THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-6/

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING STAFF TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR NEW MEXICO RIVER STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS TO THE SURFACE WATER QUALITY BUREAU OF THE NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT FOR RIVER RESTORATION ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PORTION OF THE SANTA FE RIVER GREENWAY TRAIL

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Legislature appropriated \$2.3 million in House Bill 0055 to the New Mexico Environment Department "to design and construct projects that improve surface water quality or river habitat statewide and to provide state matching funds required by the terms of any federal grant under the Clean Water Act;"

WHEREAS, the appropriation set forth in House Bill 0055 was in response to the New Mexico Environment Department's request to establish the New Mexico River Stewardship Program in order to address a critical surface water quality need for New Mexico and to ensure that New Mexico continues to receive federal Clean Water Act funds;

WHEREAS, the New Mexico River Stewardship Program has the overall goal of addressing the root causes of poor water quality and stream habitat, including: restoring or maintaining hydrology of streams and rivers to better handle overbank flows and thus reduce flooding downstream; enhancing economic benefits of healthy river systems such as improved opportunities to hunt, fish, float or view wildlife; and providing state matching funds required for federal Clean Water Act grants;

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County and the City of Santa Fe have collaborated in the development of the Santa Fe River Greenway, as established in the 1995 City of Santa Fe River Corridor Master Plan and the 2002 Santa Fe County River Master Plan;

WHEREAS, the vision statement in the Santa Fe County River Master Plan reads as follows: "The Santa Fe River should once again be the heart of the community, a green and quiet refuge for people and wildlife. The landscape that drains to the river should be covered with an appropriate mix of plants that hold the soil and slow the movement of runoff after rain or snowmelt. The amount of sediment delivered into the river's tributary arroyos and into the river itself should be in balance with the channel slope and flow. The river should contain streamflow for much of its length over much of the year, its waters shaded by cottonwoods and other bosque trees and shrubs. The floodplain should be colonized by vegetation that will stabilize the channel when the floods roar through, impeding flood flows to reduce their erosive force. Slowing such flows will induce infiltration through the riverbed, recharging groundwater which will in turn feed the springs that keep the river alive in periods of low flow;" and WHEREAS, Santa Fe County's development of the Santa Fe River Greenway by the Open Space and Trails Program implements this vision through river restoration activities associated with the design and construction of each segment of the trail, including: channel and bank stabilization; increased meandering pattern; removal of debris from illegal dumping; use of natural materials including native plants, boulders and relocated bed materials to stabilize the river and create habitat; terracing of the banks to provide additional access to inundation for flood relief and vegetation irrigation; and grade control structures to retain sediment and support riparian plants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County directs staff to apply for a New Mexico River Stewardship Program grant from the Water Quality Bureau of the New Mexico Environment Department for river restoration activities associated with the development of a portion of the Santa Fe River Greenway Trail and authorizes the County Manager to execute any and all documents necessary for the grant application.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED this 29th day of July, 2014.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SANTA FE COUNTY

By:

Daniel W. Mayfield, Chair

Attest:

Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk



Approved as to form:

Gregory S. Shaffer, County Attorney

COUNTY OF SANTA FE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 30TH Day Of July, 2014 at 10:54:53 AM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # **1742413** Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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tness My Hand And Seal Of Office Geraldine Salaza Gounty Clerk, Santa Fe, NM