

Technical sal

Advanced Metering Infr structure (AMI) Project – Phase I

City of Bottineau, North Dakota

WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects a

Funding Opportunity Number
No. R24AS00059

Applicant

115 West 6th Street
Bottineau, ND 58318
Phone: 701.228.3232
Email: cityhall@utma.com

Unique Entity Identifier a
DPSSUPJSKXA6

Contents

Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria	3
Evaluation Criterion A – Project Benefits.....	4
Evaluation Criterion B – Planning Efforts Supporting the Project.....	6
Evaluation Criterion C – Implementation and Results.....	7
Evaluation Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation.....	9
Evaluation Criterion E – Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities.....	9
Sub-criterion No. E1. Climate Change.....	9
Sub-criterion No. E2. Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities	10
Sub-criterion No. E3. Tribal Benefits.....	11
Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance	11
Letters of Support.....	13

Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

Executive Summary – Applicant Information

Date: 7/9/2024

Applicant: City of Bottineau

City: Bottineau

County: Bottineau

State: North Dakota

Applicant Category: A

Unique Entity Identifier: DPSSUPJSKXA6

Executive Summary – Project Summary and Timeline

The City of Bottineau, located in central North Dakota just south of the Canadian border, is initiating a comprehensive upgrade of approximately 1,035 water meters citywide. This initiative aims to replace the existing, aging water meters to mitigate water losses due to inaccurate readings. The new meters will enable the City to track water usage more precisely, including public water sources like the City Pool, ensuring accurate billing and resource management.

This project is projected to take approximately 8 months, with an estimated completion date of August 2025.

Detailed Project Location

The City of Bottineau is situated in Bottineau County, North Dakota, about 10 miles south of the Canadian border. The project's geographical coordinates are 48° 49' 35" N latitude and 100° 26' 50" W longitude.

Evaluation Criterion A – Project Benefits

Anticipated Water Management Benefits

Will the project result in more efficient management of the water supply?

Yes, the installation of new water meters is expected to enhance water management efficiency. Experiences from similar towns indicate that upgraded water meters reduce water losses, help identify pipe leakages promptly, and provide reliable water service to customers. Without metering systems, water utilities face significant financial and manpower investments to manage issues like insufficient water pressure and quantity, often caused by undetected leaks, illegal connections, and unmonitored usage patterns. Metering systems help pinpoint leaks, monitor connections, and provide data to predict future usage patterns, thereby enabling proactive management of water resources and treatment facilities.

Where will any water conserved as a result of the project go and how will it be used?

Through more accurate accounting for usage and loss, water conserved through the Bottineau water meter replacement project can serve multiple purposes:

1. **Support for Other Towns:** As Bottineau now purchases groundwater for residential purposes from the Northwestern Area Water Supply (NAWS), conserved water could help other towns in the Souris River Basin during droughts or peak demand periods.
2. **Emergency Reserves:** Conserved water could be stored in local reservoirs to increase the redundancy and resiliency of Bottineau's water supply.
3. **Pipeline Efficiency:** Reductions in water demand can optimize the operation of the 70-mile pipeline from the Missouri River to Bottineau, reducing energy costs and enhancing pipeline integrity.
4. **New Connections:** Conserved water can attract new customers, including those currently relying on private wells, thereby mitigating environmental impacts associated with excessive groundwater extraction.

Significance of Anticipated Water Management Benefits

Are customers not currently getting their full water right at certain times of year?

No, but this project will help ensure that customers receive their full water rights by accurately tracking water usage and identifying any distribution inefficiencies.

Does this project have the potential to prevent lawsuits or water calls?

Yes, by providing precise water usage data and improving distribution efficiency, the project can help prevent disputes over water rights and usage, potentially avoiding costly lawsuits and water calls.

What are the consequences of not making the improvement?

Failing to upgrade the water meters could result in continued water losses, inefficient resource management, and potential water shortages, especially during peak demand periods. It could also lead to financial losses due to inaccurate billing and increased maintenance costs.

