



RESOLUTION NO. 2016-045

RESOLUTION ON MEXICAN GRAY WOLVES

WHEREAS, Torrance County supports sound, scientifically-based state wildlife management rather than federal land-use restrictions or federal listings under the Endangered Species Act (“ESA”); and,

WHEREAS, states and local governments have been involved in significant litigation with the US Department of the Interior (“DOI”) with respect to the Mexican Gray Wolf Recovery Program (“MGWRP”); and,

WHEREAS, questions relative to hybridization with Native American dog lineages have not been adequately addressed; and,

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2016, the US District Court for the District of New Mexico enjoined the US Fish and Wildlife Service from introducing Mexican wolves in New Mexico without a permit from the New Mexico Game and Fish Commission; and,

WHEREAS, in June, the office of the Inspector General for DOI issued a report to Congressman Steven Pearce on June 29, 2016 that raises significant questions about scientific integrity, transparency, personnel management, public outreach and the public trust in regards to the MGWRP; and,

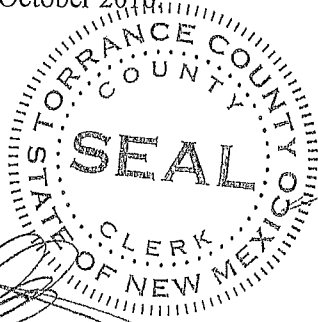
WHEREAS, these issues justify further inquiry into the efficacy and operations of the MGWRP;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Torrance County Board of Commissioners hereby;

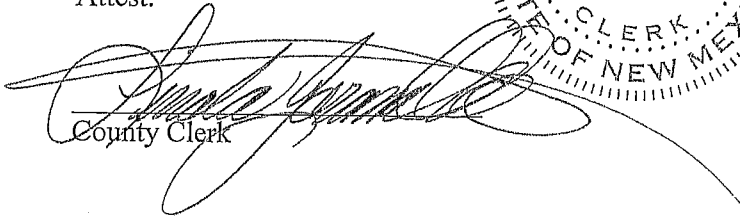
1. Urges the State of New Mexico and the New Mexico Congressional Delegation to ensure the DOI Secretary implements a pause to the MGWRP unless and until a complete and independent review of the MGWRP is implemented; and,
2. Urges the State of New Mexico and the New Mexico Congressional Delegation to ensure that depredation activities are transferred to the State of New Mexico or, should the State decline, to the US Department of Agriculture;

3. Urges the Congress to enact legislation deferring to the states on management of Mexican gray wolves and to support local, state and private conversation efforts without serious and adverse effects to private property rights, economic development and western communities.

DONE, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

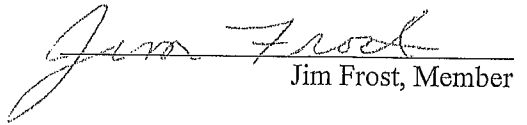


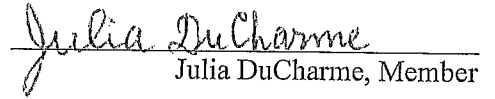
Attest:

  
County Clerk

TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION

  
LeRoy Candelaria, Chair

  
Jim Frost, Member

  
Julia DuCharme, Member