

SANTA FE COUNTY

Board of County Commissioners Resolution No. 2013- 41

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE USE OF WATER CATCHMENT SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT SANTA FE COUNTY AND TO DIRECT STAFF TO “LEAD BY EXAMPLE” BY CONSIDERING THE USE OF WATER CATCHMENT SYSTEMS AT SANTA FE COUNTY FACILITIES AND BY COLLABORATING WITH THE SANTA FE COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE AND WITH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN AND CONTIGUOUS TO SANTA FE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the term “rainwater harvesting” is used primarily to describe a landscaping strategy designed to capture rooftop precipitation for irrigation and the landscape, reducing the need for supplemental potable water; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer (NMOSE), the agency charged with administering the state’s water use and supply, promotes helpful strategies for water conservation by use of Roof-Reliant Landscaping which includes xeriscaping, efficient irrigation, use of low-water plants, dryland gardening, use of mulch, erosion control, use of retaining walls and straw bale swales, and the use of active and passive rainwater harvesting systems; and

WHEREAS, because New Mexico is an arid state with significant water challenges, there is a renewed interest statewide in the concept of rainwater harvesting and cisterns; and

WHEREAS, given the increased cycles of drought coupled with population growth, the County’s limited water resources, not only does it make sense to explore ways to get the most use of rainwater, but it is also wise to design and create landscapes that need little or no supplemental water in order to thrive; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico receives 12 inches of precipitation per year on average and the NMOSE continues to respond to the public’s need for new and progressive ways to conserve New Mexico’s limited water supply; and

WHEREAS, water is a precious resource in New Mexico, and it is in our best interest to be good stewards of this life-giving resource; and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2010, this Board adopted by resolution the Santa Fe County Sustainable Growth Management Plan (SGMP), which provides that all new development consider installing rain barrels, cisterns or other water catchment basins to capture drainage depending on their size; and

WHEREAS, the SGMP further observes that Santa Fe County is already in the forefront of requiring sustainable landscaping and xeriscaping, limiting water use for landscaping, and requiring rainwater catchment; and

SEC CLERK RECORDED 05/01/2013

SFC CLERK RECORDED 05/01/2013

WHEREAS, on January 29, 2013 this Board adopted by Resolution Number 2013-07 which indicates that staff be directed to "Lead By Example" in implementing cost-effective waste reduction, recycling and clean energy strategies in county operations; and

WHEREAS, in order to effectively support water catchment system strategies for the citizens and businesses of Santa Fe County, it is incumbent upon the County to "Lead by Example" at Santa Fe County facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is declared to be one of the policies and purposes in the Soil and Water Conservation District Act "to further the conservation, development, beneficial application and proper disposal of water"; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico State University Cooperative Extension Service operates numerous county cooperative extension service offices, including the Santa Fe County Extension Office, which promote, among other things, the management and conservation of water used for agricultural purposes; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County has already approved and begun to establish a water catchment system in conjunction with the Soil and Water Conservation district and with the Santa Fe County Extension Office for the Edgewood Senior and Community Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Santa Fe County Board of Commissioners supports this resolution to support the use of water catchment systems throughout Santa Fe County and to direct staff to "Lead By Example" by considering catchment design and the use of water catchment systems at Santa Fe County Facilities on any design or redesign and by collaborating with the Santa Fe County Extension Office and with Soil and Water Conservation Districts in and contiguous to Santa Fe County.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED this 30th day of April, 2013.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

Kathy Holian
Kathy Holian, Chair

Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Willie R. Brown
For: Stephen C. Ross, County Attorney



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 1ST Day Of May, 2013 at 03:23:40 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1704261**
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy Maicella Salazar County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

BCC CLERK RECORDED 05/01/2013