## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MAY 2018 AS WATER AWARENESS MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, water is California's most precious resource and our quality of life and economic well-being depend on the efficient and prudent management of water resources; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2016, the Governor of California signed Executive Order B-37-16 "Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life", bolstering California's drought resilience and preparedness by establishing longer-term water conservation measures; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors declared a drought emergency on January 21, 2014, with continued proclamations monthly since that time; and

WHEREAS, while February 2017's rainfall triggered much needed inflow to Cachuma Reservoir, the increase in storage does not alleviate our water supply concerns and should not be considered drought ending; and

WHEREAS, despite receiving above-average rainfall last winter, current winter rainfall amounts are 51% of normal and continued vigilance of our water supplies remains a priority following the driest five years on record in Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Barbara, through the Public Works Department, is working cooperatively to conserve and protect our valuable water resources with water purveyors throughout the county and facilitate the securing of additional long-term supplies; and

WHEREAS, this cooperative effort was established decades ago because the efficient use of our local water resources is always a priority, not just in times of drought.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND HEREBY ORDERED that the County of Santa Barbara, Board of Supervisors, State of California, proclaims May 2018 as Water Awareness Month in Santa Barbara County, and urges all residents learn more about their precious water resources and the importance of wise water use and to join in supporting local water agencies and organizations in their effort to be "Water Wise in Santa Barbara County".

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 2018, by unanimous vote of all members present.

Supervisor - 1st District Supervisor -2nd District 3rd District Supervisor Supervisor 4th District the Board Supervisor - 5th District