RESOLUTION NO. 740

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT CLARIFYING PER DIEM PAYMENT AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT TO DIRECTORS FOR ATTENDANCE AT SPECIFIED OCCURRENCES

WHEREAS, the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District is organized and operates pursuant to Water Code section 74000 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the District's purposes include protection and conservation of water supplies and water rights within the District's boundaries; and

WHEREAS, water districts and agencies throughout California, including, the District, are statutorily authorized to pay compensation to members of their legislative bodies for attendance at board meetings, advisory and committee meetings, conferences and organized educational activities, and other types of occurrences and occasions that constitute the performance of official duties; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, the District's Board of Directors passed Resolution No. 461 which established the Director stipend at $75 per day. The stipend amount has not changed since 1985. Adopted and effective on January 25, 2006, Resolution No. 601 is the last resolution clarifying the per diem stipend of $75 per day, not to exceed six (6) days in any calendar month; and

WHEREAS, in comparison to 1985, the scope, complexity, and intensity of matters currently handled by the District's Board of Directors has substantially increased; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on December 16, 2025, this Board of Directors adopted Ordinance No. 25-01, authorizing payment of compensation to members of the Board for attendance at board meetings and other occurrences as authorized by statute and as specified in written policies of the District's Board of Directors, including applicable resolutions, as amended from time to time, at a rate of up to $175.00 per day; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 53232.1 provides that, when compensation is otherwise authorized by statute, a local agency such as the District may pay compensation to members of a legislative body for attendance at occurrences in addition those specified in subdivision (a) thereof, only if the governing body has adopted, in a public meeting, a written policy specifying other types of occasions that constitute performance of official duties for which a member of the legislative body may receive payment; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to clarify and specify the types of such occurrences or events for which a director is authorized to be paid compensation by the District for his or her attendance, and the amount of the payment for each specified event, as provided herein and in accordance with the provisions of the Water Code, in recognition of the fact that attendance by a director at Board Meetings or official District business is of great benefit to the District; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 53232.3 requires that local agencies providing expense reimbursement provide expense report forms and further requires that members receiving reimbursements timely file and document their expenses in expense reports; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 53232.3 further requires that directors provide a brief report to the Board at the first meeting following the incurrence of a reimbursed expense; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT as follows:

1. In accordance with Government Code section 53232.1, and as further established by these District policies, either of which may be amended from time to time, each member of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to receive compensation in the amount of one hundred and seventy-five dollars ($175.00) per day for attendance at each of the following events on behalf of the District, provided that such compensation shall not exceed (10) days in any calendar month and the increase in compensation from $75 to $175 per day for the following events shall not take effect until the Ordinance becomes effective, i.e., 60 days after the date of its adoption.

    A. Regular Board Meetings (District and WMA, CMA or EMA GSA Board of Directors meetings, when attending as a director or alternate director of the Board)

    B. Special Board Meetings (District and WMA, CMA or EMA GSA Board of Directors meetings, when attending and serving as a director or alternate director of the Board)

    C. Negotiation sessions

    D. Legal proceedings and depositions

    E. Meetings with District consultants, engineers, or other professionals for the purpose of conducting District business, or potential business

    F. Any other activity the Board requests in writing a member attend in advance of attendance

2. In accordance with Government Code section 53232.1, and as further established by these District policies, either of which may be amended from time to time, each member of the Board of Directors shall be entitled to receive compensation in the amount of seventy-five dollars ($75.00) per day for attendance at the following events on behalf of the District: Ad Hoc, Advisory or Other Committee Body Meetings, provided that such compensation, including the compensation paid as provided in Paragraph 1 immediately, above, shall not exceed (10) days in any calendar month.

3. Actual and necessary expenses shall be reimbursed to members when they are acting on behalf of the District in attending any of the occurrences listed in Paragraphs 1 and 2. In order to qualify for this reimbursement, the member must promptly submit receipts as well as the prompt filing of a District expense report after the expense is incurred, preferably at least five (5) days before the first regular Board Meeting following the event.

4. The District expense report shall provide the name of the member seeking reimbursement and the nature of the occurrence which created the expense. Additionally, the member seeking reimbursement shall include a brief explanatory statement for inclusion in the Minutes of the Board Meeting. All Director Expense reports will be reviewed and approved either by the General Manger or the Board President.

5. In those limited situations where an expense report has not been filed before the next regular meeting of the Board, in order to comply with Government Code section 53235, the member seeking reimbursement will provide a statement to the effect that they will be seeking reimbursement for expenses and the nature of the occurrence which created the expense.

6. Members seeking reimbursement shall seek out group and/or government rates as a first choice and reimbursements will be limited to the amount allowed for by U.S. General Services Administration CONUS per diem and mileage rates. If the US. General Services fails to list a rate of reimbursement for an expense, or the member seeks an amount greater than the CONUS rate, the Board must approve the rate in writing prior to the occurrence of the expense.

7. This Resolution supersedes District Resolution No. 461 and Resolution No. 601, and any and all other prior actions by the District, pertaining to compensation and expense reimbursement paid to the District's Board of Directors, to the extent they remain in existence and are inconsistent with this Resolution.

8. This action of the Board shall become effective immediately and shall remain in force until rescinded.

The foregoing resolution being on motion of Director Carpenter, seconded by Director Marymee, was authorized by the following vote:

AYES, and in favor thereof, Directors: Carpenter, Jordan, Marymee, Lahr

NOES, Directors: None

ABSENT, Directors: Dunlap

ABSTAINING, Directors: None

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution is the resolution of said district as duly passed and adopted by said Board of Directors on the 16th of December 2025.

Larry Lahr, President

Amber Thompson, Secretary