

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

|  |  |  |                      |
|--|--|--|----------------------|
| (1) DEPARTMENT<br>Public Works   | (2) MEETING DATE<br>2/11/2014            | (3) CONTACT/PHONE<br>Paavo Ogren, Director of Public Works (805) 781-5252  |                      |
| (4) SUBJECT<br>Consideration of a Legislative Platform Policy Statement for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. Districts 1 and 5.  |  |  |                      |
| (5) RECOMMENDED ACTION<br>It is recommended that the Board, on behalf of both the County of San Luis Obispo and Flood Control and Water Conservation District, consider a proposed policy statement for inclusion in the legislative platform for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and approve, amend and/or provide any staff direction that you deem appropriate. |  |  |                      |
| (6) FUNDING SOURCE(S)<br>N/A   | (7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT<br>N/A | (8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT<br>N/A   | (9) BUDGETED?<br>N/A |
| (10) AGENDA PLACEMENT<br><input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ___) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. 15 min.)  |  |  |                      |
| (11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS<br><input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A   |  |  |                      |
| (12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)<br>N/A   |  | (13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED?<br>BAR ID Number: N/A<br><input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A |                      |
| (14) LOCATION MAP<br>N/A   | (15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT?<br>No    | (16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY<br><input type="checkbox"/> N/A   Date: 1/28/14; #27  |                      |
| (17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW<br><i>Nikki J. Schmidt</i>   |  |  |                      |
| (18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)<br>District 1 - District 5 -   |  |  |                      |

Reference:      14FEB11-BB-1

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works  
Paavo Ogren, Director of Public Works

DATE: 2/11/2014

SUBJECT: Consideration of a Legislative Platform Policy Statement for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. Districts 1 and 5.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board, on behalf of both the County of San Luis Obispo and Flood Control and Water Conservation District, consider a proposed policy statement for inclusion in the legislative platform for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and approve, amend and/or provide any staff direction that you deem appropriate.

## **DISCUSSION**

Over the past several years, your Board has had extensive discussions on the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. A computer model of the Basin was developed in 2004-05 and was used to evaluate the Basin's perennial yield and its response to projected changes over time, such as the importation of Nacimiento water. An update to the computer model was initiated in 2012 in order to incorporate new data, upgrade the software, integrate a watershed model and refine previous analysis.

Through your Board's Resource Management System, a Resource Capacity Study was adopted in 2011, and throughout 2012 and 2013 your Board discussed and conducted hearings, including direction to the Public Works Department on several items and the Planning and Building Department on the urgency ordinance and related actions.

Recently, local interests in the basin have formed associations and are attempting to develop a collaborative solution to managing the basin. The expressed intent of these local proponents is to seek the establishment of a new independent Water District. To satisfy the diverse interests of the stakeholders concerning the governance of this new Water District, special legislation is required to modify the structure and election of the governing board.

Should your Board wish to support such legislation, staff recommends the legislation be subject to the following:

- The proposed legislation not eliminate the local Water District formation process that the proponents will need to follow, which is under the jurisdiction of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo), and any proposed modifications to the "LAFCo" process would require LAFCo support.

- The proposed legislation not affect or limit the County or the Flood Control and Water Conservation District's exercise of authority, currently or in the future, to manage groundwater in the Paso Robles Basin.
- The proposed legislation would insure the election of the Water District governing board can be implemented efficiently by the County Clerk.

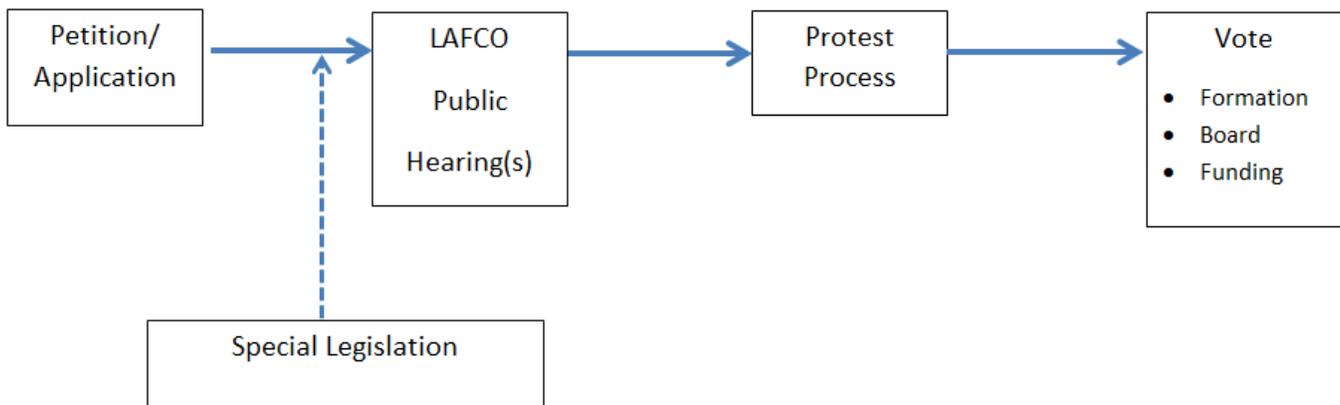
Taking these issues into consideration, staff proposes your Board approve the following policy statement:

*The San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors and Board of the County Flood Control and Water Conservation District supports special legislation to facilitate creation of a new independent Water District with unique governance features that reflect the diverse interests of landowners overlying the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin in the unincorporated area of San Luis Obispo County, provided that said legislation does not change existing Water District formation procedures without LAFCo support, nor affect or limit the County or the Flood Control and Water Conservation District's exercise of authority to manage groundwater in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.*

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

County Counsel is providing legal guidance on all aspects of the County's work on the basin. Formation of a district would be subject to the LAFCo process. The County Clerk-Recorder's Office and Assessor's Office work with LAFCO to administer the voting process called for under state law. A flow chart developed by LAFCo is provided below for further clarification.

**Formation Paso Robles Water District  
& Special Legislation**



**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

There are no direct financial impacts associated with the consideration of the legislative policy.

## **RESULTS**

Approval of a legislative policy for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin will help with developing solutions and will contribute to the County's goals of promoting safe, healthy and livable communities.

File: CF 34.280.01

Reference: 14FEB11-C-4

L:\MANAGMNT\FEB14\BOS\Leg Platform Memo\_esh\_01-31-14 (00216995).doc.jd.taw