



RESOLUTION No. _____

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING 2021 AS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT (NID) AND COMMENDING NID FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE PROVIDING A RELIABLE, HIGH-QUALITY SUPPLY OF DRINKING AND IRRIGATION WATER TO ITS CUSTOMERS IN NEVADA, PLACER AND YUBA COUNTIES

WHEREAS, the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) was formed through a public election on August 15, 1921 to be an independent special district headquartered in the City of Grass Valley in Nevada County, California; and

WHEREAS, NID began delivering life-giving irrigation water to local farms in 1927 at a cost of about 10 cents per day, allowing the agricultural community in the District to thrive and expand; and

WHEREAS, the District's high-quality water originates as pure snowmelt throughout approximately 70,000 acres of high-elevation watershed at the headwaters of the Middle Fork of the Yuba River, Bear River and Deer Creek in the Sierra Nevada mountains; and

WHEREAS, the NID water system began as an old reservoir and canal system serving gold mines, and has been transformed into a modern water delivery system that now boasts 29 reservoirs, 6 treatment plants, 44 storage tanks, 12 drinking water systems, over 475 miles of canal, and 400 miles of pressurized pipe serving Nevada, Placer, and Yuba counties; and

WHEREAS, the District has grown over 100 years to now deliver irrigation water for 5,600 raw water customers bringing life-giving water to 30,000 acres of agricultural land, supporting a wide range food production including fruits, nuts, irrigated pastures and family gardens; and

WHEREAS, NID produces 3 billion gallons of high-quality drinking water each year, and delivers treated water to 19,574 customers; and

WHEREAS, in 1962 the community held an election to approve a \$65 million bond to construct the Yuba-Bear Power project with 97% voter support that brought hydroelectric power generation, new reservoirs and canal systems to the District and created an additional 145,000 acre-feet of water storage for residents; and

WHEREAS, NID operates 7 hydroelectric plants and 12 miles of overhead power lines that deliver 82 Megawatts of clean renewable energy to California's power-grid with hydroelectric operations covering the costs of the upper division system and contributing more than \$6 million in revenue from hydroelectric sales to offset water rates for the District's 30,000 customers; and

WHEREAS, for the benefit of the community NID has installed 2,551 hydrants to help protect neighborhoods in the event of fires and supplies treated water to the hydrant system; and

WHEREAS, the District manages thousands of acres of watershed practicing healthy forest and fire-safe environmental stewardship with the goal of improving the resiliency and sustainability of the watershed in its care; and

WHEREAS, NID works with partners to implement forest thinning, restore mountain meadows, and improve fish habitat that result in increased water yield and better water quality, and help reduce wildfire threats; and

WHEREAS, NID offers recreational opportunities, such as hiking, camping, fishing, swimming, boating, water skiing, etc. at its reservoirs with an annual economic impact to local tourism of \$3 million; and

WHEREAS, NID provides public trails, campgrounds, boating and beaches for more than 200,000 visitors each year at Rollins and Scotts Flat reservoirs and maintains and operates campgrounds in the Jackson Meadows and Bowman Lake areas; and

WHEREAS, NID's customer service and maintenance personnel are highly visible in the community with Customer Service at the ready in the District Office or by phone to help resolve customer's water service needs; and

WHEREAS, in the neighborhoods, NID maintenance crews can be found working on routine projects or responding to emergencies around the clock to ensure continuous flow of water to customers; and

WHEREAS, NID now employs more than 200 area residents with a payroll of nearly \$30 million, annual purchases of about \$27 million, and an overall budget of over \$80 million, providing an economic engine for the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the District has repeatedly received the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence from the Special District Leadership Foundation, recognition only granted to 13% of the 2,300 Special Districts in California and received the prestigious award for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Financial Officers Association for the past several years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Nevada Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims 2021 as the 100th Anniversary of the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) and commends NID on its 100 years of service, providing a reliable, high-quality supply of drinking and irrigation water to its customers in Nevada, Placer and Yuba counties.