

Resolution 2020 – 03

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am the duly elected and qualified Secretary of the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District and the keeper of the records and seal of said District and the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said District held in accordance with the Bylaws of said District on the 28th day of September, 2020.

WHEREAS, the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District (Upper Gunnison District) is located entirely within the geographic boundaries of the Colorado River Water Conservation District (River District), therefore the citizens of the Upper Gunnison District are also citizens of the River District; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the River District is to lead in the protection, conservation, use and development of the water resources of the Colorado River Basin for the welfare of the River District and to safeguard for Colorado all waters of the Colorado River to which the state is entitled; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the River District is consistent with the mission of the Upper Gunnison District; and,

WHEREAS, the waters of the Colorado River which originate within the boundaries of the River District, including the Gunnison River and its tributaries, are under increasing pressure at the same time that the flow of the river is decreasing due to long term drought; and,

WHEREAS, in order to protect the water resources of the River District in these increasingly contentious times, the citizens of the River District need the River District to be a strong and effective advocate and to lead in the identification and implementation of multi-purpose water projects in all areas of water use in western Colorado including areas such as productive agriculture, infrastructure, healthy rivers, watershed health and water quality, conservation and efficiency; and,

WHEREAS, the River District revenues have suffered and are projected to continue to suffer negative impacts due to declining revenues from the energy sector, the impacts of the Gallagher Amendment and the revenue limitations of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the River District have asked the voters of the River District to authorize an increase in taxes to fund the River District's critical work and have directed that the following Ballot Question 7A be placed on the ballot in all fifteen of the counties within the River District:

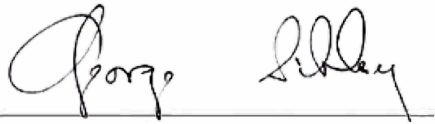
Shall Colorado River Water Conservation District, also known as the Colorado River District, taxes be increased by an amount up to \$4,969,041 in 2021 (which increase amounts to approximately \$1.90 in 2021 for every \$100,000 in residential home value), and by such amounts as are generated annually thereafter from an additional property tax levy of 0.248 mills (for a total mill levy of 0.5 mills) to enable the Colorado River District to protect and safeguard Western Colorado water by:

- *Fighting to keep water on the West Slope;*
- *Protecting adequate water supplies for West Slope farmers and ranchers;*
- *Protecting sustainable drinking water supplies for West Slope communities; and*
- *Protecting fish, wildlife, and recreation by maintaining river levels and water quality;*

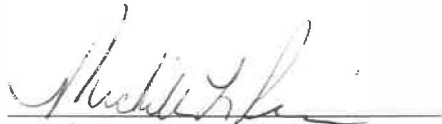
provided that the District will not utilize these additional funds for the purpose of paying to fallow irrigated agriculture; with such expenditures reported to the public in an annually published independent financial audit; and shall all revenues received by the District in 2021 and each subsequent year be collected, retained and spent notwithstanding any limits provided by law?

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Upper Gunnison District supports the passage of Ballot Question 7A and directs staff to distribute this Resolution through established, customary means by which information about Upper Gunnison District proceedings is regularly provided to the public.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned President and Secretary have caused the seal of said District to be hereto affixed, effective as of the 28th day of September, 2020.



George Sibley, Secretary



Michelle Pierce, President