

CITY OF AMERICAN FALLS

550 North Oregon Trail

(208)226-2569

American Falls, Idaho 83211

(208)226-2548 (FAX)



April 16, 2025

RE: Water Project 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.

"Where the sun shines in every window"

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Upgrading our water lines and fire hydrants are another essential part of our water project. We have 13 miles of cast iron water line that not only cannot deliver adequate volumes of water, they are decaying due to their age. Many of our fire hydrants have the same problems. They do not deliver sufficient flows and are 40+ years old. Addition fire hydrants are needed to give the city suitable fire protection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Dalling".

Scott Dalling

Water/ Wastewater Superintendent

(208)541-0108

"Where the sun shines in every window"

Power Soil & Water Conservation District

2769 Fairground Road Ste A American Falls, Idaho 83211 Phone: 208-244-3726 Email: Powerswcd5@gmail.com

April 25, 2025

To whom it may concern:

The Power County Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors are please 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 their installation is a necessary step toward wise and responsible use of natural resources.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Permann", written in a cursive style.

Ivan Permann

PowerSWCD Board Chairman