STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-0032

ADOPTING THE DRINKING WATER FOR SCHOOLS
GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES (GUIDELINES)

WHEREAS:

1. Senate Bill (SB) 828 (Stats. 2016, Ch. 29) added Section 116276 to the Health and Safety Code (Section 116276), which requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to establish a grant program (Drinking Water For Schools Grant Program, or Program), in consultation with the State Department of Education, for the purpose of improving access to, and the quality of, drinking water in public schools consistent with the State of California Legislature’s intent that school facilities be maintained in “good repair,” as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 17002 of the Education Code;

2. Section 116276 requires that the State Water Board develop guidelines for the Program and provide technical assistance (TA) to applicants of the Program;

3. SB 828 appropriated $9.5 million from the General Fund to the State Water Board for Program grants pursuant to Section 116276;

4. The Budget Act of 2016 (SB 826 [Stats. 2016, Ch. 23]) appropriated $500,000 from the General Fund to the State Water Board to provide the TA specified in Section 116276;

5. On April 4, 2017, the State Water Board authorized the Executive Director, or designee, to execute Program TA contract(s) and amendment(s);

6. On March 10, 2017, the draft Guidelines were posted on the State Water Board’s website for public review and comment;

7. On March 20, 2017, Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) staff held a public workshop to present the draft Guidelines and receive public comments;

8. The public comment period for the draft Guidelines closed on April 10, 2017;

9. DFA staff has considered all public comments and testimony received on the draft Guidelines and has made appropriate revisions;

10. The Guidelines have been developed in accordance with the requirements of Section 116276 and establish the process and criteria for the submission of grant applications to the Program, eligibility criteria and procedures for the evaluation of those applications, funding prioritization, and general Program requirements;

11. In Resolution No. 2016-0010, the State Water Board adopted the human right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes (human right to water) as a core value and top priority, and directed its implementation in State Water Board programs; and
12. As directed by the State Water Board in Resolution No. 2016-0010, staff has determined that the proposed actions will support the human right to water by providing financial assistance to improve access to, and the quality of, drinking water in public schools that serve disadvantaged communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Adopts the Guidelines and authorizes the Deputy Director of the DFA to make non-substantive changes to the Guidelines;

2. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the DFA to approve or deny funding requests, award grants, and execute grant agreements and amendments for routine, non-controversial projects consistent with the Guidelines;

3. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the DFA to utilize funds from projects which are withdrawn or completed under budget to fund additional projects, or to utilize available funds to augment the scope of work and budget of projects previously awarded grants, consistent with the Guidelines;

4. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the DFA to withdraw a grant award if the applicant is non-responsive or the DFA has exhausted reasonable efforts to resolve issues that prevent the execution of a funding agreement; and

5. Authorizes the Deputy Director of the DFA to terminate a grant agreement where there is a violation of a material provision of the agreement by the recipient.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Board held on May 16, 2017.

AYE: Chair Felicia Marcus
      Board Member Tam M. Doduc
      Board Member Dorene D’Adamo
      Board Member Joaquin Esquivel

NAY: None

ABSENT: Vice Chair Steven Moore

ABSTAIN: None

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board