

## **RESOLUTION 2017- 1**



### **COLORADO COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION SUPPORT FOR AMENDING ITS ENABLING ACT TO INCREASE EXPORT FEE AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS**, Colorado County and the surrounding area has been subject to recent droughts that have had a deleterious impact on this area's groundwater resources; and

**WHEREAS**, cities and towns throughout our Colorado County region and throughout the Lower Colorado River Basin are experiencing sustained growth and increasing demands for water that are anticipated to continue into the future; and

**WHEREAS**, groundwater resources in much of our region are under pressure to supply existing needs; and

**WHEREAS**, as the population of the Greater Houston metropolitan area and other growth areas in the State expand, there is increasing interest in capturing large quantities of groundwater from resources relied upon by its rural neighbors; and

**WHEREAS**, exportation of large amounts of groundwater from aquifers within the Gulf Coast Region, including Colorado County, could potentially decrease or eliminate spring flows, reduce surface flows with possible adverse effects on downstream surface water rights and water supply facilities, and adversely affect groundwater supplies needed for current and future domestic, municipal and agricultural uses; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued and future economic existence of all communities in Colorado County is dependent on a reliable, if not entirely sustainable, water supply; and

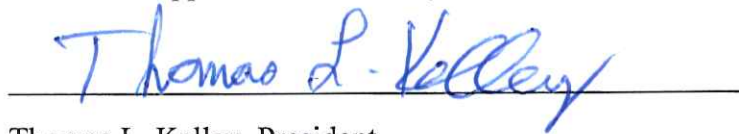
**WHEREAS**, the Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District ("District") has promulgated rules to provide for the preservation, protection and prevention of waste, of groundwater in Colorado County; and

**WHEREAS**, to remain equal in authority to adjoining groundwater conservation districts, the District's enabling act must be amended by the Legislature;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of the Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District that:

- We support legislation to amend the Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District enabling act to charge export fees up to an amount equal to the fees charged by any adjacent groundwater conservation district.
- We authorize the District Directors, General Manager, District Attorney and other District consultants to communicate support for this legislation to area legislators and other members of the legislature.

Passed and approved this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2017.



Thomas L. Kelley, President



Sam Parks, Secretary