

**TOWN OF MINTURN, COLORADO
RESOLUTION NO. 06 – SERIES 2024**

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BOLTS DITCH ACT

WHEREAS, the Town of Minturn (the “Town”) is a Colorado home rule municipality duly organized and existing under Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and the Town of Minturn Home Rule Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Town is the owner of a municipal water system, which the Town operates within its municipal boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Eagle River Water & Sanitation District (the “District”) and the Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority (the “Authority”) have an integrated water system that provides municipal water and sanitation services from Vail to Edwards; and

WHEREAS, the District provides sanitation service from Vail to Edwards, including the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town’s jurisdictional boundaries are included within the District for sanitation purposes, but not for water purposes; and

WHEREAS, the District and Authority are adjudicating water rights and have purchased land within the Town in order to construct and operate a 1,200 acre-foot water storage reservoir called Bolts Lake, which will provide sustainable water supplies for the region; and

WHEREAS, the Town, District, and Authority entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement, in which the District and Authority agreed to provide the Town with augmentation water supplies from Bolts Lake and other water sources to supplement the Town’s municipal water system; and

WHEREAS, Bolts Ditch is an essential filling source for Bolts Lake, and the Town assigned its interest in the Bolts Ditch physical headgate and ditch structure to the District and Authority; and

WHEREAS, Section 1101 of Public Law 116-9, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, allows the Bolts Ditch to be operated within the Holy Cross Wilderness area for diversion of water and use, maintenance, and repair of the Bolts Ditch and headgate, but restricts use, maintenance, and repair authority exclusively to the Town; and

WHEREAS, the District, Authority, and Town are seeking to expand Public Law 116-9 to include the District and Authority as additional governmental entities that may also use, maintain, and repair the Bolts Ditch and its headgate; and

WHEREAS, the Bolts Ditch Act (the “Act”), introduced on June 22, 2023, in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. Joe Neguse, H.R. 4297(118th), and the U.S. Senate by Sen.

Michael Bennet, S. 2156 (118th), seeks to authorize the District and Authority to be eligible to complete the maintenance work on Bolts Ditch and its headgate within the Holy Cross Wilderness, Colorado.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of Minturn Town Council, State of Colorado, the Town hereby supports the immediate passage of the Act as introduced to facilitate the construction and operation of Bolts Lake by the District and Authority.

INTRODUCED, READ, APPROVED, ADOPTED AND RESOLVED this 21 day of February, 2024.

TOWN OF MINTURN

By: _____
Earle Bidez, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: _____
Jay Brunvand, Town Clerk