Are customer water restrictions currently required?

Currently, there are no significant water restrictions in place. However, accurate water usage data from the new meters could help manage water resources more effectively, potentially avoiding future restrictions.

Other significant concerns that support the need for the project

Accurate water metering is essential for effective resource management, ensuring equitable distribution, and supporting future infrastructure planning and development.

Broader Benefits

Will the proposed project improve broader water supply reliability at the sub-basin or basin scale?

Yes, the project will enhance water supply reliability at both the sub-basin and basin levels. Accurate water usage data allows for better prediction and management of water demand, informing regional water resource planning and ensuring compliance with state water withdrawal permits.

Will the proposed project increase collaboration and information sharing among water managers in the region?

Yes, the real-time data from the new meters will facilitate better information sharing and collaboration among regional water managers, leading to more informed and effective water management strategies.

Is the project in an area that is experiencing, or recently experienced, drought or water scarcity?

While Bottineau County has not experienced extreme droughts in recent years, it has faced periods of moderate drought. Proactive water management is crucial, given predictions of more extreme droughts in the future due to changing weather patterns.

Will the project help address drought conditions at the sub-basin or basin scale?

Yes, the project will help address drought conditions by:

- Better allocating water purchased from the NAWS.
- Reducing reliance on local wells, allowing aquifers to recharge.
- Optimizing surface water sources, which are more reliable than shallow wells.
- Encouraging proactive water usage reductions during droughts.

Will the project benefit species (e.g., federally threatened or endangered, a federally recognized candidate species, a state listed species, or a species of particular recreational, or economic importance)?

Indirectly, better water management can reduce habitat degradation for aquatic and insect species listed as federally endangered or threatened in North Dakota.

Will the proposed project positively impact/benefit various sectors and economies within the applicable geographic area (e.g., impacts to agriculture, environment, recreation, and tourism)?

The project will benefit agriculture, recreation, and tourism in the area. Improved water management can enhance agricultural planning, support recreational facilities like golf courses, and boost tourism by ensuring a stable and high-quality water supply.

Will the project complement work being done in coordination with the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in the area (e.g., the area with a direct connection to the district's water supply)?

Yes, the water meter project could enhance current NRCS agricultural projects by providing data to support water conservation efforts and more environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

Evaluation Criterion B – Planning Efforts Supporting the Project

Is your project supported by a specific planning document or effort?

Yes, the project is supported by the City of Bottineau's Comprehensive Plan and the subsequent yearly planning and budgeting practices of the Bottineau City Council

If so, when was this plan developed and what is its purpose and objective?

The Comprehensive Plan, developed in 2013, aims to study current and future trends to determine the City's needs.

Who developed the current planning effort?

The City of Bottineau collaborated with a consulting firm to develop the plan.

What is the geographic scope of the plan?

The plan covers the City Limits of Bottineau and the extra-territorial zone defined in the plan.

Describe the applicant's involvement with planning effort if not prepared by the applicant.

The Comprehensive Plan was prepared by planning consultant in collaboration with and on behalf of the applicant. The applicant continues to implement the plan through its yearly budgeting needs practice.

Is the project identified specifically by name and location in the planning effort?

The water meter preplacement project aligns with sections of the plan that address infrastructure improvements to support future growth and sustainability.

Explain whether the proposed project implements a goal, objective, or addresses a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort?

The project will improve the water system by enhancing the quality and frequency of water meter data collection, aiding in leak detection, and better managing water distribution.

Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort as opposed to other potential projects/measures.

During a study on water service lines and the impact of lead pipes, the need for improvements to the water distribution system, including water meter upgrades, was prioritized.

Evaluation Criterion C – Implementation and Results

Describe the implementation plan for the proposed project. Please include an estimated project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates.

The City of Bottineau AMI Project – Phase I is scheduled to start in November 2024 upon receiving a Notice to Proceed and be completed by August 2025.

