

## SUBCOMMITTEE F PUBLIC COMMENT 1-20-2021

Wednesday 1-20-2021

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana DNRC

Name: Autumn Coleman

Email: [autumn.coleman@mt.gov](mailto:autumn.coleman@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-6687

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: Representing DNRC. Available to provide background on the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program, answer any questions about funding for the Program or individual projects or subgrant programs.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana DNRC

Name: Autumn Coleman

Email: [autumn.coleman@mt.gov](mailto:autumn.coleman@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-6687

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: Representing DNRC. Available to provide background on the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program, answer any questions about funding for the Program or individual projects or subgrant programs.

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Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Lindsay Volpe

Email: [lmvolpe@mt.gov](mailto:lmvolpe@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-9766

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: DNRC RRGL Program Manager

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Sandra J Jones

Email: [roundupmayor@yahoo.com](mailto:roundupmayor@yahoo.com)

Phone: (406) 855-1574

City, State: Roundup

Written Statement: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Committee I am Sandra Jones, Mayor of the City of Roundup and I am here as a proponent for HB 6, HB 11, and HB 14

On behalf of the City of Roundup I want to say that we appreciate all of the help that has been provided to us through these programs. Over the past 10 years we have been moving forward in accordance with our priorities as laid out in our Capital Improvement Plan focused on upgrading our water system to make it sustainable. And we have now completed 5 phases of replacing the antiquated, one hundred years old water mains distribution system. The amount of iron in our water mixed with the antiquated cast iron water main pipes diminishes the quality of our water.

During this time the City of Roundup has raised water rates accordingly and has implemented a \$15.00 a month Capital Surcharge to help offset debt incurred for the project. The City of Roundup is also part of the Central Montana Regional Water Authority (CMRWA) which has been working for these past 19 years to bring a new source of water into the City. Federal Authorization has now been approved for the CMRWA. The TSEP, DNRC-RRGL and other funding programs from the State and Federal governments have allowed us to keep our rates fairly reasonable to prepare for the large rate increase coming when the CMRWA begins serving Roundup.

We are now respectfully asking for help from these programs again to complete the final phase of this water distribution infrastructure project. We are hopeful that the completion of the infrastructure project will serve to coincide with the timing of receiving the new source of water from the CMRWA.

Thank you for your time and I along with our Engineer Greg Lukasik and Public Works Director Lon Sibley are here to answer any question you may have.

Respectfully

Roundup Mayor

Sandra Jones

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: City of Thompson Falls

Name: Carrie Gardner

Email: [cgardner@greatwesteng.com](mailto:cgardner@greatwesteng.com)

Phone: (406) 459-6816

City, State: Helena, Montana

Written Statement: I am sitting in as a technical reference for any technical questions the committee may have.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

Details:

Bill: HB-11: Treasure State Endowment Program 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: City of Thompson Falls

Name: Carrie Gardner

Email: [cgardner@greatwesteng.com](mailto:cgardner@greatwesteng.com)

Phone: (406) 459-6816

City, State: HELENA, Montana

Written Statement: I am sitting in as a technical reference for any technical questions the committee may have.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Carrie Gardner

Email: [cgardner@greatwesteng.com](mailto:cgardner@greatwesteng.com)

Phone: (406) 459-6816

City, State: HELENA

Written Statement: I am sitting in as a technical reference should the committee have any technical questions.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Yellowstone Conservation District

Name: Ray Beck

Email: [beck\\_ray2001@yahoo.com](mailto:beck_ray2001@yahoo.com)

Phone: (406) 431-4465

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: Mr. Chair and members of the committee my name is Ray Beck, I'm representing the Yellowstone Conservation District (YCD). The YCD would like to go on record supporting the Lockwood Water and Sewer District waste water project. This is an important project for the protection of human and the natural resource health in the area. Thank you

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-11: Treasure State Endowment Program 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Mike Ariztia

Email: [mikea@lockwoodwater.com](mailto:mikea@lockwoodwater.com)

Phone: (406) 259-4120

City, State: Billings

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-14: Long-Range Building Bonding Program 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: City of Fort Benton

Name: Joel Pilcher

Email: [jpilcher@greatwesteng.com](mailto:jpilcher@greatwesteng.com)

Phone: (406) 431-8244

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-11: Treasure State Endowment Program 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Cooke City Sewer District

Name: Jackie Haines

Email: [jackiej.haines@gmail.com](mailto:jackiej.haines@gmail.com)

Phone: (406) 599-9898

City, State: Bozeman

Written Statement: N/A, I plan to be an informational witness

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Cooke City Sewer District

Name: Jackie Haines  
Email: [jackiej.haines@gmail.com](mailto:jackiej.haines@gmail.com)  
Phone: (406) 599-9898  
City, State: Bozeman  
Written Statement: N/A, I will be an informational witness  
Files:  
Testify via Zoom: No  
Zoom Method: N/A

Details:  
Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning  
Position: Informational Witness  
Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes  
Organization: Colter Pass, Cooke City and Silvergate County Dist  
Name: Lisa Ledoux  
Email: [lisa@nrmedd.org](mailto:lisa@nrmedd.org)  
Phone: (406) 600-9526  
City, State: Belgrade, MT  
Written Statement: I am going to be at the Hearing in support of Colter Pass, Cooke City and Silvergate County Sewer District.  
Files:  
Testify via Zoom: No  
Zoom Method: N/A

Details:  
Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning  
Position: Proponent  
Representing an Entity/Another Person: No  
Organization: N/A  
Name: Bob Smith  
Email: [cathsebob@aol.com](mailto:cathsebob@aol.com)  
Phone: (406) 223-0908  
City, State: Cooke City, MT  
Written Statement: My name is Bob Smith and I am the Chairman of the Colter Pass, Cooke City and Silvergate County Sewer District. I am testifying via Zoom for HB 6 and HB 11. Please see uploaded written testimony and letters of support. Thank you to the committee and I look forward to testifying tomorrow morning.  
Files: DNRC Legislative Session Final Written Testimony Package.pdf Testify via Zoom: Yes Zoom Method: Computer

JANUARY 21, 2021



# **COLTER PASS, COOKE CITY, SILVERGATE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT**

## **TSEP AND RRGL FUNDING TESTIMONY BOB SMITH, CHAIRMAN**

Details:

Bill: HB-14: Long-Range Building Bonding Program 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Tammy Comer

Email: [ffield@3rivers.net](mailto:ffield@3rivers.net)

Phone: (406) 467-2510

City, State: Fairfield, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files: Fairfield Legislative Hearing Written Testimony.pdf Testify via Zoom: Yes Zoom Method: Computer

**Town of Fairfield  
Water System Improvements Project**

The Town of Fairfield is a small farming community in Teton County. The Town serves a population of around 750 people and among the many public services available, the Town is responsible for providing safe drinking water and sewer service.

Fairfield's water system was originally constructed in the 1940s and similar to many communities across the state, the town needs financial assistance in completing necessary upgrades to continue providing clean drinking water and fire protection.

The water system in Fairfield is experiencing leakage and undersized main lines limit fire flow capacity. Many copper service line connections have separated from the main line and asbestos cement piping continues to deteriorate. The deteriorating condition of the water system provides potential entry points for contaminants to enter our system. Leaking pipes also increase the threat of backflow contamination.

With these grants Fairfield will be able address areas of greatest concern, replacing nearly 8,000 feet of pipe, which is just the first phase of necessary improvements. Analysis of the Town's water system also indicates that their water storage capacity may not be sufficient to meet domestic demands and fire flows during a fire event. Funding assistance provided in House Bills 11 and 14 will allow us to move forward with these necessary improvements while minimizing the financial impact to our users, who already pay on average over \$100 a month for water and sewer, which is around 145% of the community's target rate calculated by the Department of Commerce.

