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**RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION
APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,
THE CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY, AND
THE SANTA MONICA BAY RESTORATION COMMISSION**

June 18, 2020

Resolution No. 20-02

WHEREAS, the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), the California Natural Resources Agency, and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (Commission) (the Parties) created a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that outlines, among other things, the mission, functions, organization, and governance structure of the Commission, which serves as the Management Conference for the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (NEP); and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) requires NEPs to review and update the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) every three to five years to address new and emerging issues and recommends evaluating the NEP governance structure; and

WHEREAS, the Commission initiated the MOU amendment process in 2018 to update the composition, roles and functions, mission, policy, and practices of the Commission to reflect and improve the current governance structure consistent with the establishing legislation, the CCMP, and US EPA NEP guidance; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the amendments to the MOU are to update and clarify the composition, roles and functions, mission, policy, and practices of the Commission in order to improve the governance structure of the Commission, clarify the authority of the Commission and its components, improve the ability to implement the CCMP, enhance the Santa Monica Bay NEP partnership and serve effectively as the Management Conference of the Santa Monica Bay NEP as prescribed in US EPA NEP guidance, improve and enhance mechanisms for broader and more effective stakeholder participation, and streamline processes and improve program efficacy; and

WHEREAS, the Commission, with support from State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) staff, developed the proposed amendments to the MOU to achieve the stated goals; and



WHEREAS, the amended MOU supersedes previous documents of the Commission describing or establishing the mission, functions, membership, organization, structure, and operating guidelines of the Commission and its components; and

WHEREAS, all elected members of the Governing Board and Executive Committee and all appointed members of the Technical Advisory Committee will continue to serve until the expiration of their terms as specified at the time of their election and appointment; and

WHEREAS, the appointment of the Chief Deputy Director of the State Water Board and the Santa Monica Bay NEP Director to the Governing Board and Executive Committee and the US EPA Regional Administrator of Region 9 to the Executive Committee provided for in the amended MOU take effect immediately upon signature of the MOU by all of the Parties;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission hereby:

1. ADOPTS the staff report regarding the Memorandum of Understanding; and
2. APPROVES the Memorandum of Understanding between the CalEPA, California Natural Resources Agency, and Commission as amended; and
3. INSTRUCTS the Chair of the Governing Board to sign the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Commission and forward it to the Secretary of CalEPA and the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency for their signatures.

BY:

Charlie Caspary
Governing Board Chair
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission