STATE OF TEXAS \$

WEBB COUNTY \$

WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

RESOLUTION 11-27-2023-22 WEBB COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT WEBB COUNTY, TEXAS

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE WEBB COUNTY PACE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the 83rd Regular Session of the Texas Legislature enacted the Property Assessed Clean Energy Act, Texas Local Government Code Chapter 399 (the "PACE Act"), which allows the governing body of a local government, including a City or County, to designate an area of the territory of the local government as a region within which an authorized representative of a local government and the record owners of commercial, industrial, and large multifamily residential (5 or more dwelling units) real property may enter into written contracts to impose assessments on the property to repay the financing by the owners of permanent improvements fixed to the property intended to decrease energy or water consumption or demand;

WHEREAS, the installation or modification by property owners of qualified energy or water saving improvements to commercial, industrial, and large multifamily residential real property in the County will further the goals of energy and water conservation without cost to the public;

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court finds that third-party financing of energy and water conserving projects through contractual assessments maintained by the County ("PACE financing") furthers essential government purposes, including but not limited to, economic development, reducing energy consumption and costs, conserving water resources, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court adopted a Resolution of Intent to establish a PACE program for the County on November 13, 2023, including a reference to the report on the proposed program prepared as required by Section 399.009 of the PACE Act and made the report available to the public on the County's website and for inspection in the County Judge's Office;

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court finds that the administration of the PACE program by a qualified non-profit organization as an independent third-party Authorized Representative contracted by the County and compensated by application and administration fees paid by the participating property owners, will enable the program to be administered without use of County resources, will assure the objectives of impartiality and confidentiality of owner information, and will be convenient and advantageous to the County; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court also finds that because no County funds will be expended for PACE financing of the Authorized Representative's services, the selection of such an independent third-party Authorized Representative is not subject to the Professional Services Procurement Act or other County purchasing requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court held a public hearing on November 27, 2023 at 9am in the Webb County Commissioners Courthouse, 1000 Houston Street, Laredo, Texas 78040, at which the public

hearing could comment on the proposed program, including the report available for public inspection as mentioned above and as required by Section 399.008(a)(2):

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Commissioners Court of Webb County that:

- 1. <u>Recitals.</u> The recitals to this Resolution are true and correct and are incorporated into this resolution for all purposes.
- 2. <u>Establishment of Program.</u> The County hereby adopts this Resolution Establishing the Webb County Property Assessed Clean Energy Program ("Webb County PACE"), herein called "the Program," and finds that financing qualified projects through contractual assessments pursuant to the PACE Act is a valid public purpose and is convenient and advantageous to the County and its citizens.
- 3. <u>Contractual Assessments</u>. The County will, at the property owner's request, impose contractual assessments on the property to repay PACE financing for qualified energy and water conserving projects available to owners of privately owned commercial, industrial, and large multifamily property.
- 4. <u>Qualified Projects</u>. The following types of projects are qualified projects for PACE financing that may be subject to such contractual assessments:

Projects that (a) involve the installation or modification of a permanent improvement fixed to privately owned commercial, industrial, or residential real property with five (5) or more dwelling units, and (b) are intended to decrease energy or water consumption or demand, including a product, device, or interacting group of products or devices on the customer's side of the meter that uses energy technology to generate electricity, provide thermal energy, or regulate temperature.

An assessment may not be imposed to repay the financing of facilities for undeveloped lots or lots undergoing development at the time of the assessment, or the purchase or installation of products or devices not permanently fixed to real property.

- 5. <u>Region.</u> The entire geographic area within the County's jurisdictional boundaries is included in the region where PACE financing and assessments can occur.
- 6. Third- Party Financing. Financing for qualified projects under the Program will be provided by qualified third-party lenders chosen by the owners. Such lenders will execute written contracts with the Authorized Representative to service the debt through assessments, as required by the PACE Act. The contracts will provide for the lenders to determine the financial ability of owners to fulfill the financial obligations to be repaid through assessments, advance the funds to owners on such terms as are agreed between the lenders and the owners for the installation or modification of qualified projects, and service the debt secured by the assessments, directly or through a servicer, by collecting payments from the owners pursuant to financing documents executed between the lenders and the owners. The County will maintain and continue the assessments for the benefit of such lenders and will enforce the assessment lien for the benefit of a lender in the event of a default by an owner. The County will not, at this time, provide financing of any sort for the Webb County PACE program.

- 7. Authorized Representative. The Commissioners Court will designate Texas PACE Authority, a non-profit organization, to act as the Authorized Representative with authority to enter into written contracts with the record owners of real property in the County to impose assessments pursuant to the PACE Act to repay the financing of qualified projects on the owners' property, to enter into written contracts with the parties that provide third-party financing for such projects to service the debts through assessments, and to file written notice of each contractual assessment in the real property records of Webb County, all on behalf of the County. The Authorized Representative may, make technical and conforming updates as necessary so long as the changes are consistent with the resolution to establish the PACE program and the statute. The County Judge or his designee will be the liaison with the Authorized Representative.
- 8. <u>Enforcement.</u> The County will enforce the collection of past due assessments and may contract with a qualified law firm to assist in collection efforts.
- Report. The final report on the County PACE program, prepared in accordance with Section 399.009 of the Texas Local Government Code is attached and incorporated into this resolution. The County will post the resolution and report on the County's website.
- 10. <u>Amendment of Program.</u> The Commissioners Court may amend the County PACE Program by resolution. However, another public hearing is required before the Program may be amended to provide for County financing of qualified improvements through assessments.

Adopted this 27th day of November 2023.

Honorable Tano E. Tijerina, County Judge

Honorable Jesse Gonzalez Commissioner, Precinct 1 Honorable Rosaura "Wawi" Tierjina

Commissioner, Precinct 2

Honorable John Galo Commissioner, Precinct 3 Honorable Ricardo A. Jaime Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTESTED:

Margie Ramirez Ibarra Webb County Clerk

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