

Resolution supporting the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council's Regional Water Planning Group's request for Mexico to comply with the terms of the 1944 Treaty and Release the water due to the United States of America

- Whereas* the Rio Grande is the only source of fresh water for the Rio Grande Valley of Texas; and,
- Whereas* the Rio Grande flows are greatly dependent on inflows from Mexican tributaries that flow into the Rio Grande above Amistad and Falcon Reservoirs; and,
- Whereas* the 1944 Treaty between the United States and Mexico allots to the United States one-third of the tributary inflow from six-named tributaries that flow into the Rio Grande above the international reservoirs and this one-third shall not be less than 350,000 acre-feet as an annual average over a cycle of five consecutive years; and,
- Whereas* the only exception to the annual delivery of this water is if Mexico is experiencing extraordinary drought or has experienced serious accident to the hydraulic systems on the six-named tributaries; and,
- Whereas* Mexico has accumulated over 2.9-million-acre feet of water in the reservoirs on the six-named tributaries since August 2022, and is an indication that Mexico is not in an extraordinary drought and there have been no reports of any accidents to their hydraulic systems; and,
- Whereas* the current five-year Treaty Delivery Cycle commenced October 25, 2020, and Mexico is behind in their deliveries to the United States by over 550,000-acre feet of water; and,
- Whereas* the United States ownership of water in the Amistad/Falcon Reservoir System is slightly less than one years' supply of water; and,
- Whereas* Mexico has sufficient water in storage in the tributaries that the United States is entitled to receive water from and could release this water as called for by the 1944 Treaty.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court supports the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council's Regional Water Planning Group's findings and facts and urges Mexico to comply with the terms of the 1944 Treaty and release the water due to the United States of America.

Approved this 11th day of July 2023.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: _____
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk