government Code section 81000, et seq., requires state and local government agencies to adopt and promulgate Conflict of Interest Codes. The Fair Political Practices Commission ("FPPC") has adopted a regulation, 2 California Code of Regulations 18730, which contains the terms of a standard Conflict of Interest Code, which can be incorporated by reference, and which may be amended by the FPPC to conform to amendments in the Political Reform Act after public notice and hearings ("Standard Code"). Therefore, the terms of Standard Code and any amendments to it duly adopted by the FPPC are hereby incorporated by reference and, along with the attached Exhibit A, in which officials and employees are designated and disclosure categories are set forth, constitute the Conflict of Interest Code of the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("Agency").

Pursuant to Government Code section 87200.5, members of the board of directors and the executive director, general manager, or other person with an equivalent position of a groundwater sustainability agency must file a statement of economic interests ("Form 700")-directly with the FPPC using the FPPC's electronic filing system. Individuals who file pursuant to § 87200.5 must report investments, business positions, and sources of income, including receipt of gifts, loans, and travel payments, from sources located in or doing business in their agency's jurisdiction, as indicated in the Form 700.

Other "designated employees," or "code filers," shall file statements with the Agency Secretary, who shall retain them at the main place of business of the Agency. For these individuals, the Agency shall define the disclosure categories that describe the interests that must be reported. Any Agency board member or other designated employee already required to submit a Form 700 pursuant to Government Code section 87203 may submit a copy of that statement in lieu of any filing required by this code, provided that no additional disclosure would be required by this code.

## EXHIBIT A

### I. DESIGNATED POSITIONS

The following are designated positions within the Petaluma Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("Agency") which involve or may involve the making of or participating in the making of decisions which may foreseeably have a material effect on any economic interest and the specific types of investments, and business positions in business entities and income from sources which manufacture, sell or provide, supplies, materials, books, machinery, services or equipment of the type utilized by the agency, interest in real property, and sources of income which are reportable.

Each Designated Position must disclose on appropriate FPPC forms filed with the Secretary of the Agency Board or the FPPC, in compliance with current legislation, the disclosure information required by their assigned Disclosure Category within 30 days after the effective date of this code and annually thereafter, and within 30 days of leaving office.

| Designated Position                  | Disclosure Category |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| General Counsel                      | 1                   |
| Board Secretary                      | 2                   |
| Consultant                           | *                   |
| <i>Board Member &amp; Alternates</i> | **                  |
| <i>Administrator</i>                 | **                  |

### II. DISCLOSURE CATEGORIES

#### A. *Disclosure Category 1*

All investments and business positions; sources of income, including gifts, loans and travel payments received within the last 12 months; all interests in real property, except the reporting party's principal residence.

#### B. *Disclosure Category 2*

All investments and business positions; sources income, including gifts, loans and travel payments, within the last 12 months, from sources that provide goods, equipment, vehicles, machinery or services, including training or consulting services, of the type utilized by the Agency.

\* Consultants shall be required to make all necessary disclosures under this Code prior to the award of any contract by the Agency. The Administrator's written determination granting a

Consultant a variance from the assigned Disclosure Category is a public record and shall be retained for public inspection in the same manner and location as this Conflict of Interest Code.

\*\* Board Members, Alternate Board Members, and the Administrator must file a statement of economic interests (or "Form 700") with the FPPC's online system for filing statements of economic interests.

### **III. VARIANCE FROM DISCLOSURE CATEGORY**

Consultants shall be included in the list of designated employees and shall disclose pursuant to the broadest disclosure category in the Code subject to the following limitation:

The Administrator may determine in writing that a particular Consultant is hired to perform a range of duties that is limited in scope and thus not required to fully comply with the disclosure requirements applicable to Disclosure Category 1. The Administrator's written determination shall include a description of the Consultant's duties and a statement describing the extent of disclosures required of the Consultant that is based on the Consultant's duties.

### **IV. TRANSPARENCY**

Pursuant to Government Code section 81008, the statements of economic interest shall be made available for public inspection and reproduction during the Agency's regular business hours at its regular place of business.