



VALENCIA COUNTY

**A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MINIMUM POOL AT
ELEPHANT BUTTE LAKE
RESOLUTION NO 2021- 29**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County, met upon notice of a duly published Business meeting on June 16, 2021, at 5:00 P.M. in the Valencia County Administration Building, 444 Luna Avenue, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031; and,

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Sections 4-37-1 *et seq.* provides that counties may adopt those resolutions and ordinances, not inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations place on counties, to discharge those powers necessary and proper to provide for the safety, convenience of the county and its inhabitants; and,

WHEREAS, the Valencia County Board of County Commissioners is the duly authorized governing body of Valencia County, a New Mexico political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, Elephant Butte Dam was established in 1916 as part of the Rio Grande Project to not only tame the flood waters of the Rio Grande but also to store water that could be used by farmers for irrigation of their crops during the dry seasons; and,

WHEREAS, Elephant Butte Lake is 40 miles long and has over 200 miles of shoreline; and,

WHEREAS, Elephant Butte Lake's waters supports a diverse fishery of record-breaking bass, walleye, catfish, crappie, white and black bass, stripers, and numerous other species;

WHEREAS, numerous bird species, including the American white pelicans, thousands of western and Clark's grebes, terns, and unusual gulls, and shorebirds inhabit the Elephant Butte Lake area primarily because of the abundant availability of fish; and,

WHEREAS, depletion of the lake has a significant adverse effect on wildlife and,

WHEREAS, fishing, boating and wildlife viewing are recreational activities vital to the public and economic interest of both the Community and the State at large; and,

WHEREAS, a minimum pool is crucial to the public's enjoyment and critical to the financial success of the marinas and the local economy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Valencia that Elephant Butte Lake is a critical regional resource that provides