

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN BURNET COUNTY AND
THE CENTRAL TEXAS WATER COALITION**

This Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into by and between the Central Texas Water Coalition, Inc., a §501(c)(4) organization ("CTWC") and Burnet County, acting by and through their authorized representatives.

WHEREAS, the Highland Lakes, located in the Lower Colorado River Basin, attract tourists to Burnet County, provide recreational opportunities to residents and visitors, impact property values, and generally support the economic well-being of Burnet County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Highland Lakes are a critical source of Burnet County's water supply and the reliability of that water supply is integral to sustaining and growing tourism-related businesses and industries such as hotels, motels, lodges, inns, camping, outdoor sports, boating, fishing, and other water-based activities; and

WHEREAS, Burnet County wishes to enhance and promote tourism and tourism-related businesses and industries in Burnet County and to preserve and protect the water in the Highland Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Central Texas Water Coalition is a Texas non-profit corporation whose primary mission is to advocate for the preservation and conservation of the Highland Lakes' water supply and water levels for the benefit of human health, safety, and recreation, and to preserve the Highland Lakes' role as an irreplaceable economic engine for the State of Texas. As stated in its 2011 bylaws: "Tourism has taken a front seat in driving the economy of the Highland Lakes counties. Hundreds of thousands come to Burnet, Llano and Travis counties each year, taking advantage of the excellent boating, fishing, camping, cabins, lodges, Inns, spas, and dining opportunities. CTWC's intent is to assist in all regional efforts to market the Highland Lakes, our most precious natural resource, as a tourism destination, directly impacting and increasing our economies"; and

WHEREAS, this mission is closely aligned with and supportive of the goals and interests of Burnet County; and

WHEREAS, CTWC has worked diligently and attained success in achieving its mission over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, CTWC is continuing to work on water supply and water management issues that have significant impacts on the County; and

WHEREAS, Burnet County has determined that contributing to CTWC's efforts is an efficient and legal way for the County to ensure that its interests are represented in water management and policy decisions directly impacting water levels in the Highland Lakes and therefore directly affecting tourism, property values, and, as a result, County resources and services;

THEREFORE, in consideration of these conditions and the benefits to the citizens of Burnet County, the parties agree to the following:

1. Burnet County shall contribute up to \$10,000 to assist the CTWC in providing its services to the people, businesses, and tourism industry of Burnet County. Such funds will be restricted for the payment of non-lobbying related CTWC expenditures such as the expenses related to the gathering of data for scientific study and or legal service expenses that are unrelated to any lobbying effort. To ensure the restriction, CTWC shall provide billing/invoices/receipts to the Burnet County Auditor's Office for payment or reimbursement. The total expenditures that may be paid for by Burnet County under this agreement is \$10,000.
2. Upon the County's request, CTWC agrees to make its annual financial reports for 2022 available for the County's review and inspection at the CTWC Treasurer's office.
3. This Agreement, effective from **October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024**, represents the entire agreement between CTWC and Burnet County and may not be modified except in writing by agreement of and signed by all parties. Additionally, all modifications must be approved by the Burnet County Commissioners Court in open session.

JUDGE JAMES OAKLEY
COUNTY JUDGE, BURNET COUNTY

Date: _____


SHANNON HAMILTON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL TEXAS WATER COALITION, INC.

Date: 5/31/2024