

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
COUNTY OF ROOSEVELT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2015-10**

**A Resolution Supporting Funding Initiatives for Water Conservation Measures to  
Preserve the Ogallala Aquifer in New Mexico**

**WHEREAS**, the Ogallala Aquifer, the primary water source for the residents and economy of eastern New Mexico, continues to decline at a greater rate than it is being replenished; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ute Pipeline Project, funding for which remains a priority for area governmental entities, will assist in providing a long term future sustainable water supply to the residents of eastern New Mexico, thereby reducing area residents dependency on the declining Ogallala Aquifer; and

**WHEREAS**, as the construction timeline for the full implementation of the Ute Water pipeline is uncertain, it is necessary to construct an interim Ute pipeline, seek funding to implement water conservation measures and utilize water purchased from area farmers, to provide short, intermediate and supplement the long term water supply; and

**WHEREAS**, Eastern New Mexico farmers own and utilize their water rights in the Ogallala Aquifer to produce water intensive crops to support the nation's economy. Over a period of years, the water levels in the aquifer have declined and it is necessary to preserve and protect the current water supply for future years; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to preserve the Ogallala Aquifer and provide water for the Ute Interim Pipeline Project, it is necessary to support the development of compensatory conservation programs to incentivize area farmers to reduce their use of water mined from the Ogallala Aquifer and encourage rejuvenation of the playa lakes as a means to capture rainfall and recharge the aquifer; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Agriculture Conservation Title 2 of the Farm Bill has provided \$2.8 billion dollars over the next five years to implement conservation partnership programs throughout the United States and the City of Clovis is seeking to apply for these funds to create a program to incentivize farmers to reduce the amount of water being mined from the Ogallala Aquifer in the area.

**WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of the City of Clovis that they support seeking funding initiatives through the United States Department of Agriculture Conservation Title 2 of the Farm Bill to incentivize farmers to reduce the amount of water currently being mined from the Ogallala Aquifer and ensure the availability of water for the Ute interim pipeline.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the governing body the Board of County Commissioners of Roosevelt County that they support seeking funding through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program

(RCPP), Ogallala Initiative, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and all Government entities and programs that fund water conservation efforts.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 16th day of September, 2014.

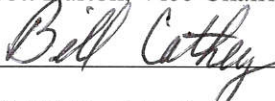
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
ROOSEVELT COUNTY, NEW MEXICO



Kendell Buzard, Chairman



Scott Burton, Vice-Chairman



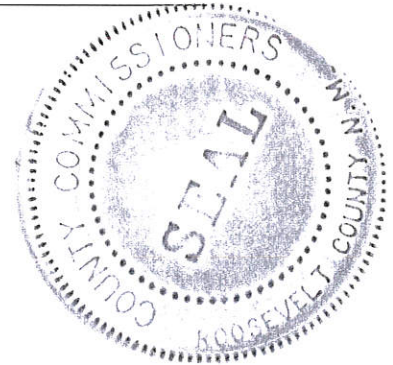
Bill Cathey, Member



Richard Leal, Member



Jake Lopez, Member



ATTEST:



DeAun Searl, County Clerk



DB

