

VILLAGE OF VOLENTE

Resolution in Support of the Equal Drawdown Proposal Resolution 2005-R-28

2005-03-15

Whereas each of the two reservoir lakes, Travis and Buchanan, supply about one-half of the large volume of irrigation water used each year by the rice industry on the Colorado River, and

Whereas irrigation releases are taken 100% from Lake Travis during the period March through July, and 100% from Lake Buchanan during August, September and October, and

Whereas the economy of Lake Travis is measured in the multi-hundreds of millions of dollars and growing, representing an important part of the economy of Greater Austin, and

Whereas the economies of both lakes are sensitive to water levels in the lakes, and

Whereas the present water management policy of LCRA results in Lake Travis being down, or on the way down, during the entire water recreation season, while Lake Buchanan only starts down after the water recreation season is over, and

Whereas each of the reasons that LCRA has offered so far for the current drawdown policy has been found to be flawed, and

Whereas Highland Lakes Group proposed several years ago that LCRA change its water management policy so that both lakes would be drawn down simultaneously during the irrigation season, thereby causing the adverse economic effects of the lowered lake levels to be shared equally between the two lakes, then

Be it Resolved that the Village of Volente (1) supports the proposal of Highland Lakes Group for equal and simultaneous drawdown of the two reservoirs, and (2) urges LCRA to end the lengthy period of review, study, and debate that the equal drawdown proposal has been subjected to and, lacking a coherent reason for maintaining the existing policy, adopt the equal drawdown policy.

Passed and approved this 15th day of March 2005, by a vote of the Volente Village Council of 5 in favor to 0 opposed, with 0 abstentions.


Jan Yenawine, Mayor


Jennifer Zupelt, City Secretary