BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-165

A RESOLUTION

ENDORSING FUNDING FOR OPERATION, MANAGEMENT, AND MAINTENANCE FOR COUNTY OPEN LANDS, PARKS AND TRAILS AND AUTHORIZING THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE COUNTY FOR CONSERVATION FINANCE STRATEGIES

WHEREAS, the voters of Santa Fe County have recognized the importance of open lands, parks, trails, and historic and cultural places to the mental, physical, and social health of our busy, complex, and rapidly-changing society;

WHEREAS, the voters of Santa Fe County understand the value of such places as components of local and regional ecosystems upon which all life depends;

WHEREAS, the voters of Santa Fe County have authorized and directed their elected officials and their public servants to acquire, manage, and develop such places for the public benefit;

WHEREAS, since 2000, with the advice and assistance of the County Open Land and Trails Planning and Advisory Committee (COLTPAC), Santa Fe County has developed a rational plan for such acquisition, management, and development and has enjoyed great success in acquiring the beginnings of an exemplary county system of open lands, parks, trails, and historic and cultural places;

WHEREAS, the voters, elected officials, public servants, and COLTPAC members have known from the outset that places acquired for the public benefit must be professionally studied, understood, managed, operated, and maintained for the public benefit;

WHEREAS, approximately twelve years have passed since the initial acquisition

of open space by Santa Fe County;

WHEREAS, in August 2009, Santa Fe County requested technical advice and assistance from the Trust for Public Land to develop a program to finance land conservation;

WHEREAS, in February 2010, the Trust for Public Land delivered a "Conservation Finance Feasibility Study" to the County which made recommendations about financing options;

WHEREAS, in April of 2011 COLTPAC recommended that the Board of County Commissioners take action to staff permanent positions for the purpose of the operation and maintenance of open space.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County

Commissioners directs staff to include in future County budgets adequate staffing and

financing to accomplish the management, operation, and maintenance of county open

space for the public benefit and that staff continue to seek input from the Trust for Public

Land regarding structuring future conservation finance strategies.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 8 day of November, 2011.

VIRGINIA VIGIL, CHAIR

ATTEST:

Jaluri Ospinos

VALERIE ESPINOZA, SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

STEPHEN C. ROSS, SANTA FE COUNTY ATTORNEY



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Deputy Will	Witnes	ss My Hand And Seal Of Offise Valerie Espinoza County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

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