CITY OF AMERICAN FALLS

A RESOLUTION REQUSTING FUNDING FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FOR A WATERSMART WATER GRANT FOR THE CITY'S DRINKING WATER PROJECT

WHEREAS, The U.S Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation provides funding opportunities for water and energy efficiency projects as part of the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Program; and

WHEREAS, the City of American Falls has applied to the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation for grant funding to help defray the cost of installation of water meters; and

WHEREAS, the City of American Falls has reviewed and supports the application submitted; and WHEREAS, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Program, which governs the procedures of making such application, the governing body of the city is required to adopt a resolution committing to the required matching funds.

THE CITY OF AMERICAN FALLS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS

- Section 1. The U.S Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation under the WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Program has provided notice of a proposed grant award to the City of American Falls to help defray the cost of installing water meters as described in the application for financial assistance.
- Section 2. The Mayor of the City of American Falls is hereby authorized to execute a contract with the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Program for such financial assistance.
- Section 3. The Mayor is further specifically authorized to make the required assurances to the U.S Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation in accordance with the rules, regulations, and policies of the U.S Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Program.
- **Section 4.** The additional funding in support of the project will be provided through sources of capital funding available to the city, such as water rates, state revolving loan funds and revenue bonds.

Section 5. The City will work with the U.S Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant funding agreement.

Section 6. The City commits to completing the project as described in the grant application.

Section 7. This resolution will become effective on adoption.

Adopted by the City of American Falls on July 20, 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

CITY OF AMERICAN FALLS

550 North Oregon Trail

(208)226-2569

American Falls, Idaho 83211

(208)226-2548 (FAX)



February 6, 2024

RE: Water Meter Letter of Support

To whom it may concern:

This letter of support is being provided for grant financial support for the City of American Falls Water/Wastewater Department. This department is unique in that two departments are combined into one. American Falls is a small community with limited resources. This includes the Water/Wastewater Department. There are a total of six employees, including myself, in the department.

Water meters would greatly benefit the City of American Falls. Meters would help reduce water consumption, free up man power in the Water/Wastewater Department, and help with revenue and costs.

The City of American Falls has a Water Facilities Planning Study. It is stated on page five of that study, "Current average water usage in American Falls is over two times greater than the average use in the State of Idaho. If water use remains unchecked, the city will exceed its current available supply."

The City of American Falls has had high water consumption for many years. The total water consumption for 2022 was 676,007,700 gallons. The total water consumption for 2023 was 646,699,300 gallons. The city has tried to educate the public about conserving water by having open houses, notes on the city website, and fliers. These efforts did not have any positive results. Meters will give the public a financial incentive to conserve water.

A meter system such as an advanced metering infrastructure would help the City of American Falls Water/ Wastewater Department by freeing up man power. Two people from the department must go shut off water for delinquencies in payment at the end of every month. This process usually takes about three to four hours. Someone turns water on again as payments are made by the owner. A centralized meter system would eliminate personnel having to physically turn off /on water valves or having to read meters. A meter system would allow employees to focus more time on maintenance such as rebuilding control valves and exercising main line valves.

Meters will help by giving a streamlined means of collecting revenue. Water revenue is currently being collected using a flat rate. This flat rate does not take into consideration the higher stresses to the water system at higher demands. People who use less water are paying the same amount as those using much more. The conservation of water will help costs in the department by having less wear and tear on equipment such as pumps.

Sincerely,

Scott Dalling

Water/ Wastewater Superintendent

Scott Dalling

(208)541-0108

"Where the sun shines in every window"

Power County Soil & Water Conservation District

2769 Fairground Road Ste A American Falls, Idaho 83211

Phone: 208-244-3726

Email: Powerswcd5@gmail.com

Feb. 14, 2024

To whom it may concern:

The Power County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors are pleased to express support for the American Falls Water Meter Installation Conservation Project. Our mission as a district is to coordinate technical, financial and education assistance for responsible management of natural resources, including water. Water meters have been proven to reduce water usage among individual users and implementing their installation would be a necessary step toward wise and responsible use of natural resources at all levels.

Thank you,

Lan Vermann

Ivan Permann

Power SWCD Board Chairman