A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNDING OF A COMPREHENSIVE GROUNDWATER MONITORING PROGRAM UNDER THE BARRINGTON AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

WHEREAS, the Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) Water Resources Initiative was initiated in April 2001 with project goals to identify the location and quantity of shallow aquifer system groundwater that supplies the region, the groundwater quality, issues surrounding both groundwater supply and quality, and the long-term sustainability of the groundwater resources for this and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the science, mapping, technical databases and multiple programs that have been developed and implemented to date under BACOG's Water Resources Initiative were not only intended to characterize the region's groundwater, enable further groundwater analysis, enhance local environmental planning, promote public health and safety through well water testing and educate the public, but they were also intended to contribute to future development of groundwater protection and action strategies for our local governments' consideration and implementation; and

WHEREAS, in order to move forward with regional groundwater protection efforts, the new local strategies to be developed must be data-driven and defensible, which requires more water level data to be developed in the BACOG region; and

WHEREAS, the logical culmination and planned next step of the Water Resources Initiative is to establish a Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program that includes analysis of existing conditions, a dedicated well monitoring network, collection of new water level and other data and various reporting; and

WHEREAS, the above-stated goals and objectives are consistent with the BACOG organization's longstanding mission and the current priorities of the Executive Board, and whereby the Executive Board has specifically expressed that the officials of this region have a critical interest in protecting groundwater in the shallow aquifer system, that being virtually the sole water supply for the BACOG region; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program involves three major components: 1) Component I - baseline water levels and conditions analysis report, 2) Component II - monitoring well network, and 3) Component III – long term data analysis and trends reports; and

WHEREAS, for Component I, the one-time cost to BACOG is not more than \$20,000, for a contract with KOT Environmental Consulting Inc. for a baseline water levels and conditions analysis report; and

WHEREAS, for Component II, the cost to BACOG is not more than \$6,150 per year for data collection operations from three (3) dedicated monitoring wells, along with a commitment to the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for a three-year agreement for this purpose and this dollar amount each of the three years; and in conjunction with the commitment from BACOG to a three-year operations agreement, the USGS will contribute all capital costs for electronic telemetry equipment and its installation and maintenance for three (3) monitoring wells as a grant to BACOG, which is valued at approximately \$24,000; and

WHEREAS, for Component III, there is no cost to BACOG for the first year for long term data analysis and trends reports because there is no data yet to analyze, but the costs for this Component will begin in year two; and

WHEREAS, the BACOG Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program is intended to be a long term program that will measure and report on the groundwater levels in the aquifer system in which 99 percent of all wells in the BACOG area are located and will report whether those water levels are stable or declining and alert officials and residents to trends and impending conditions; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that, although Component I is a one-time cost, Component II and Component III have costs in future years that have been carefully estimated but cannot be known for certain due to factors such as number of wells in the network which may be expanded over the years and grant funding received, but that all future program costs will be brought to the BACOG member boards for consideration; and

WHEREAS, while it is understood that this type of program has annual, long term costs that may increase with time it will be possible to terminate the Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program at any time with some consequent loss of equipment, resources and data continuity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the *[Village/Township of (name)]* does hereby support the establishment and funding of the BACOG Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program as heretofore described and does accept the funding recommendations of the BACOG Executive Board as unanimously approved at their meetings of August 27, 2013, and September 24, 2013, with all village and township government members represented as set out below:

Section 1: First year program costs of \$26,150 for Component I (up to \$20,000) and Component II (up to \$6,150) of the Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program will be paid out of cash reserves of BACOG.

Section 2: In subsequent years, all Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program costs will be identified as a separate fund within the BACOG budget. Costs for the Comprehensive Groundwater Monitoring Program will be assessed to members in the same manner as is then-current, using the formula in place at the time of the year assessed.

Section 3: All contracts to be executed under this program are subject to review by the BACOG attorney.

This Resolution is passed the **28th** day of **October**, 2013, by:

AYES: 7 , NAYS: 0 , ABSENT: 0 , ABSTAIN:

Village President

ATTEST:

<u>Voloris G. Srandel</u> Village Clerk