

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-04

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE ST. VRAIN AND LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
COMMEMORATING THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ST. VRAIN AND LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

WHEREAS, municipal leaders, farmers, and visionaries petitioned the Court to create a water agency charged with improving water reliability and protecting the basins water supplies for future generations; and

WHEREAS, in 1969 the City of Longmont leadership discussed creating a water conservancy district to construct a water project to meet municipal and basin demands; and

WHEREAS, the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District was organized as a water conservancy district by Court decree on April 19, 1971; and

WHEREAS, in 1977 the Court approved the transfer of the 1970 Coffintop and Geer Canyon Reservoir filings from the City of Longmont to the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the 1971 formation decree, the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District continues still today to promote the authorization and construction of water storage reservoirs for agriculture, municipal, and recreation uses; and

WHEREAS, the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District, having recognized early on the necessity and value of augmentation water to meet out-of-priority depletions from gravel mining operations, in 1974 became one of the first water agencies in Colorado to enter into augmentation agreements to ensure the protection of senior water rights; and

WHEREAS, in 1989 the Colorado Legislature confirmed the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District's augmentation agreement efforts and passed Senate Bill 120 that exempted gravel owners or operators from a plan for augmentation or substitute water supply plan, if prior to 1989 they entered into a written agreement with a water conservancy district; and

WHEREAS, in 1989 the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District partnered with the City of Longmont to acquire Golden Ponds, a critical piece of the St. Vrain Corridor preservation and enhancement effort, and later in 1992 partnered with other governmental and environmental organizations to create the St. Vrain Corridor Committee to further develop environmental, recreational, and economic opportunities within the corridor; and

WHEREAS, in 1992 the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District began operation of a basin wide augmentation program targeting out of compliance well and pump uses, and later in 2007 received a final decree from the Court making the augmentation program a permanent part of the basins water administration; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District satisfied over 200 acre-feet of out-of-priority depletions from pumps and wells, and numerous acre-foot of out-of-priority depletions from gravel pit operations; and

WHEREAS, over the last 40 years the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District successfully cooperated with local water agencies to enhance water management through financial contributions toward additional storage, and measuring and recording devices; and

WHEREAS, today the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District continues its mission for the benefit of its constituency whom currently have a combined assessed evaluation of \$1.6 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District stands ready to meet the challenges of the next 40 years with the same forward thinking and innovation that has driven its efforts during the past 40 years; and

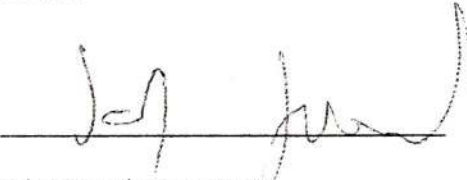
WHEREAS, the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District remains committed to working on behalf of its constituency by continuing to protect basin water supplies, demonstrating fiscal responsibility, and assuming a leadership role in regional efforts to develop new water supplies including the pursuit of Coffintop reservoir.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this eleventh day of April two thousand and eleven, the St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District Board of Directors commemorate the 40th Anniversary of an organization that throughout its history has demonstrated tremendous vision, commitment, accountability, and fairness, and pledges a like effort for future endeavors.

Date: April 11, 2011


Dennis Yanchunas, President

Attest:


John Zweck, Secretary