## **RESOLUTION NO. 2572**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC AND AUTHORIZING ACTIONS TO SUPPORT THE RESPONSE AND RECOVERY EFFORT

WHEREAS, in December 2019, an outbreak of respiratory illness due to a novel coronavirus (COVID-19) was first identified in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and has spread outside of China, impacting many countries, including the United States;

WHEREAS, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons or property have arisen within the boundaries of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (District) as a result of the on-going spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) throughout the State of California;

WHEREAS, the Governor of California declared a state of emergency on March 4, 2020 due to the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19);

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles also declared a state of emergency on March 4, 2020 due to the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19);

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic;

WHEREAS, the President of the United States declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020, to address COVID-19:

WHEREAS, all of the incorporated cities served by the District (Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Westlake Village) have declared local emergencies;

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California declared a state of emergency on March 17, 2020 to reduce the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that conditions and threatened conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons or property have arisen within the District, caused by the expanding threat of the novel COVID-19 virus, the threatened isolation and quarantines of residents, employees, businesses and public safety workers;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 conditions have necessitated the District to implement emergency measures to mitigate its spread including elimination of District travel, implementation of social distancing, telecommuting, and other immediate emergency response measures;

WHEREAS, Section 2-3.103 of the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Code grants emergency powers to the General Manager to address emergency situations that arise for matters that normally would be brought to the Board, and the General Manager has utilized that authority;

WHEREAS, these threatened conditions from the novel COVID-19 virus are or are likely to continue to have significant impact on the employees and operations of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board does hereby find the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency in the District.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

- Substantial evidence supports a finding that the above-described circumstances constitute
  the need to declare a state of emergency for the District's service area, and, accordingly,
  the Board hereby declares a state of emergency.
- The General Manager is authorized to implement changes in the working environment to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in accordance with guidelines from federal, state and county health officials, and to support the following objectives:
  - a. To protect the health and safety of the District's employees and customers, and
  - b. To ensure the continuity of water and wastewater services to the public.
- Additionally, the Board hereby authorizes and directs the General Manager to temporarily grant relief to District customers, as follows:
  - a. Avoid shutting off water service for non-payment;
  - b. Discontinue the issuance of door tags and associated fees for non-payment; and
  - Waive late charges for past due water and wastewater bills.
- 4. The Board shall review the above-described emergency actions at the next Board meeting and terminate those actions at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 24th day of March, 2020.

Jay Lewitt, President

(Seal)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Charles Caspary, Secretary

District Counsel

STATE OF CALIFORNIA	)
	) SS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES	)

I, JOSIE GUZMAN, Deputy Secretary of the Board of Directors of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, DO HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing Resolution No. 2572 was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of said District at a special meeting of said Board held on the 24th day of March, 2020, and it was so adopted by the following vote:

YES:

Directors: Caspary, Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Polan, and Renger

NOES:

Directors: None

ABSENT:

Directors: None

ABSTAIN:

Directors: None

Deputy Secretary of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District and of the Board of Directors thereof

(SEAL)