The project schedule is as follows:

Proposed Project Schedule:

Approximate Start Date	Description of Work
November 2024	Procure Telemetry Base Station and Smartpoint Heads
December 2024	Install Base Station and Associated Infrastructure
April 2025	Install 137 Water Meters & Smartpoint Heads
June 2025	Install 137 Water Meters & Smartpoint Heads

The meter supplier will install the telemetry base station and water meter infrastructure. Upon receiving grant funding, the City will cooperate with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet specific milestones and adhere to schedule requirements.

Describe any permits and agency approvals that will be required along with the process and timeframe for obtaining such permits or approvals.

No permits are anticipated as the work will be conducted on City property, and SmartPoint heads will be installed in homes and businesses with prior approval.

Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.

No engineering or design work is anticipated for this project.

What level of engineering design is the project currently? If additional design is required, describe the planned process and timeline for completing the design.

Not applicable, as no engineering design is required.

Does the applicant have access to the land or water source where the project is located?

Yes, the City owns the property for the base station location and will obtain approval from customers for meter installations.

Has the applicant obtained any easements that are required for the project? If the applicant does not yet have permission to access the project location, describe the process and timeframe for obtaining such permission.

No easement acquisition is required. The installer will coordinate with customers for right of entry before accessing properties.

Identify whether the applicant has contacted the local Reclamation office to discuss the potential environmental and cultural resource compliance requirements for the project and the associated costs. Has a line item been included in the budget for costs associated with compliance? If a contractor will need to complete some or all of the environmental and cultural resource compliance, explain how the costs were determined in the budget.

The project team has discussed requirements with the local Reclamation office and determined that compliance requirements are minimal. No line item is included in the budget for compliance costs.

Describe any support or opposition for the project.

No opposition is anticipated, and project updates will be shared in City Council meetings to keep the public informed.

Evaluation Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation

The City of Bottineau does not have an existing contract with, nor is an existing contractor to, the Bureau of Reclamation. However, this water metering project supports the Bureau of Reclamation's goals in several ways. In essence, this project aligns with Reclamation's mission to conserve water, modernize infrastructure, and support sustainable and efficient water use.

1. **Water Conservation:** New water meters will reduce water waste by accurately detecting leaks.
2. **Modernizing Infrastructure:** Upgrading the water metering system enhances reliability and efficiency.
3. **Sustainable Management:** Accurate data helps manage water resources better and support equity in regional water distribution.
4. **Supporting Water Supply:** Improves the efficiency of Bottineau's water system for both urban and agricultural users.
5. **Environmental Protection:** Minimizes environmental impact, aligning with Reclamation's environmental stewardship.
6. **Economic Development:** Enhances the reliability of the water system, supporting local economic growth.

Evaluation Criterion E – Presidential and Department of the Interior Priorities

Sub-criterion No. E1. Climate Change

Please provide specific details and examples on how the project will address the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis.

The improvements associated with this AMI project will result in improved monitoring of water use and increased ability for the City to exercise its powers to increase the conservation of water.

Additionally, the City will reduce the amount of manual readings which will reduce emissions from transportation of staff to manually read meters.

All factors considered, this AMI project will result in increased resilience to climate change by reducing the amount of energy expended to monitor and manage their water distribution network, and allow the City to increase the conservation of water by reducing loss through the distribution system, reducing excess water use, and improving the ability to plan current and future management of the water distribution system by utilizing improved technology.

Does this proposed project strengthen water supply sustainability to increase resilience to climate change? Does the proposed project contribute to climate change resiliency in other ways not described above?

As part of the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI), public water systems are required to develop an inventory and make public the locations of lead service lines by October 16, 2024. This project will serve as the genesis for the City's compliance with the EPA's LCRI - After the City installs a SmartPoint, they will have an updated data point which can serve as a road map for verifying service line material, in which the City can make a plan for replacement if the service line is lead.

