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**CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-\_\_**

**INTRODUCED BY:**

Councilor Carol Romero-Wirth

**A RESOLUTION**

**RE-ESTABLISHING THE SANTA FE WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE.**

**WHEREAS**, the future of Santa Fe relies on the ability of the community as a whole to protect and conserve the City of Santa Fe’s (“City’s”) water resources; and

**WHEREAS**, NMSA 1978, sec. 3-17-7 requires municipalities to “consider ordinances and codes to encourage water conservation and drought management planning”; and

**WHEREAS**, stress on the City’s water resources will grow as our community grows and likely will be exacerbated by increased temperatures and altered precipitation patterns resulting from climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, public education plays a vital role in facilitating water conservation by fostering new water conservation practices and use of tools such as household water budgets and technology that closely monitors residential and commercial water use, and such education must be directed to all who live and work in the City, including Santa Fe’s children and youth, whose idealism, environmental awareness, and sense of community are compelled by such efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, the City needs to make effective use of the wealth of varied expertise of its

1 residents in order to enhance its water conservation efforts; and

2           **WHEREAS**, the City’s building code provisions, construction practices, and land use  
3 policies should be carefully examined to remove current impediments to water conservation and to  
4 add measures to enhance water conservation; and

5           **WHEREAS**, a refocusing of the Committee’s duties and responsibilities will enable it to  
6 more effectively address the current challenges of water conservation; and

7           **WHEREAS**, the existing Resolutions create confusion on the purpose, duties and  
8 responsibilities, membership, and terms of current Committee members; and

9           **WHEREAS**, Resolution 2016-31 established the current terms of two years and limits  
10 members to two consecutive terms; and

11           **WHEREAS**, re-establishing the SFWCC by adopting this superseding Resolution will  
12 provide an updated and clarified purpose, duties and responsibilities, membership, and terms for  
13 the Committee.

14           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**  
15 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that this Resolution names and re-establishes the Santa Fe Water  
16 Conservation Committee (“SFWCC” or “Committee”).

17           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the purpose of the SFWCC is to promote water  
18 conservation, develop water conservation proposals, and advise the Governing Body.

19           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the duties and responsibilities of the SFWCC  
20 include, but are not limited to

- 21           1.       Advising the City on ways in which it can manage precious water resources by:
- 22                   a.       Conserving water in its own activities;
- 23                   b.       Promoting and providing incentives for water conservation by residents,  
24 businesses, and visitors; and

1                   c.       Establishing building and construction codes, ordinances, and other forms  
2 of regulation that will result in water conservation;

3                   2.       Identifying and recommending ways to educate and inform city residents of all  
4 ages regarding the need for and importance of water conservation and the ways in which residents  
5 can conserve water;

6                   3.       Providing recommendations to the Governing Body regarding the Office’s work  
7 program and activities, and assisting the Governing Body in establishing priorities and evaluating  
8 the effectiveness of its policies;

9                   4.       Evaluating various means of water conservation and offering guidance to the City  
10 regarding their relative costs and benefits;

11                  5.       Considering the probability and extent of future misalignment between water  
12 supply and water demand in Santa Fe, advising the City of any anticipated misalignment, and  
13 recommending actions to align the supply and demand;

14                  6.       Establishing a cooperative and ongoing working relationship with elected officials,  
15 the Water Policy Advisory Board, and the water conservation staff of Santa Fe County (“County”),  
16 and work with them, seeking to avoid the City and the County establishing and engaging in  
17 conflicting or contradictory water conservation policies and programs, and encouraging and  
18 facilitating establishment and operation of complimentary policies and programs;

19                  7.       Reviewing the effects on water use and conservation of existing building code  
20 provisions, construction practices, and land use policies, both in Santa Fe and elsewhere, and  
21 recommending revisions to the City’s laws, policies, and practices in order to increase their  
22 effectiveness in conserving water and facilitate their application by developers, builders, and  
23 contractors; and

24                  8.       Considering and making recommendations to the City regarding existing or  
25 proposed City policies, programs, and activities focused either on water conservation, specifically,

1 or on other or broader aspects of sustainability, conservation, and efficient use of resources that  
2 may affect or be affected by water conservation.

3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Mayor shall appoint the members of the  
4 Committee and the Committee shall consist of ten (10) members of the public and a chair, who  
5 shall be a City Councilor. When possible, the Committee's membership should include persons  
6 with the following expertise:

- 7 1. landscaping water conservation practices;
- 8 2. building construction practices;
- 9 3. creation and/or implementation of education programs;
- 10 4. land use policies;
- 11 5. hydrology, engineering, or other forms of water-related technical expertise;
- 12 6. water quality; and
- 13 7. the perspectives of other constituency groups that are an important part of a  
14 comprehensive discussion of and strategy for water conservation, including homeowners, business  
15 owners, youth, and state government.

16 Members shall be selected to reflect the diversity of the Santa Fe community. One member  
17 of shall be a resident of Santa Fe County who resides outside the municipal boundaries of the City  
18 of Santa Fe.

19 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Committee's members shall serve two-year  
20 terms. Members may serve no more than three consecutive terms, but may be reappointed  
21 following a minimum one-year hiatus. Partial terms shall count towards the three-year term limit.  
22 After three unexcused absences per term year, a member shall be automatically removed from the  
23 Committee and the Chair shall notify them of the removal. Vacancies shall be filled in the same  
24 manner as initial appointments and shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term, if applicable.

25 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Committee shall meet monthly, or as needed to

1 complete its assigned duties.

2 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a staff liaison shall be designated by the City  
3 Manager.

4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Committee shall serve until otherwise directed  
5 by the Governing Body.

6 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution supersedes and replaces any other  
7 resolution that created or amended the Santa Fe Water Conservation Committee, including, but  
8 limited to, Resolution Nos. 2002-25, 2008-40, 2016-31, and 2016-91.

9 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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ALAN M. WEBBER, MAYOR

14 ATTEST:

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YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

18 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY

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25 *Legislation/2020/Resolutions/Water Conservation Committee Changes*