

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS,** The Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) was Conceived in Calamity, Birthed in Controversy and matured to Benefit its constituents in the Colorado River Valley, and

**WHEREAS,** Major destruction and misery were the results of the frequent floods, and

**WHEREAS,** Due to massive flooding, the City of Austin (COA) lost successive dams in 1900 and 1915 and the lower basin continued to suffer from the frequent floods, and

**WHEREAS,** A new major economic enterprise has been created in the lower counties that would benefit from a more assured supply of water for irrigation as well as relief from massive flooding, and

**WHEREAS,** As early as 1915 interests from counties throughout the basin met to develop plans to harness the river for the benefit of all constituents in the basin by minimizing flooding and capturing the excess flows for future development, and

**WHEREAS,** The support from the counties was crucial and instrumental in obtaining support for construction of dams to create the Highland Lakes, and

**WHEREAS,** Those supportive efforts and pledges from the interests in the lower counties and from the Austin Chamber of Commerce did ultimately result in the creation of the Lower Colorado River Authority, and

**WHEREAS,** With controversy abounding, it required four special legislative sessions to obtain approval for the creation of the LCRA on November 13, 1934, and

**WHEREAS,** The enabling LCRA legislation mandated that the primary duty of the LCRA is to control, store, preserve and sell those waters within the boundaries of the Authority or the extended watershed, and

**WHEREAS,** The policy of the LCRA has been to manage the lakes and the river as a single system to address and respond to the sometimes competing demands for water, and

**WHEREAS,** That policy has enabled the LCRA to maximize water supplies for municipal and industrial customers while continuing to provide water for irrigation needs, and

**WHEREAS,** Additional recreational, tourism and environmental demands have also been recognized and provisions made to address those demands, and

**WHEREAS,** To accommodate those demands a Water Management Plan (WMP) was created and has evolved by enlisting those various interests throughout the basin in the creation, and

**WHEREAS,** A revision in the WMP has been initiated that will consider the increasing water supply demands due to record population growth and recreation in the upper basin while seeking to accommodate the historic demands of the water supply in the lower basin as well as environmental needs, and

**WHEREAS,** These new water supply demands represent an unprecedented challenge to the LCRA administration and staff and they have committed the necessary resources to the WMP Revision Committee to update the WMP, and

**WHEREAS,** New creative and innovative approaches are required to accommodate the unprecedented future water supply demands such as a creation of off channel reservoirs.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that cooperative initiatives, as was the precedent set by the original historic efforts to harness the river, should immediately be employed in the new formation of the WMP with utilization of all interests, and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that Williamson County Commissioner's Court encourages the LCRA to aggressively move efforts forward that will enhance water supplies for the lower basin and with utilization of all interests.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that we pledge our cooperation and assistance to support those efforts.

Approved this 12th day of October, 2010.

Attest:

Nancy E. Ruster

Approved:

[Signature]  
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