

A RESOLUTION OF THE REPUBLICAN RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
*(To Allocate Federal Funds through Senate Bill 22-028 to Additional Conservation Incentives
within the South Fork Focus Zone)*

RESOLUTION NO. 22-03

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Republican River Water Conservation District (“District”) was created pursuant to section 37-50-103(1), C.R.S, for the conservation, use, and development of the water resources of the Republican river, its tributaries, and that portion of the Ogallala aquifer underlying the district and to cooperate with and assist the State of Colorado to carry out the State’s duty to comply with the limitations and duties imposed upon the state by the Republican river compact; and

WHEREAS, the District is managed and controlled by its Board of Directors (“Board”); and

WHEREAS, as part of approving the operation, use, and accounting for the Compact Compliance Pipeline, the Republican River Compact Administration, including the State of Colorado, mandated that at least 10,000 acres of previously irrigated ground within the South Fork subbasin in Colorado be retired by December 31, 2024 and a total of 25,000 acres be retired by December 31, 2029; and

WHEREAS, failure to achieve the required dry-up of previously irrigated acres puts continued operation of the Compact Compliance Pipeline in jeopardy which may result in curtailment of nearly all irrigated agriculture and other water uses throughout the District; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 22-028, which appropriated a total of \$60,000,000 in funding for use in two river basins in Colorado, with \$30,000,000 of that funding available to the District, from the American Rescue Plan Act (SB22-028 Funds) in order to assist the District in meeting the dry-up requirements within the South Fork subbasin, or for other Compact compliance and conservation activities approved by the State, within Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to set forth the District’s plan to use said funds to achieve the Republican River Compact Administration’s requirements.

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of the District that it adopts the following policy which will be submitted to the State Engineer and the Colorado Water Conservation Board for approval pursuant to the provisions of SB22-028:

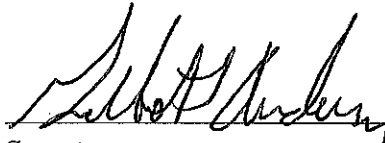
1. As part of the previously adopted Resolution 21-05 the district established Republican River Water Conservation District Acreage Management Plan (“RAMP”). Through this Resolution, the District clarifies and affirms that if the federal funding portion of the RAMP program is not available, the District will use the SB22-028 Funds to fully fund the RAMP for irrigated acres within the South Fork Focus Zone.

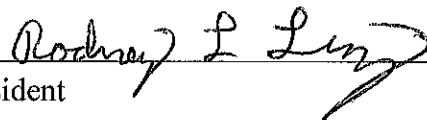
2. The District hereby adds an additional incentive payment of \$750 per acre for irrigated acres within the South Fork Focus Zone, approved and enrolled into the RAMP. Said additional incentive payments will be funded from the SB22-028 Funds.
3. The District hereby adds an additional incentive payment of \$750 per acre for irrigated acres within the South Fork Focus Zone, approved and enrolled into the Republican River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Said additional incentive payments will be funded by the SB22-028 Funds.
4. The District hereby adds an additional incentive payment of \$750 per acre for irrigated acres within the South Fork Focus Zone, approved and enrolled into the Republican River Environmental Quality Incentives Program. Said additional incentive payments will be funded by the SB22-028 Funds.
5. In order to qualify for any of these additional incentive payments, all contracts and other requirements to enroll in the program must be completed and accepted, and the acres formally enrolled in the program, prior to August 15, 2024. Failure to meet this deadline will result in rejection of the enrollment.
6. All incentive payments owed under this Resolution must be disbursed by the District and accepted by the enrollee prior to December 31, 2026.
7. These incentives are only available while there are SB22-028 Funds legally available and when all approvals required by SB 22-028 are received by the District and will only be paid from SB22-028 funds that are disbursed by the Colorado Water Conservation Board to the program(S) participant or to the District.

RESOLVED this ___ day of May 2022.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REPUBLICAN RIVER WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT


Secretary


President