

BONNEVILLE COUNTY, IDAHO

RESOLUTION 24-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF BONNEVILLE, IDAHO, IN SUPPORT OF CROP PRODUCERS IN BONNEVILLE COUNTY

WHEREAS, agriculture is one of the greatest economic drivers of the economy of Bonneville County, and

WHEREAS, Bonneville County has over 131,000 acres of irrigated farmland, and

WHEREAS, Bonneville County is the largest producer of malt barley in the State of Idaho, and

WHEREAS, large agricultural businesses have made a significant investment in Bonneville County and rely on crops produced to sustain their businesses. These businesses include malting plants, such as Anheuser Busch and Grupo Modelo, and large potato packers, such as Idahoan, as well as equipment dealers, dairies, farm supply stores, fertilizer dealers, irrigation supply stores, and many others, all of which would suffer large economic losses if irrigation water were curtailed, and

WHEREAS, potatoes, wheat, barley, canola, alfalfa, and other crops are already planted, fertilized, and growing. Therefore, if water were shut off at this late date in the season millions of dollars of investment would be lost, and

WHEREAS, there is a concern that notice was not given prior to that investment being made and a significant loss of crops could result in an inability of farmers to pay bank operating debts, land mortgages, property taxes, and other financial obligations which would have a significant negative impact to the Bonneville County economy, and

WHEREAS, Eastern Idaho is currently experiencing an above average water year. All reservoirs in Eastern Idaho have above normal levels and 644,000-acre feet of water flowed past Milner dam as of May 30th, and

WHEREAS, the ground water districts in Eastern Idaho are working on reasonable mitigation plans seeking to find long term solutions rather than curtailments, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's office can intervene to avoid a potential economic disaster.

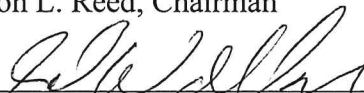
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bonneville County Board of Commissioners petition Governor Brad Little to direct the Idaho Department of Water Resources Director to put a stay on the current water call from the Twin Falls Canal Company and find reasonable and long-term solutions to the complex issue of water management in Idaho.

DATED this 13th day of June, 2024


BONNEVILLE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



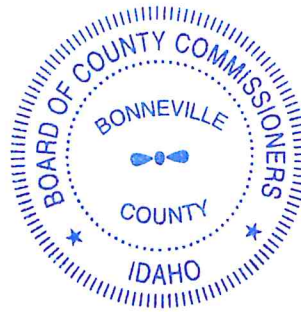
Bryon L. Reed, Chairman




Jonathan D. Walker, Member



Roger S. Christensen, Member



ATTEST:


Kayla Lawrence
Deputy Clerk and Administrative
Assistant to the Bonneville County
Commissioners