

AUG 05 2025

VAN ZANDT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE GRAND SALINE CREEK RESERVOIR PROJECT

SUSAN STRICKLAND  
COUNTY CLERK VAN ZANDT COUNTY  
SEP 28 7:05 PM

**WHEREAS**, Van Zandt County was established in 1848 by the Texas Legislature and encompasses approximately 855 square miles, with the Neches and Sabine Rivers serving as its primary water sources; and

**WHEREAS**, the County's agricultural heritage has remained largely intact, with many properties continuously owned and operated by families over multiple generations for farming and cattle ranching; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Texas and Van Zandt County remain firmly committed to protecting private property rights and the ability of landowners to utilize their land and natural resources according to their needs and interests; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Canton has proposed the construction of the Grand Saline Creek Reservoir to meet anticipated future water demands; and

**WHEREAS**, implementation of the proposed reservoir project would require the acquisition of substantial private property, including the potential for the use of eminent domain to condemn land from unwilling sellers; and

**WHEREAS**, such a project would remove thousands of acres of productive agricultural land from operation and from the ad valorem tax rolls of both Van Zandt County and the Grand Saline Independent School District, resulting in long-term financial implications for local public services; and

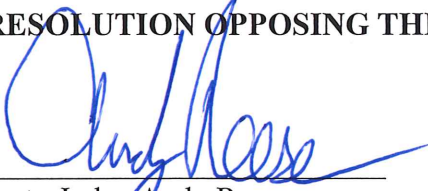
**WHEREAS**, while the County acknowledges and commends the City of Canton's efforts to proactively plan for future water supply, alternative solutions should be prioritized that do not require the involuntary displacement of landowners or the loss of significant tax base;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Commissioners Court of Van Zandt County, Texas, that:

1. The Commissioners' Court **formally opposes** the construction of the Grand Saline Creek Reservoir **if** the project would necessitate the taking of private property through the exercise of eminent domain powers; and
2. The Commissioners Court **opposes** the project **if** it would result in the permanent removal of substantial acreage from the tax rolls of Van Zandt County and the Grand Saline Independent School District.

**RESOLVED AND ADOPTED** this 5 day of AUGUST, 2025.

VAN ZANDT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT  
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County Judge Andy Reese  
Precinct 1 Commissioner Mitch Curtis  
Precinct 2 Commissioner Cliff Williams  
Precinct 3 Commissioner Bobby Phillips  
Precinct 4 Commissioner Brandon Barton