We are asking for your support of House Bill 11 and House Bill 14 so we can receive the financial assistance we need to implement the improvements that are necessary to keep our water system safe.

*Pictures Below: Existing pipe removed from the ground during repairs completed in summer 2020. The pipe is clearly deteriorated with holes and corrosion present.*



Details:

Bill: HB-14: Long-Range Building Bonding Program 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Chris Hindoien

Email: [chindoien@choteaumont.org](mailto:chindoien@choteaumont.org)

Phone: (406) 590-3031

City, State: Choteau, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files: Choteau Legislative Hearing Written Testimony.pdf Testify via Zoom: Yes Zoom Method: Computer

**City of Choteau  
Water System Improvements Project  
Talking Points**

- The City of Choteau owns and operates a public water system, serving a population of around 1,700
- Original system construction was in 1910 and while portions have been updated, much of the system has far outlived its useful life and needs to be replaced
  - The water system experiences 40% water loss on average and as high as 70% in some months
  - Leaking pipes increase the threat of backflow contamination
  - Approximately 20% of the system includes 4-inch diameter mains which does not comply with DEQ requirements
    - Undersized mains limit flows that could be critical in an emergency fire situation
  - The City also does not have a reliable redundant water supply source
    - The City's water supply feeds the water storage tanks and distribution system through a single transmission main
      - In the event there is a break in the transmission main, much of the system is without water
    - The existing well is located in the floodplain and could be susceptible to contamination
- The proposed improvements will develop a redundant water supply and transmission main and will replace 6,000 feet of distribution system piping to reduce leakage, minimize the threat of backflow contamination events, and improve fire flows throughout the system.
- The estimated cost of the project is \$4,160,000
  - The proposed funding package includes a \$625,000 Treasure State Endowment Grant and a \$125,000 DNRC-RRGL grant along with a local contribution and loan/grant funding through either Rural Development or State Revolving Fund
  - With the proposed funding package, which will be possible with the passing of House Bill 14, the City of Choteau is looking at raising monthly rates by around \$8 per user
  - If House Bill 14 fails, the City will have to look at using additional loan dollars and rates will need to go up by \$11 to \$19 per user per month, resulting in users paying around 145% of the target rate calculated for the community by Department of Commerce
- The City of Choteau supports House Bill 14 for the Choteau community and all Montana communities who could benefit from the bill.

Details:

Bill: HB-11: Treasure State Endowment Program 2021-01-21 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Chris Hindoien

Email: [chindoien@choteaumt.org](mailto:chindoien@choteaumt.org)

Phone: (406) 590-3031

City, State: Choteau, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files: Choteau Legislative Hearing Written Testimony.pdf Testify via Zoom: Yes Zoom Method: Computer



**City of Choteau  
Water System Improvements Project  
Talking Points**

- The City of Choteau owns and operates a public water system, serving a population of around 1,700
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  - If House Bill 14 fails, the City will have to look at using additional loan dollars and rates will need to go up by \$11 to \$19 per user per month, resulting in users paying around 145% of the target rate calculated for the community by Department of Commerce
- The City of Choteau supports House Bill 14 for the Choteau community and all Montana communities who could benefit from the bill.

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group

Name: Brita Olson

Email: [brita@lcfwg.org](mailto:brita@lcfwg.org)

Phone: (208) 304-3852

City, State: Trout Creek, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files: Testimony in support of HB6\_LCFWG.pdf Testify via Zoom: No Zoom Method: N/A



LOWER CLARK FORK  
WATERSHED GROUP

PO Box 1328, Trout Creek, MT, 59874

208.374.3852

lcfwg.org

To the Montana State Legislature:

The Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group (LCFWG) is a collaborative 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization working in Sanders County, Montana. Much like other watershed groups across the state, we work with local landowners and organizations as well as local, state, and federal government agencies to facilitate on-the-ground projects to benefit our watershed. In the lower Clark Fork, projects typically require multiple partners and funding sources to garner enough support and resources to be implemented. Critical resources for planning and project development are often very limited, but essential for developing effective solutions to identified resource concerns.

