

# **City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska**

**Monday, June 19, 2017**

**Regular Meeting**

## **Item Resolut.2**

**Council to consider a Resolution supporting the Wyoming Water Development Commission Level II study of the Panhandle Alliance Water Supply Project (PAWS) and formation of Governance.**

**Staff Contact: Nathan Johnson, City Manager**



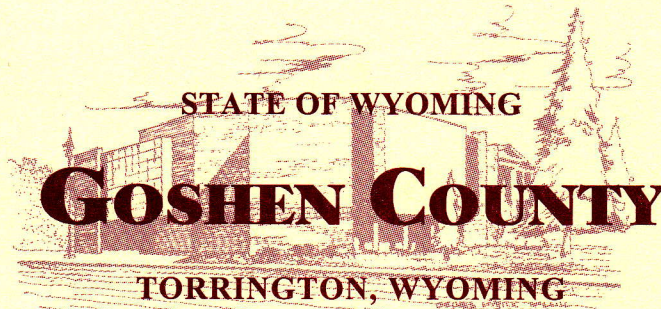
With deteriorating water quality issues facing communities in the North Platte River Basin in southeast Wyoming and western Nebraska, the potential for regional water systems have been discussed and considered in the Valley long before this specific project. The ever-increasing regulatory efforts of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), particularly through the National Safe Water Drinking Act, and the effects those have on our fiscal ability to produce quality potable water for our constituents only enhances the benefit of a regional approach to potable water.

**PAWS, specifically:**

1. May, 2010 - Goshen County and the City of Torrington submitted a Statement of Interest to the Bureau of Reclamation (BUREC)
2. June, 2010 – BUREC invited Submittal of Proposal
3. July, 2010 – Goshen County, City of Torrington, Scotts Bluff County, & City of Scottsbluff Submitted Proposal to BUREC
4. August, 2010 – BUREC Awarded Grant (grants < \$200,000 were funded 100%)
5. December, 2010 – BUREC Appraisal Investigation Agreement executed with Goshen County as the Agreement Sponsor, Ready to Begin
6. Administration of Appraisal Investigation (kick-off meeting was February, 2011):
  - a. Advisory Board – met two times in person
  - b. Project Team – met weekly by conference call until completed
7. Appraisal Investigation was completed November, 2011
8. December, 2014 - After multiple reviews by BUREC the final report was submitted and the Bureau issued their report (BUREC report received in February, 2015).
9. August, 2015 - Goshen County submitted application to WWDC for Level II Study to finalize recommended alternate and complete preliminary design
10. December, 2015 - WWDC & Legislature Select Water Committee approved Level II Study
11. August, 2016 - Agreements approved between parties (Scottsbluff, NE agreed to pay 50% of study costs), and work began
12. Next:
  - a. Further evaluation of water supply and alternatives
  - b. Formation of Governance for the Regional Water System
  - c. September, 2018 - Scheduled completion date for Level II Study



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**RESOLUTION No. 2017-3**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION LEVEL II STUDY OF THE PLATTE ALLIANCE WATER SUPPLY (PAWS) PROJECT AND THE FORMATION OF GOVERNANCE FOR A REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM.

**W I T N E S S E T H**

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners of Goshen County, Wyoming recognize that communities in the North Platte River Basin in southeast Wyoming and western Nebraska are experiencing deteriorating water quality and it is becoming increasingly difficult and costly to meet public water quality standards;

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners recognize that this trend toward a lack of dependable water quality, if allowed to persist, will limit the ability of the region to sustain current and future growth and economic vitality;

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners are aware that in addition to the deteriorating water quality, through the National Safe Water Drinking Act the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring monitoring of additional water quality constituents and placing limits on the levels of these constituents in public water systems that will continue to increase the cost of public water supplies;

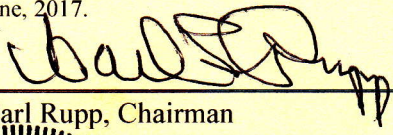
**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners recognize that the best long-term solution for potable water supply in the Basin is a regional system approach, and that centralized water treatment will assist to off-set the long term cost increases impacting individual communities;

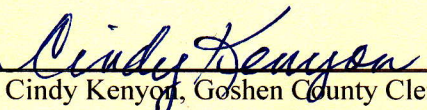
**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners recognize that a regional solution to domestic water supply will include an upstream water source(s), upstream water treatment, a potable water pipeline, and the wholesale selling of water to each community in lieu of each community attempting to solve the quality issues on their own at a higher cost; and

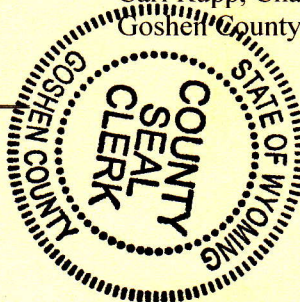
**WHEREAS**, the Commissioners understand that a regional system will require the formation of an organization to operate the system.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE COUNTY OF GOSHEN, WYOMING**, that the Commissioners hereby reiterate their support for completion of the Level II Study of the Platte Alliance Water Supply (PAWS) Project, and the Commissioners hereby express their full support for the formation of Governance for a regional water system, and whole-heartedly encourage participation from all eligible communities in the Basin.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 6th day of June, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Rupp, Chairman  
Goshen County Commission

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Kenyon, Goshen County Clerk





**RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WYOMING WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
LEVEL II STUDY OF THE PLATTE ALLIANCE WATER SUPPLY (PAWS) PROJECT AND THE  
FORMATION OF GOVERNANCE FOR A REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM.

**W I T N E S S E T H**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska recognizes that communities in the North Platte River Basin in western Nebraska and southeast Wyoming are experiencing deteriorating water quality and it is becoming increasingly difficult and costly to meet public water quality standards;

**WHEREAS**, the Council recognizes that this trend toward a lack of dependable water quality, if allowed to persist, will limit the ability of the region to sustain current and future growth and economic vitality;

**WHEREAS**, the Council is aware that in addition to the deteriorating water quality, through the National Safe Water Drinking Act the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring monitoring of additional water quality constituents and placing limits on the levels of these constituents in public water systems that will continue to increase the cost of public water supplies;

**WHEREAS**, the Council recognizes that the best long-term solution for potable water supply in the Basin is a regional system approach, and that centralized water treatment will assist to off-set the long term cost increases impacting individual communities;

**WHEREAS**, the Council recognizes that a regional solution to domestic water supply will include an upstream water source(s), upstream water treatment, a potable water pipeline, and the wholesale selling of water to each community in lieu of each community attempting to solve the quality issues on their own at a higher cost; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council understands that a regional system will require the formation of an organization to operate the system.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA**, that the Council hereby reiterates their support for completion of the Level II Study of the Platte Alliance Water Supply (PAWS) Project, and the Council hereby expresses their full support for the formation of Governance for a regional water system and their intent to participate in the process and system, and hereby encourage participation from all eligible communities in the Basin.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS \_\_\_\_ day of June, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Meininger, Mayor  
City of Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cindy Dickinson, CMC  
City Clerk