FILED FOR RECORD
at 1:00 o'clock P M

County Clerk, Hunt Cou

RESOLUTION BY HUNT COUNTY CALLING FOR LEGISLATION & REGULATION TO PROHIBIT THE APPLICATION OF BIOSOLIDS

WHEREAS the use of biosolids as an alternative to conventional fertifizer is becomes increasingly common in North Texas, posing a potential health & safety risk to the residents of Hunt County; and

WHEREAS biosolids are composed of sewage substances derived from wastewater treatment plants and are often sold as a convenient and cost-effective fertilizer substitute, yet they have been shown to contain pathogens, heavy metals, microplastics, PFAS a/k/a "Forever Chemicals", and other toxins; and

WHEREAS upon application, biosolids can contaminate agriculture, livestock, watersheds, and other significant natural resources with toxic substances that cannot be easily detected and eliminated; and

WHEREAS Johnson County has conducted professional testing of water resources & animal tissue and has detected levels of PFAS and other toxic substances unsafe for human or animal consumption; and

WHEREAS PFAS can migrate or travel beyond the site where they are directly applied, resulting in well water near the site of the application of biosolids that can test positive for PFAS at levels several hundred times the safe limit established by the EPA for drinking water; and

WHEREAS the distribution and application of biosolids anywhere in Hunt County and North Texas threatens the health & safety of all who consume water, agricultural & animal products, and other natural resources produced in Hunt County and North Texas; and

WHEREAS State Representative Helen Kerwin has filed House Bill 1674 which, among other things, would require manufacturers of products made from biosolids to test them monthly before selling them, and sets limits on the concentrations of specific PFAS chemicals, and State Senator Kevin Sparks has filed Senate Bill 886 as a companion bill to House Bill 1674.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1) That Hunt County joins Johnson County and other Texas Counties in demanding that the City of Fort Worth, and any other city engaging in this same practice, immediately suspend the practice of selling, distributing, disposing, or releasing biosolids from its wastewater treatment plant(s) to any recipients inside or outside of its jurisdiction, pending further testing by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and/or the Environmental Protection Agency; and
- 2) That Hunt County calls upon the Legislature of the State of Texas to empower Texas counties and municipalities to regulate or prohibit the application of biosolids and other

- known toxins within their own borders, as well as to empower the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to regulate biosolids; and
- 3) That Hunt County calls upon the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to investigate, analyze, test, and develop an effective body of regulation surrounding the use of biosolids and other substances derived from sludge and waste disposal; and
- 4) That Hunt County declares its support for House Bill 1674 and Senate Bill 886, for the purpose of regulating the concentrations of specific PFAS chemicals and their application.

DONE IN OPEN COURT THIS 25th DAY OF February, 2025.

Bobby W. Stovall, Hunt County Judge

Mark Hutchins, Commissioner, Pct. The Mark Hutchins, Commissioner, Commissioner,

David Monroe, Commissioner, Pct. 2

Garry Smith, Commissioner, Pct. 3

Steven Harrison, Commissioner, Pct. 4