Sub-criterion No. E2. Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities

Will the proposed project serve or benefit a disadvantaged or historically underserved community? Benefits can include, but are not limited to, public health and safety by addressing water quality, new water supplies, or economic growth opportunities.

The project will provide real-time access to water usage information for the water meters where new water meter units are added. This will result in real-time information transfers which allow customers to adjust and limit their water usage, which would result in lower water bills.

Please describe in detail how the community is disadvantaged based on a combination of variables that may include:

- Low Income, high and/or persistent poverty**
 - Not applicable.
- High unemployment and underemployment**
 - Not applicable.
- Racial and ethnic residential segregation, particularly where the segregation stems from discrimination by government entities**
 - Not applicable.
- Linguistic isolation**
 - Not applicable.
- High housing cost burden and substandard housing**
 - Not applicable.
- Distressed neighborhoods**
 - Not applicable.
- High transportation cost burden and/or low transportation access**
 - Not applicable.
- Disproportionate environmental stressor burden and high cumulative impacts**
 - Not applicable.
- Limited water and sanitation access and affordability**
 - Not applicable.

- Disproportionate impacts from climate change
 - Not applicable.
- High energy cost burden and low energy access
 - Not applicable.
- Jobs lost through energy transition
 - Not applicable.
- Access to healthcare
 - Not applicable.
- If the proposed project is providing benefits to an underserved community, provide sufficient information to demonstrate that the community meets the underserved definition in E.O. 13985, which includes populations sharing a particular characteristic, as well as geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.
 - Not applicable.

Sub-criterion No. E3. Tribal Benefits

Does the proposed project directly serve and/or benefit a Tribe? Will the project improve water management for a Tribe?

- The project is not located within tribal jurisdiction. Not applicable.

Does the proposed project support Tribal resilience to climate change and drought impacts or provide other Tribal benefits such as improved public health and safety by addressing water quality, new water supplies, or economic growth opportunities?

- The project is not located within tribal jurisdiction. Not applicable.

Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

Impact on Surrounding Environment

Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)? The proposed project involves the installation of water meters and MXU units. Minimal earth-disturbing work is expected, limited to small excavation areas for installing new meters. Dust generation will be minimal and localized, with no significant impact on air quality. Water quality and quantity will not be adversely affected, and the animal habitat will remain undisturbed. Any potential impacts will be mitigated by adhering to best practices for construction and installation.

Threatened or Endangered Species

Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be

affected by any activities associated with the proposed project? There is one known federally listed or proposed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitats within the project area: a species of moth known as the Dakota-skipper. However, no impacts on such species or habitats are anticipated from the project activities.

Wetlands or Surface Waters

Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?” If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have. There are no wetlands or surface waters within the project boundaries that fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States.” Thus, no impacts on such areas are expected from the proposed project.

Construction Date of Water Delivery System

When was the water delivery system constructed? The water delivery system in the City of Bottineau was constructed in the early 1970s, with various upgrades and maintenance activities conducted periodically since then.

Modifications to Irrigation System Features

Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously. The proposed project will not result in any modifications to individual features of an irrigation system. The focus is solely on updating water meters and MXU units, with no impact on headgates, canals, flumes, or similar structures.

Historic Places and Cultural Resources

Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? One building within the project area is listed on the National Register of Historic Places: Old Main, North Dakota School of Forestry. However, the project activities are not expected to impact this historic site as they are limited to the installation of water meters and MXU units, which will not involve any modifications to the building or its surrounding area.

Archaeological Sites

Are there any known archaeological sites in the proposed project area? There are archaeological sites known to the City of Bottineau in the proposed project area.

Impact on Low Income or Minority Populations

Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low-income or minority populations? The proposed project will not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low-income or minority populations. The project is designed to benefit all residents by improving water metering accuracy and efficiency.

Access to Indian Sacred Sites

Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands? The proposed project will not limit access to or ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites, nor will it impact tribal lands. There are no known Indian sacred sites to the City of Bottineau within the project area.

