

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2008- 51

**A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSED DRAFT OF SANTA FE
COUNTY'S CONJUNCTIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SANTA FE
BASIN; DIRECTING STAFF TO SOLICIT PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE
PROPOSED DRAFT, DIRECTING STAFF TO FORMALLY CONSULT WITH
THE PUEBLOS OF TESUQUE, POJOAQUE, NAMBE AND SAN ILDEFONSO,
THE CITY OF SANTA FE AND OTHERS, AND DIRECTING FORMAL
PRESENTMENT OF A FINAL PLAN**

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County is participating with the City of Santa Fe in the Buckman Direct Diversion Project, a project that will bring water from the Rio Grande River to the City and the County water systems;

WHEREAS, one of the agreements that created the Project, the Water Resources Agreement, provides that when drought or other catastrophic conditions exist, the County can expect to receive back up water from the City of Santa Fe only when deliveries from the Buckman Direct Diversion drop below 850 acre feet per year;

WHEREAS, as a consequence, Santa Fe County has been investigating additional sources of water as back up for deliveries from the Buckman Direct Diversion when drought or other catastrophic conditions reduce flows;

WHEREAS, one possible source of a back up supply is groundwater from the Santa Fe Basin, and the County has created a computerized model of the Basin to assist the County locate additional sources of water to serve as a back up supply;

WHEREAS, groundwater supplies in the Santa Fe Basin are renewed by snowfall and rainfall, but a commonly held opinion is that groundwater supplies in the Santa Fe Basin are being mined from the proliferation of municipal and domestic wells;

WHEREAS, under these circumstances, the aquifer underlying the Santa Fe Basin should be thought of as an supplemental source of water, not a primary supply;

WHEREAS, the City and County formally agreed to this principle in the Water Resources Agreement --- that the parties would implement conjunctive use management and rely primarily on surface water when available and use groundwater only as necessary;

WHEREAS, because of the stress placed on the aquifer by existing uses, the County believes that its groundwater use should be limited to supplemental backup of surface water resources;

WHEREAS, the County's computerized modeling of the Santa Fe Basin demonstrate that occasional use of groundwater resources to back up surface water supplies poses no threat to the Basin, and the overall effects of such use are insignificant;

WHEREAS, the County has developed the attached Conjunctive Management Plan for the Santa Fe Basin to document the County's intention to utilize groundwater as an supplemental backup supply only and to rely on surface water flows in the Rio Grande as a primary supply; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to seek public input concerning the proposed plan, engage in formal consultation with the Pueblos of Tesuque, Pojoaque, Nambe and San Ildefonso, the City of Santa Fe and others, and to propose that the Plan become policy of the Board to guide future efforts.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED, AS FOLLOWS:

1. The draft prepared by staff of the County's proposed Conjunctive Management Plan for the Santa Fe Basin is hereby accepted for public comment.
2. Staff shall conduct at least two public meetings to receive public input on the proposed draft.
3. Staff shall consult with Pueblos of Tesuque, Pojoaque, Nambe and San Ildefonso, the City of Santa Fe, and the Acequia La Cienega on the proposed draft.
4. Following the meetings and consultations described, Staff shall summarize all comments received and present the plan formally to the Board of County Commissioners for formal approval.

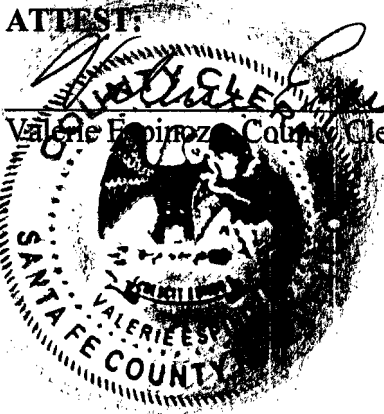
APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED, THIS 19th day of MARCH, 2008.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

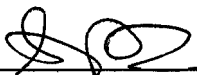
By: *Jack Sullivan*
Jack Sullivan, Chair

ATTEST:

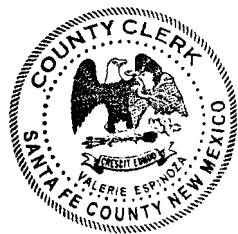
Valerie Espinoza
Valerie Espinoza, County Clerk



Approved as to form:



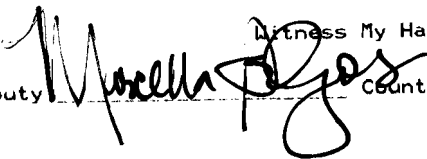
Stephen C. Ross, County Attorney



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

BCC RESOLUTIONS
PAGES: 3

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 3RD Day Of April, A.D., 2008 at 11:47
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1521186**
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Deputy  Valerie Espinoza
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM