

From: [Matt Skoglund](#)
To: [Bird, Rob](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment for Associate Water Judge Position -- Bina Peters
Date: Sunday, December 29, 2024 10:43:34 AM

Dear Montana Water Court,

I write to provide a letter of support for Bina R. Peters (River & Range Law, Bozeman, Montana) for the position of Associate Water Judge at the Montana Water Court.

I am the founder and owner of North Bridger Bison, a bison ranch located west of Wilsall in the Shields Valley. My wife, kids, and I started the ranch from scratch in 2018.

When we were starting the ranch, we worked with Bina on the water rights. We were purchasing three different parcels of land, and we had zero experience with water rights. As you can imagine, it was intimidating and nerve-wracking.

But thanks to Bina's expertise, clear communication, and wonderful way of working with people, she helped us immensely -- and really put our minds at ease. Working with Bina was simply wonderful.

I'm a former attorney -- so I have worked with and seen a lot of lawyers in action. Without question, Bina is one of the best.

Her combination of subject matter expertise and clear communication -- and, in particular, her kindness and friendliness -- all would make for an outstanding water judge.

My first year after law school, I clerked for a federal magistrate judge for a year, and I spent a ton of time in the courtroom. The judge I clerked for (Judge Denlow) is an amazing, kind man, and to this day he and I are still very close. While clerking for him, I saw how scared and stressed people often were in the courtroom, and I saw how Judge Denlow's kindness, warmth, and humanity made such a huge difference in helping people navigate difficult situations.

Knowing and having worked with Bina, I think she would bring those same qualities to the bench. And in today's world, I think those human qualities are needed now more than ever.

I cannot recommend Bina highly enough, and I would be happy to chat with anyone that has questions for me. My e-mail address and cell phone number are below.

Thank you for allowing me to give a strong recommendation for Bina.

Matt

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