Noxious Weeds or Non-Native Invasive Species

Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area? The proposed project will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species. Precautions will be taken to ensure that equipment and materials do not transport such species into the project area.

Letters of Support

The project has the support of City staff and organizations in the community of the City of Bottineau. Letters of support have been submitted by members of Bottineau County, Bottineau County Economic Development Corp, Bottineau Chamber of Commerce, Bottineau Public School District, and the Bottineau Fire Department which include statements recognizing the benefits the AMI project will bring to the City. The letters of support are included in this submittal under Appendix A.

Budget Proposal

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project – Phase I

City of Bottineau, North Dakota

WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects

Funding Opportunity Number
No. R24AS00059

Applicant

115 West 6th Street
Bottineau, ND 58318
Phone: 701.228.3232
Email: cityhall@utma.com

Unique Entity Identifier
DPSSUPJSKXA6

Contents

Funding Plan and Letters of Commitment	3
Budget Proposal	5
Budget Narrative	6

Funding Plan and Letters of Commitment

The funding plan for this project involves using funds from the City of Bottineau water fund to cover the City's cost-share portion. These funds are available and already programmed into the City's budget, ensuring no time constraints on their availability. Additionally, materials for the water meters and MXU units have already been procured to mitigate supply chain issues experienced by local suppliers. Part of the City's cost-share will be in-kind contributions, including the physical delivery of the water meters and MXU radio units to be installed.

The total estimated project cost is \$224,728.81, with the City requesting \$100,000 (44% of total project costs) in federal cost-share from the Bureau of Reclamation. The remaining amount will be funded by the City of Bottineau through their water fund or through in-kind contributions of procured materials.

Included in the notice of funding opportunity were several parameters, addressed below:

Sources of Non-Federal Cost-Share Contribution:

Monetary Contributions by the Applicant:

The City of Bottineau will use budgeted funds from the City's water fund for the non-Federal share of project costs. Funds have already been allocated to pre-purchase water meters and MXU units to avoid potential delays due to supply chain issues.

Costs Contributed by the Applicant:

The City of Bottineau Public Works Director will provide oversight for the project. The salary and wages associated with these activities are outlined in the budget proposal and budget narrative.

Third-Party In-Kind Costs:

The City of Bottineau has already acquired water meters and MXU units to mitigate potential delays due to supply chain issues. These materials were pre-purchased after the Notice of Funding Opportunity for this grant was published.

Cash Requested or Received from Other Non-Federal Entities:

None.

Pending Funding Requests:

None.

The only project costs anticipated before the award include the pre-purchased materials obtained to mitigate delays due to supply chain issues that could have caused the project to be delayed by twelve to eighteen months. The City of Bottineau has purchased these materials to prevent such delays.

A summary of the total project costs is provided in the following Table. The City of Bottineau is registered and maintains active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). A

copy of the System for Award Management verification is included in Appendix B for reference. The City is also registered with and willing to process payments through the Department of Treasury's Automated Standard Applications for Payments (ASAP) system with the Bureau of Reclamation.

Total Project Costs

Source	Amount	Percentage
Costs to be reimbursed with requested Federal Funding	\$100,000.00	44%
Costs to be paid by applicant	\$20,608.81	9%
Value of in-kind contributions	\$104,120.00	46%
Total Project Cost	\$224,728.81	100%

Budget Proposal

The budget proposal for this project is detailed below:

Budget Proposal

Budget Item Description	Computation	Qty Type	Total Cost
	\$ / Unit	Qty	
Salaries and Wages			
Fringe Benefits			
Travel			
Equipment			
Supplies and Materials			
Sensus M400 Base Station	\$25,823.81	1	\$25,823.81
Sensus Base Station Software Fees	\$54,045.00	1	\$54,045.00
Commscope DB589-Y Antenna	\$1,600.00	1	\$1,600.00
Antenna Installation	\$4,000.00	1	\$4,000.00
Commissioning of Base Station	\$5,000.00	1	\$5,000.00
510M Smartpoint M2 Wired DP HR*	\$190.00	274	\$52,060.00
Installation of Smartpoint Units	\$110.00	274	\$30,140.00
3/4" Iperl 1G 25' 3W PE SM*	\$190.00	274	\$52,060.00
Contractual / Construction			
Other			
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS			\$224,728.81
Indirect Costs			
TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS			\$0.00

*Denotes items that have been pre-purchased by the City to mitigate potential project delays.