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation's Watershed Management Grant program is one of the few resources in the state which provides direct support for the state's watershed groups. Resources provided through this program can empower groups to plan, prioritize, and implement priority projects that make the most effective use of limited financial resources for the benefit of Montana's watersheds.

By way of example, in 2017, the LCFWG received a \$10,000 Watershed Management Grant which allowed our group to complete a Watershed Restoration Plan for the watershed where we work. This has laid the groundwork for numerous projects, and allowed us to leverage additional resources. In 2019, we implemented two new watershed improvement projects, funded over \$80,000 in local contracts, and supported over \$17,500 of watershed work completed by other partner organizations working with us in our watershed. In 2020, we implemented five new watershed projects, funded nearly \$90,000 in local contracts for on-the-ground restoration, and supported over \$25,000 of watershed work completed by other partner organizations. These accomplishments were funded primarily by both private and federal sources, but made possible in part due to the planning efforts supported by the original Watershed Management Grant we received in 2017. In fact, less than 3% of our work in the last two years has been funded by state appropriations to the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. If you invest in Montana's watershed groups, they will deliver you a return on your investment!

Healthy watersheds throughout the state provide water for drinking, irrigation, recreation, and support the incredible fish and wildlife resources and landscapes of the state. Watershed groups are invaluable partners to the state in providing "a clean and healthful environment" – a right of all Montana's citizens protected by our constitution. We urge you to support HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants which will provide continued support to Montana's watershed groups and help us continue to protect and improve water resources for the good of all Montana's citizens.

Sincerely,

Brita Olson, on behalf of the Lower Clark Fork Watershed Group Board of Directors

Thursday, 1-21-2021

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: David C Larson

Email: [dclarson@mt.gov](mailto:dclarson@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-2951

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Opponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Hill County Commissioners

Name: Jake

Email: [strissel@hillcounty.us](mailto:strissel@hillcounty.us)

Phone: (406) 265-5481

City, State: Havre, Montana

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Ann Kulczyk

Email: [akulczyk@mt.gov](mailto:akulczyk@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 228-8126

City, State: Glasgow, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana Association of Conservation Districts

Name: Jeffrey Tiberi

Email: [Tiberi52@gmail.com](mailto:Tiberi52@gmail.com)

Phone: (406) 465-8813

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: HB 6 has over the years provided funds for many of Montana's Conservation Districts to get conservation on the ground. We have been responsible stewards of any funds the Legislature has allocated. The requests in this Session's bill layout a number of water related projects that we hope to be able to make progress on if funding is made available. The Montana Association of Conservation Districts supports HB 6 and hopes that you will help us continue our efforts to conserve Montana's natural resources.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana Association of Conservation Districts

Name: Jeffrey Tiberi

Email: [Tiberi52@gmail.com](mailto:Tiberi52@gmail.com)

Phone: (406) 465-8813

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: HB 6 has over the years provided funds for many of Montana's Conservation Districts to get conservation on the ground. We have been responsible stewards of any funds the Legislature has allocated. The requests in this Session's bill layout a number of water related projects that we hope to be able to make progress on if funding is made available. The Montana Association of Conservation Districts supports HB 6 and hopes that you will help us continue our efforts to conserve Montana's natural resources.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-11: Treasure State Endowment Program 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Richard Morris

Email: [FBenton@itstriangle.com](mailto:FBenton@itstriangle.com)

Phone: (406) 622-5494

City, State: Fort Benton, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-14: Long-Range Building Bonding Program 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Krista Lee Evans

Email: [blakecrk@gmail.com](mailto:blakecrk@gmail.com)

Phone: (406) 439-2215

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: Montana Milk Producers Association supports the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab proposal. The state milk lab is a part of the veterinary diagnostic lab. The milk lab's services are critical to the continued supply of safe fresh milk to Montana consumers.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

Details:

