

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-24

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
TO OBTAIN A GRANT UNDER THE
WaterSMART SMALL-SCALE WATER EFFICIENCY PROJECTS
TO FUND A TURF REMOVAL PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Through WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects (SWEP), Reclamation provides financial assistance to water managers for projects that seek to conserve and use water more efficiently and accomplish other benefits that contribute to sustainability in the West; and

WHEREAS, California, including San Benito County, has been experiencing drought the last three years; and

WHEREAS, Outdoor water use is the largest portion of residential water use, especially in hotter inland areas and cities with larger lots. While lawns have value for recreation and aesthetics, replacing existing turf with well-designed low-water landscapes that incorporate native and climate-appropriate shrubs, grasses, and trees, along with mulch varieties that replenish soil and retain water, can have many benefits; and

WHEREAS, the proposed replacement of turf to drought-tolerant landscape will result in significant residential water savings, thus supporting the District's water conservation goals; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Interior-Bureau of Reclamation (funding agency) issued Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R24AS00059 for the "WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2022" which funding for small-scale water efficiency projects; and

WHEREAS, the San Benito County Water District desires to apply for the "WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

1) The General Manager of the San Benito County Water District is hereby authorized and directed to make an application and submit a proposal to the funding agency to obtain a "WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2024 and Fiscal Year 2025" grant in an amount up to \$80,000, to support a Turf Removal Program.

2) The General Manager of the San Benito County Water District, or designee, is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement, and any amendments thereto, with the funding agency to receive a 2024/2025 Small-Scale Water Efficiency grant in an amount up to \$80,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the Board is authorized to sign said Resolution, on behalf of this Board and District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District this 29th day of November 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTORS: Williams, Tonascia & Wright

NOES: DIRECTORS: None

ABSTAIN: DIRECTORS: None

ABSENT: DIRECTORS: Flores & Shelton

*(Signature of presiding Board member
Attested by Board Secretary
Resolution #2023-24)*

/s/Doug Williams
Doug Williams
Acting President

ATTEST: /s/Barbara L. Mauro
Barbara L. Mauro
Board Secretary