

**MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2012-28**

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR
MERCED AREA GROUNDWATER POOL INTERESTS (MAGPI) IN PURSUING AB303 GRANT
FUNDS THROUGH THE LOCAL GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2000**

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Management Act (AB3030) was passed by the State Legislature during the 1992 session, and became law on January 1, 1993; and

WHEREAS, AB3030 encourages local agencies to work cooperatively to manage groundwater resources within their jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the Merced Groundwater Basin, as defined by the California Department of Water Resources in Bulletin 118-80, is a major water resource for the following local agencies located within the Merced Groundwater Basin: Black Rascal Water Company, City of Atwater, City of Livingston, City of Merced, County of Merced, Le Grand Community Services District, Le Grand-Athlone Water District, Lone Tree Mutual Water Company, Meadowbrook Water Company, Merced Irrigation District, Merquin County Water District, Planada Community Services District, Stevinson Water District, Turner Island Water District, Winton Water and Sanitary District, East Merced Resource Conservation District, herein "local agencies"; and

WHEREAS, the local agencies within the Merced Groundwater Basin, following their public hearings, have adopted Resolutions of Intention to adopt a Groundwater Management Plan pursuant to Water Code section 10753 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, local agencies within the Merced Groundwater Basin, following their public hearings, have drafted and adopted on July 30, 2008 the Merced Groundwater Basin Groundwater Management Plan 2008 Update in compliance with the legislative requirements of SB 1938 and SB 1672; and

WHEREAS, the local agencies have adopted a Memorandum of Understanding creating an association identified as the Merced Area Groundwater Pool Interests (MAGPI), with an elected Board of Directors and appointed Technical Committee, for the purpose of developing a basin-wide groundwater management plan, monitor groundwater conditions, develop solutions and coordinate actions within the Merced Groundwater Basin; and

WHEREAS, groundwater levels in the Merced Groundwater Basin have dropped over the last thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the Merced Irrigation District has completed a groundwater recharge basin north of the town of Winton, and owns and operates open grounds in the El Nido area for the purpose of recharge; and

WHEREAS, the Merced Irrigation District currently owns 221 production wells in the Merced Groundwater Basin that are monitored for static water levels; and

WHEREAS, in continuing MAGPI efforts to better understand and manage its groundwater resources, the MAGPI Board voted on June 4, 2012, to pursue an AB303 grant; and

WHEREAS, the Merced Irrigation District is eligible to seek, on behalf of MAGPI, a Local Groundwater Assistance Grant pursuant Local Groundwater Management Assistance Act of 2000; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors (Board) of the Merced Irrigation District authorizes its General Manager to submit an application, on MAGPI behalf, to the California Department of Water Resources for a Local Groundwater Assistance Grant pursuant to the Local Groundwater Management Assistance Act of 2000, and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the: **Evaluation of Artificial Recharge Potential and Automated Monitoring of Groundwater Levels in Strategic Wells in the Merced Groundwater Basin**. The General Manager is directed hereby to assign a designee to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement with California Department of Water Resources. Merced Irrigation District shall be responsible for monitoring the performance and financial requirement related to the grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MAGPI is encouraged to continue its efforts to better understand the characteristics of the Merced Groundwater Basin aquifer which is vital to environmental, agricultural, domestic, municipal and industrial needs, as well as ensuring the continued economic viability and prosperity of the basin area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Merced Irrigation District hereby encourages the State of California to give favorable consideration to this grant application.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Board of Directors of the Merced Irrigation District on the 17th day of July 2012, by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors:
Noes: Directors:
Abstain: Directors:
Absent: Directors:

Suzy Hultgren
President
Merced Irrigation District

Wil E. Hunter
Vice President/Secretary
Merced Irrigation District