Bill: HB-6: Renewable Resource Grants 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Bill Hallinan

Email: [wjhallinan@gmail.com](mailto:wjhallinan@gmail.com)

Phone: (406) 461-9876

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: I fully support this bill, goals, and funding. I would suggest a follow up audit in five year to gauge the success of the bill. Measures by which the programs success will be gauged should be indicated in the bill's language. The goal should be to indicate which renewable standards will apply for the success of the program goals to be evident.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

Details:

Bill: HB-14: Long-Range Building Bonding Program 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Nick O. Chiechi

Email: [office@nvcwsd.com](mailto:office@nvcwsd.com)

Phone: (406) 524-3374

City, State: Saint Marie, MT

Written Statement: Greg Lukasik from Great West Engineering will be testifying on our behalf.

Files: Letter.pdf

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

NORTH VALLEY COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT, INC.  
521 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. BOX 119  
SAINT MARIE, MT 59231  
e-mail: [office@nvcwsd.com](mailto:office@nvcwsd.com)  
PHONE/FAX: 406-524-3374

Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number via TDD/TTY,  
by calling 1-800-253-4091 (TTY)/1-866-253-4090 (voice).  
"Providing Clean Water to The Residents of Saint Marie."

January 21, 2021

State of Montana Legislature  
Long Range Planning Committee

RE: North Valley County Water System Improvements Project

Dear Committee Members:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the North Valley County Water and Sewer District in support of HB 14. The District has applied for a TSEP and DNRC grant to make improvements to the community's water system. Our water system, originally installed with the old Glasgow military base, has aging AC water mains which are leaking excessively and causing a strain on the District's manpower and financial resources. It is critical the District replace these failing water mains to continue to provide reliable water service to the residents of the St. Marie community. The St. Marie community is home to many retired military veterans, so keeping our rates reasonable is extremely important.

Grant funds will be used to upgrade the water mains to the more reliable PVC water mains which will be capable of providing adequate service and have a much longer useful life. TSEP and DNRC grant funding will help to keep user rates as affordable as possible for a community with a median household income of just \$28,604 and our water and wastewater combined rates will be raised up to 134% of the target rate to complete this project.

These objectives are consistent with the following objective of Montana's TSEP Program, *assist communities in funding infrastructure projects which are detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare of Montana citizens and to create a partnership between the state and local governments to make necessary public projects affordable.*

We appreciate your support for HB 14 and thank you all for your support of the TSEP and DNRC programs. We look forward to working with the DNRC and Department of Commerce to complete this important project. Please feel free to contact me at any time at 406-399-0008 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Nick Chiechi  
NVCWSD Board President

Nick O. Chiechi, President  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Frank Piosos Carl Millerick Phillip DeFelleo Hugh Frankson  
*"This institution is an equal opportunity provider."*

Details:

Bill: HB-11: Treasure State Endowment Program 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Matthew Locati

Email: [darbytownmayor@gmail.com](mailto:darbytownmayor@gmail.com)

Phone: (406) 381-3909

City, State: Darby, MT

Written Statement: Not Provided

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-11: Treasure State Endowment Program 2021-01-22 08:30 AM - (H) JAS on Long-Range Planning

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Big Sky Economic Development

Name: Steve Arveschoug

Email: [stevea@bigskyeda.org](mailto:stevea@bigskyeda.org)

Phone: (406) 869-8401

City, State: Billings

Written Statement: Big Sky Economic Development would like to offer comments in support of HB 11.

TSEP funding is essential for communities across Montana to be able to repair and replace aging infrastructure as well as develop new infrastructure. Yellowstone County has accessed TSEP funding to replace many bridges throughout the county that were deficient. Communities need and rely on TSEP funding for costly water systems, wastewater treatment facilities, storm sewer systems, solid waste disposal and bridges. This funding provides a critical funding source for our communities to help alleviate public health and safety concerns.

We also appreciate the legislature's consideration of funding the Lockwood water and sewer District, it is a critical need in Yellowstone County.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A