Budget Narrative

The following categories provide the budget narrative for this project:

Salaries and Wages

The City plans to retain the supplier to install the SmartPoint heads and the telemetry/base station infrastructure. It is anticipated that the Public Works Director may need to provide some oversight on the project as part of his regular duties managing the water distribution infrastructure and may be required to answer questions as they arise. Time for the Public Works Director has not been included in the budget as it is expected that this time would have normally been spent managing and troubleshooting the current water metering system.

Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefits are part of the City's employees' regular pay structure. No additional reimbursement is being requested as a project expense.

Travel

Travel is not eligible and will not be requested for reimbursement.

Equipment

The City plans to retain the meter supplier to conduct the improvements. Therefore, no City equipment is anticipated and no reimbursement is requested.

Materials and Supplies

Reimbursement is being requested for the procurement and installation of:

One (1) Sensus Base Station

One (1) antenna

A one-time (1) purchase of software licensing for the base station (covers a 5-year operating period)

274 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Sensus Iperl 1-gallon water meters

274 Sensus SmartPoint 510M Non-Pit Set Modules

The materials and delivery of the water meters and SmartPoint units have already been pre-purchased and would be provided as part of the local share as an in-kind contribution. The costs for materials and supplies are provided in a quote from a nationwide and local supplier, Core & Main, and is included as Appendix C. Also included in Appendix C is the invoice for the pre-purchased materials which were purchased by the City and a portion of the purchased materials will be installed as part of this AMI project.

Contractual

No contractual services are anticipated; therefore, no reimbursement is requested.

Third-Party In-Kind Contributions

No third-party contributions are anticipated.

Indirect Costs

No indirect costs are anticipated; therefore, no reimbursement is requested

Appendix A

Letters of Support

July 2, 2024

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225-0007

Dear Grant Review Committee,

Bottineau County is writing to express our strong support for the City of Bottineau's application for the WaterSMART Grant to help fund the installation of new water meters throughout the city. The City's initiative to update all its water meters is crucial for enhancing water management, promoting conservation, and ensuring the sustainable use of the region's water resources.

The implementation of advanced water meters will provide significant benefits to the residents of Bottineau:

- **Accurate Measurement:** These meters will allow for precise measurement of water usage, enabling both the city and its residents to identify and address leaks promptly, reduce waste, and ultimately lower water bills.
- **Resource Management:** The data collected from these meters will facilitate better planning and management of our water resources, ensuring that the city can meet current and future demands efficiently.

We believe that the WaterSMART Grant will play an essential role in helping Bottineau achieve these goals. The grant will provide the necessary financial support to undertake this vital project, contributing to the city's long-term sustainability and resilience.

We fully support the City of Bottineau's efforts to secure this grant and strongly encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to consider this application favorably.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel Buynak
Commission Chairman
Bottineau County

June 24, 2024

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225-0007

Dear Grant Review Committee,

Bottineau County Economic Development Corp is writing to express our strong support for the City of Bottineau's application for the WaterSMART Grant to help fund the installation of new water meters throughout the city. The City's initiative to update all its water meters is crucial for enhancing water management, promoting conservation, and ensuring the sustainable use of the region's water resources.

The implementation of advanced water meters will provide significant benefits to the residents of Bottineau:

- **Accurate Measurement:** These meters will allow for precise measurement of water usage, enabling both the city and its residents to identify and address leaks promptly, reduce waste, and ultimately lower water bills.
- **Resource Management:** The data collected from these meters will facilitate better planning and management of our water resources, ensuring that the city can meet current and future demands efficiently.

