



Montana State Legislature
MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Representative Ken Walsh
House District 71 – Twin Bridges

DURING THE SESSION
State Capitol Building
PO Box 200400
Helena MT 59620-0400
Phone: (406) 444-4800
leg.mt.gov

COMMITTEES
Ethics – Vice Chair
State Administration
Legislative Administration
Agriculture
Natural Resources

HOME ADDRESS
PO Box 483 | 36 McHessor Creek Rd
Twin Bridges, MT 59754
Phone: (406) 596-0418
Kenneth.Walsh@legmt.gov

December 16, 2024

Chief Justice
Montana Supreme Court
215 N. Sanders Street
Helena, MT 59601

Re: Support for Julia Nordlund's Application for Associate Water Judge

Dear Chief Justice,

As someone who has spent a lifetime in Montana's agriculture industry, I know the value of integrity, hard work, and sound judgment. These are the same qualities I see in Julia Nordlund, and I am proud to support her application for Associate Water Judge at the Montana Water Court.

I first met Julia during a mediation for a water rights case. While the dispute wasn't resolved that day, her steady demeanor, respect for all sides, and clear understanding of the complexities involved helped provide clarity to a difficult situation. That day, I saw someone who not only knows the law but also genuinely cares about the people impacted by it. Since then, I've had the privilege of getting to know Julia and her family, and I can confidently say she shares the strong values of fairness and perseverance that make Montana great.

Growing up on a farm in Montana, Julia developed a deep connection to the land and an appreciation for the critical role water plays in our communities. Her eight years as a Water Master at the Montana Water Court, where she's adjudicated cases and mediated disputes, have only strengthened her expertise and dedication to the fair management of this essential resource.

Julia understands what's at stake in finalizing Montana's water adjudication process. She brings not just professional experience but also a personal understanding of the balance required between agriculture, conservation, and community growth. Her ability to collaborate effectively with judges, clerks, and commissioners demonstrates she's ready to step into this role seamlessly.

Montana's future depends on thoughtful and principled leadership, especially in managing our water resources. Julia Nordlund exemplifies the character and capability needed for this important task, and I believe she will serve the people of our state with distinction.

Thank you for considering her application. Please feel free to reach out if I can provide further insights into why I believe Julia is the right choice for this role.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth M Walsh".

Representative Kenneth Walsh