

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007 - 069**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO APPROPRIATE THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO BRING THE HERBERT HOOVER DIKE INTO COMPLIANCE WITH CURRENT LEVEE PROTECTION SAFETY STANDARDS AND TO EXPEDITE FUNDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH PROMPT ENACTMENT OF THE ENERGY AND WATER APPROPRIATIONS BILL OR AN ALTERNATIVE FUNDING MECHANISM; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, Lake Okeechobee was impacted by four hurricanes during the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons; and

**WHEREAS**, subsequently, at the request of local community leaders, the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District commissioned an independent, expert review panel to evaluate all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers documents concerning the structural integrity of the 140 mile-long Herbert Hoover Dike surrounding Lake Okeechobee; and

**WHEREAS**, the report found that the dike does not meet current levee protection safety standards; and

**WHEREAS**, the failure of the dike poses a clear and imminent threat of catastrophic proportion to the communities surrounding Lake Okeechobee; and

**WHEREAS**, the dike was not built to current levee engineering standards and therefore needs expedited Congressional appropriations to be brought into compliance with such standards.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida:

**Section 1:** The above referenced recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

**Section 2.** The Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, hereby requests the United States Congress to appropriate funds necessary to bring the Herbert Hoover Dike into compliance with current levee protection safety standards and to expedite funding for the improvements

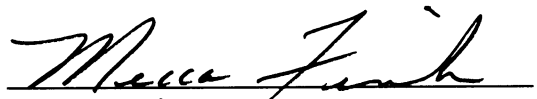
through prompt enactment of the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill or an alternative funding mechanism.

**Section 3.** The Town Council hereby directs the Town Clerk to send copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation of the United States Congress.

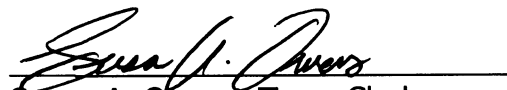
**Section 4.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2007, on a motion by Council Member Aster Knight and seconded by Council Member Steve Breitreuz.

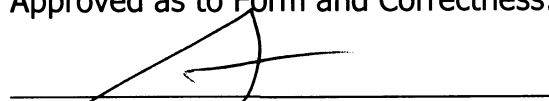
Fink	<u>Y</u>	Ayes	<u>5</u>
Maines	<u>Y</u>	Nays	<u>0</u>
Breitreuz	<u>Y</u>	Absent	<u>0</u>
Knight	<u>Y</u>	Abstaining	<u>0</u>
Nelson	<u>Y</u>		

  
Mecca Fink, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Susan A. Owens, Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

  
Gary A. Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney

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