RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF RANCHO MURIETA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT AUTHORIZING WATER FORUM REPRESENTATIVES TO PROCEED TOWARD NEGOTIATIONS FOR A REGIONAL WATER AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, representatives of business and agricultural groups, environmental interests, citizen groups, local government, and water interests have reached the unanimous conclusion that unless we come together now on a plan we can all agree with, our region, which includes Sacramento, Placer and El Dorado countywide areas, will face a future with water shortages, environmental degradation, contamination, limits to economic prosperity, and stiff competition from other areas for our water; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Water Forum is, "Through community participation, formulate a plan for the region which will provide an adequate, safe, and reliable water supply in an environmentally sound and cost effective manner. The plan shall provide for the efficient management of available surface water, groundwater, reclaimed water resources, and water conservation to meet both the region's water needs through the year 2030 and protect our environment," and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1995, Water Forum representatives developed 65 Draft principles to further guide the development of a water agreement for the region. These were subsequently reviewed and commented upon by the stakeholder organizations who then authorized their representatives to proceed with negotiations; and

WHEREAS, after intensive education and research, Water Forum representatives have identified a range of proposals that are under serious consideration to meet the region's water supply needs projected to the year 2030 and protect the fishery, wildlife, recreational, and aesthetic values of the Lower American River in a fiscally equitable and responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, any solution must ensure: reliability and certainty of water supplies; protection of the American River; meeting and or exceeding all state and federal water quality standards; efficient use of all water supplies by water conservation (demand management); conjunctive use of water supplies; fairness and equity of costs and rates; compatibility with regulatory agencies' requirements; acceptability by the general public and stakeholder organizations; and the fostering of continued regional cooperation; and

WHEREAS, there are several remaining challenges that must be resolved by the Water Forum before an agreement is drafted, including major ones such as: assuring reliable water supplies in dry years; implementing an improved pattern of fishery flow releases from Folsom Reservoir for the Lower American River; East Bay Municipal

Utility District point of diversion; Feather River diversions; agreeing upon an acceptable method of implementing water conservation best management practices including water meters and conservation pricing; and assuring that all costs are necessary and will be apportioned equitably; and

WHEREAS, based upon stakeholder review of and comments on the *Report on Progress Toward a Regional Water Agreement,* the Water Forum representatives will develop a draft solution package for our review and refinement that will ultimately lead to a Final Agreement that will be presented to us as a total package for our approval; and

WHEREAS, we have been presented with a *Report on Progress Toward a Regional Water Agreement,* including the proposals under serious consideration;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the attached comments (if any) on the proposals under serious consideration contained in the Progress Report are hereby transmitted to the Water Forum; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our Water Forum representatives are hereby authorized to proceed with the development of a Draft Water Forum Agreement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Rancho Murieta Community Services District this 21st day of February, 1996, by the following vote:

AYES: DIRECTORS Thurston, Sevier, Lensch, Stevens, Menicucci

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

John R. Thurston

John R. Thurston, President
Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Sandra A. Hickman

Secretary of the Board of Directors
Rancho Murieta Community Services District

ATTACHMENT
Resolution 96-01

The District's comments on the proposals under serious considerations and the *Progress Report* are as follows:

1. Fishery habitat enhancement improvements should be funded by other sources than relying entirely on water districts. The entire region, not just the local residents benefit from the enhanced fishery habitats. As an example, the State's Nimbus Fish Hatchery is one of the primary beneficiaries that should pay their fair share.

2. Discussion of supplies for RMCSD should note that the District as a stakeholder in the Water Forums is looking to obtain drought water supplies via the Forums process. More particularly alternatives for drought supplies could include one or more of the following:

    - Connection to the extension of the County's Sunrise system eastward to Folsom.
    - Sharing of SMUD's unused water with southeast agriculture interests via the Folsom-South Canal.
    - Sharing of Folsom-South canal excess flows with southeast county agriculture interests (Omochumne-Hartnell, Clay WD, Galt ID & unorganized users.
    - Sharing of EBMUD American River water as a participant in the joint use project. Water availability could be from the Folsom-South Canal or through a joint pipeline to the eastern county interests.

3. Ideally, the District desires augmented supplies during drought conditions. However, the District would consider use of wet year flows and rely on surface storage provided by the District in dry years. This would free up additional water for other users in dry years.

4. Discussion that if the above do not materialize, the District will look westward for groundwater supplies, either by connection to existing or future system improvements or by construction of new wells owned and operated by the District.

5. Statements and acknowledgment that the District is currently on meters for **all** users and reclaims **all** wastewater.

6. We are concerned that larger stakeholders need to be committed to the implementation of the BMPs. Without their active participation, conservation estimates will not be obtainable.

7. The District suggests that the Forums defer to the local agencies for determination of rates, fees and other assessments to fund implementation of the Water Forums agreement. Ultimately, they will pay for the implementation and their cost to provide water will include implementation as best they can determine. Most if not all public agency stakeholders already hold hearings for setting rates, fees, and other types of charges.

There should be some discussion of the changing regulatory requirements and acknowledgment that the water stakeholders cannot be the only adversely affected stakeholders. There needs to be a mechanism to evaluate ongoing changes and to pass along the impacts to all those who are affected.