



705 Navajo Road; Walsenburg, CO 81089

**NAVAJO WESTERN WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

RESOLUTION 2023-07

In Opposition to the Statewide Proposal, Proposition HH

We, the undersigned, being all the Navajo Western Water District, organized and existing under the laws of Colorado, and having its principal place of business at 705 Navajo Road; Walsenburg, CO 81089, (“Special District”), hereby certifies that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a **Regular Meeting** of the Navajo Western Water District Board of Directors duly held and convened on **Wednesday, October 11, 2023** at which a quorum of the Board of Directors was present and voting throughout, and that such resolution has not been modified, rescinded or revoked, and is at present in full force and effect.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NAVAJO WESTERN WATER DISTRICT (NWWD the “District”) AS FOLLOWS:

Recitals

WHEREAS, the vast majority of local governments, but not the State of Colorado, levy a property tax to support essential public services and infrastructure;

WHEREAS, special districts are more dependent on property tax revenue than any other type of local government, as it is often their primary or even sole source of revenue;

WHEREAS, inflation from 2020 to 2023 has increased by nearly 18% and special districts have not benefitted from increased sales and use tax receipts to offset increased costs of labor, material and services;

WHEREAS, special districts played a historic role in responding to the demands of the COVID-19 pandemic, but received few, if any, federal relief funds;

WHEREAS, Proposition HH will mandate reductions in local property taxes for at least 10 years, resulting in billions of dollars of lost revenue for local governments without any reduction in service obligations;

WHEREAS, Proposition HH will increase the State’s TABOR spending limit, allowing the State to spend billions of dollars more than it did before, while placing a property tax revenue limit lower than allowed by TABOR on local governments;

WHEREAS, the ballot question for Proposition HH indicates that local governments will be reimbursed for lost property tax revenue, but those reimbursements are a small percentage of the billions of dollars more than the State will retain, and that most special districts will be ineligible for reimbursements early in the 10 year period of Proposition HH;

WHEREAS, special districts have worked with their local voters to propose and approve property taxes, or to retain and spend revenues therefrom, to support services, facilities and infrastructure needed and desired by the community and, more generally to support public health, welfare and safety; and




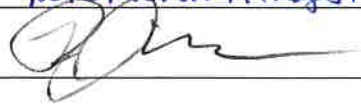
WHEREAS, proposition HH undermines the short and long-range planning efforts of Colorado's special districts that are necessary to absorb inflationary pressures, to increase salaries and compensation for employees, to support existing and grow new public programs to construct and maintain government infrastructure and to respond to the needs and emergencies of Colorado's Communities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NAVAJO WESTERN WATER DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

1. It is the position of the Board of Directors of the Navajo Western Water District that Special Districts and their constituents are best suited to determine the revenue necessary to meet the needs, expectations, and demands of the communities they serve.
2. The Board of Directors recognizes that Special Districts are accountable to their local voters, who take may take action if the taxes they pay are not warranted for the services, facilities and infrastructure provided by Special Districts in their communities.
3. The Navajo Western Water District Board may have to make decisions based on the election on how it impacts services. If the property taxes are lowered, then the Mill Levies will also be lowered, thereby causing the water rates to increase proportionately. The cost of supplies and materials to operate and repair the water systems are also rising. Customers not conserving the precious water resources are also causing the water rates to increase.
4. For the reasons set forth above, the Board of Directors concludes that Proposition HH diminishes the ability of the Navajo Western Water District to provide vital water services, facilities and infrastructure that our Water Customers in Navajo Ranch needs, expects and demands; and therefore, the Board strongly urges a NO vote on Proposition HH at the Statewide election on November 7, 2023.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of October 2023 by the Board of Directors of the Navajo Western Water District.

SIGNATURES OF NWWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Rogers – President	<u></u>	<u>10/11/23</u>
		Date
Gary Baldwin – Vice President	<u></u>	<u>10/11/23</u>
		Date
Vanna Morningstar – Secretary	<u></u>	<u>10.11.2023</u>
		Date
Richard Williams – Treasurer / Director	<u></u>	<u>10-11-23</u>
		Date

Attest:

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

The Secretary of the Corporation hereby certifies that he/she is the duly elected and qualified Secretary of the Navajo Western Water Board of Directors and certifies that the above is a true and correct record of the resolution that was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of the Navajo Western Water District Board of Directors on Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Vanna Morningstar, Secretary

<u></u>	<u>10.11.2023</u>
Signature	Date