We believe that the WaterSMART Grant will play an essential role in helping Bottineau achieve these goals. The grant will provide the necessary financial support to undertake this vital project, contributing to the city's long-term sustainability and resilience.

We fully support the City of Bottineau's efforts to secure this grant and strongly encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to consider this application favorably.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Whitney Gonitzke
Director
Bottineau County EDC

From: bcc@utma.com
Sent Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:34 PM
To: Penny Nostdahl - City Auditor :
Subject: Letter of Support



June 24, 2024

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225-0007

Dear Grant Review Committee,

Bottineau Chamber of Commerce is writing to express our strong support for the City of Bottineau's application for the WaterSMART Grant to help fund the installation of new water meters throughout the city. The City's initiative to update all its water meters is crucial for enhancing water management, conservation, and ensuring the sustainable use of the region's water resources.

The implementation of advanced water meters will provide significant benefits to the residents of Bottineau:

- **Accurate Measurement:** These meters will allow for precise measurement of water usage, enabling both the city and its residents to identify and address leaks promptly, reduce waste, and ultimately lower water bills.
- **Resource Management:** The data collected from these meters will facilitate better planning and management of our water resources, ensuring that the city can meet current and future demands efficiently.

We believe that the WaterSMART Grant will play an essential role in helping Bottineau achieve these goals. The grant will provide the necessary financial support to undertake this vital project, contributing to the city's long-term sustainability and resilience.

We fully support the City of Bottineau's efforts to secure this grant and strongly encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to consider this application favorably.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly Beaver
Executive Director
Bottineau Chamber of Commerce
519 Main Street, suite 1
Bottineau, ND 58318

July 1, 2024

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225-0007

Dear Grant Review Committee,

Bottineau Public School District is writing to express our strong support for the City of Bottineau's application for the WaterSMART Grant to help fund the installation of new water meters throughout the city. The City's initiative to update all its water meters is crucial for enhancing water management, promoting conservation, and ensuring the sustainable use of the region's water resources.

The implementation of advanced water meters will provide significant benefits to the residents of Bottineau:

- **Accurate Measurement:** These meters will allow for precise measurement of water usage, enabling both the city and its residents to identify and address leaks promptly, reduce waste, and ultimately lower water bills.
- **Resource Management:** The data collected from these meters will facilitate better planning and management of our water resources, ensuring that the city can meet current and future demands efficiently.

We believe that the WaterSMART Grant will play an essential role in helping Bottineau achieve these goals. The grant will provide the necessary financial support to undertake this vital project, contributing to the city's long-term sustainability and resilience.

We fully support the City of Bottineau's efforts to secure this grant and strongly encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to consider this application favorably.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Palmer
Superintendent
Bottineau Public School District

June 24, 2024

Bureau of Reclamation
Water Resources and Planning Office
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225-0007

Dear Grant Review Committee,

(Bottineau Fire Dept.) is writing to express our strong support for the City of Bottineau's application for the WaterSMART Grant to help fund the installation of new water meters throughout the city. The City's initiative to update all its water meters is crucial for enhancing water management, promoting conservation, and ensuring the sustainable use of the region's water resources.

The implementation of advanced water meters will provide significant benefits to the residents of Bottineau:

- **Accurate Measurement:** These meters will allow for precise measurement of water usage, enabling both the city and its residents to identify and address leaks promptly, reduce waste, and ultimately lower water bills.
- **Resource Management:** The data collected from these meters will facilitate better planning and management of our water resources, ensuring that the city can meet current and future demands efficiently.

We believe that the WaterSMART Grant will play an essential role in helping Bottineau achieve these goals. The grant will provide the necessary financial support to undertake this vital project, contributing to the city's long-term sustainability and resilience.

We fully support the City of Bottineau's efforts to secure this grant and strongly encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to consider this application favorably.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

(Name) David Vad
(Title) BFD Chief
(Organization)