

RESOLUTION

A Resolution on Securing the Future by Improving Water Management Policies and Promoting Water Conservation in Central Texas and the Lower Colorado River Basin

WHEREAS, The Highland Lakes are the primary water supply for Central Texas; and

WHEREAS, It is projected that Central Texas could add up to 1 million new residents by 2030; and

WHEREAS, More arid weather conditions shifting eastward to include Texas have led the state climatologist to observe that sustained arid drought conditions could become permanent; and

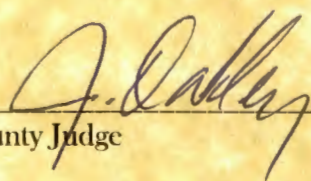
WHEREAS, Current water inflows into the Highland Lakes continue to decline with most monthly totals lower than the average for the recent historic drought of record; and

WHEREAS, The current LCRA Water Management Plan is in need of modernization to reflect the region's paradigm shift of increasing water needs and drier weather patterns; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the County of Burnet hereby requests:

1. That the LCRA work with local leaders and stakeholders to accelerate the update of its Water Management Plan to implement a more protective and real time adaptable approach to managing the Highland Lakes in 2022;
2. That updates to the Water Management Plan reflect current scientific research and data, take into account the significant decline in water flowing into the Highland Lakes, include provisions that encourage conservation by all water users, and prepare for greatly increased water demands in Central Texas;
3. That the LCRA obtain information on the causes for, and consequences of, the dramatic declines in inflows to the Highland Lakes, to assure that this phenomenon is accounted for in the updated Water Management Plan;
5. That the LCRA facilitate smart water distribution and usage, including the implementation of modern and efficient water use practices in large irrigation settings suitable to an arid climate; and
6. That the LCRA expand its public outreach and input opportunities and establish advisory committees of local officials, business leaders, stakeholder organizations, and area residents to foster an increased opportunity for open discussion and collaboration on issues that affect the water supply and economy for almost 2 million Central Texans.

PASSED and APPROVED by majority vote of the Burnet County Commissioners Court, this 26th day of July, 2022.



County Judge