

**VILLAGE OF BOSQUE FARMS
RESOLUTION NO. 956-20**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR LEGISLATION TO ENSURE THAT A
REPORESENTATIVE OF THE FARMING COMMUNITY SITS ON THE MRGCD
BOARD OR THAT THE MRGCD BE DIVIDED INTO TWO DISTRICTS**

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Village of Bosque Farms met in regular session on November 19, 2020; and;

WHEREAS, the legislature of 1923 enacted Chapter 140 entitled “An Act to provide for the Organization of Conservancy Districts for the Purpose of Co-Operating With the Government of the United States Under the Terms of the Federal Reclamation Law and Other Federal Laws and to Define the Purposes and Powers Thereof”, for which was substituted Chapter 45, N.M.L. 1927 entitled “An Act to Provide for the Organization of Conservancy Districts, to Define the Purposes and Powers Thereof and to Repeal Chapter 140 of the Session Laws of New Mexico, 1923, and All Acts or Parts of Acts in Conflict With Any Provision of This Act”, and;

WHEREAS, the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (hereinafter called “The MRGCD”) was organized under the act of 1923 and its existence continued under the act of 1927 and amendments thereto, Chapter 50, N.M.L. 1931; Chapter 80, N.M.L.1933 and Chapters 37 and 150 N.M.L. 1935, and;

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Section 73-14-4 (1927) allows conservancy districts to be established for the following purposes: (1) Preventing floods; (2) regulating stream channels by changing, widening or deepening the same; (3) regulating the flow of streams; (4) diverting, controlling or in whole or in part eliminating watercourses; (5) reclaiming, draining or filling wet and overflowed lands; (6) of providing for irrigation where it may be needed and otherwise benefiting and developing agricultural lands or lands susceptible of irrigation or agricultural development; (7) protecting public and private property from inundation, and;

WHEREAS, the MRGCD states that its purpose is to offer irrigation, river flood control and responsible water conservation services to irrigators and farmers in the middle agricultural region of the state, and;

WHEREAS, without farming in the MRGCD District, not only would the essential work of feeding the inhabitants of New Mexico and the world be curtailed, but the conservation, flood control and environmental preservation would not be possible, and;

WHEREAS, farmers in the MRGCD not only pay for water service charges but also are assessed a higher tax rate than residential property owners, and;

WHEREAS, due to the urbanization of the MRGCD District and the fact that the majority of voters in the MRGCD District are not farmers, it is foreseeable & plausible that in the future no

farmers will be elected to serve on the MRGCD Board to represent the interests of the people that the MRGCD District was established to serve, and;

WHEREAS, without a representative from the farming community, the green belt of the valley and the agricultural community are at risk of being overshadowed and replaced by only the voices of urban residences, and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Village of Bosque Farms has determined that without representation from the farming community the MRGCD does not adequately provide its established purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of the Village of Bosque Farms, New Mexico requests that the New Mexico Legislature amend NMSA 1978, Section 73-14-19 (1996) to require one board member be a representative of the farming community. Alternatively, that the MRGCD be divided into two districts, one district comprising of those lands within the municipal boundaries of the City of Albuquerque and one comprising all lands outside of the municipal boundaries of the City of Albuquerque.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Village of Bosque Farms Governing Body invites the MRGCD and all elected bodies covered by the MRGCD District to support this legislation and to work together to define the term “farmer” to effectuate the stated purpose of this resolution.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED THIS 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020.

(SEAL)

Russell Walkup, Mayor

ATTEST:

Gayle A. Jones, Clerk/Administrator