

I am writing this letter in support of Anna Stradley as the next Associate Water Judge of the Montana Water Court.

I worked for 30 years adjudicating Montana Historical Water Rights (1990 – 2020). I started working at the Water Court in July of 1999 as a technical advisor to the water masters. In 2006 or 2007, I also started reviewing and proof reading all reports and orders from the masters for accuracy prior to being mailed to the public.

I am familiar with all the candidates as I worked with them during my time at the Court. I read all their master report and orders. Of all the candidates, Anna is one who stands out as most qualified to move into the position of Associated Water Judge. I've known Anna for 19 years and worked with her for 16 years. I watched her knowledge and unique understanding of the issues concerning water and water rights in Montana grow immensely over those years. She exhibited a great work ethic, great professionalism, and great attention to detail. She take a great deal of pride in her work. The quality of her masters reports were outstanding. We had many, many discussions on how to resolve different individual water rights. She was always courteous and open to my point of view.

I truly believe that Anna is a great choice to become the next Associate Water Judge.

Respectfully yours,

Dan T. Cole