

Resolution _____

_____, County of Berrien, State of Michigan

A Resolution to Support Efforts of the Hickory Creek Watershed Partnership and To Protect and Improve the Hickory Creek Watershed

Whereas, concerned citizens have formed the Hickory Creek Watershed Partnership (HCWP) with a mission of improving the water quality and habitat of the Hickory Creek Watershed through education and stewardship, and

Whereas, the HCWP is a coalition of stakeholders united by a mutual concern for the hydrology, water quality and habitat of Hickory Creek, its tributaries and its watershed, and

Whereas, the Hickory Creek Watershed drains about 34,000 acres and includes land in all or portions of the following municipalities: *Baroda Township, Baroda Village, Buchanan Township, Lake Charter Township, Lincoln Charter Township, Oronoko Township, Royalton Township, Shoreham Village, Stevensville Village, St. Joseph City, St. Joseph Charter Township, Weesaw Township*, and

Whereas, recent monitoring of Hickory Creek (a cold water trout stream) by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality show that macro invertebrate scores (an indicator of water quality) are poor or trending towards poor, and

Whereas, the decisions and related policies made by local units of governments or agencies can have a negative impact on water quality along with the actions of landowners, residents and businesses, and

Whereas, there is a need for proactive planning for growth and development that utilizes low impact development to protect water quality and a need for education of elected and appointed officials, residents, landowners and businesses, and

Whereas, these efforts are needed to sustain and improve the area's future quality of life and economic stability.

Now, Therefore, be it resolved, that _____ supports the efforts of the Hickory Creek Watershed Partnership to improve and protect the water quality and habitat in the Hickory Creek Watershed through education and stewardship.

Be it further resolved, that _____ agrees to be proactive in planning for growth and development to protect the watershed's natural resources to the best of its abilities and will address the protection and improvement of the water quality and hydrology of Hickory Creek when updating the master plan and zoning ordinance.

Moved by _____ to adopt resolution, supported by _____.

Roll Call Vote: _____

Signed by: _____