## CITY OF CREEDE, COLORADO RESOLUTION NO. 21-15

# A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CREEDE, COLORADO, AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH MOSES, WITTEMYER, HARRISON AND WOODRUFF, P.C. TO SERVE AS SPECIAL WATER COUNSEL FOR THE CITY OF CREEDE

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees for the City of Creede, CO, is desirous of retaining a Special Water Counsel for matter related to water and water rights; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees would like to continue utilizing Moses, Wittemyer, Harrison and Woodruff, P.C. as Special Water Counsel for the City;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Trustees of the City of Creede, Mineral County, Colorado, that:

- **Section 1.** The Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the Town Manager to execute the attached engagement letter with Moses, Wittemyer, Harrison and Woodruff, P.C.
- **Section 2. Effective Date.** This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.
- **Section 3. Repealer.** All resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed, provided that such repealer shall not repeal the repealer clauses of such resolution nor revive any resolution thereby.
- **Section 4. Certification.** The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this resolution and make not less than one copy of the adopted resolution available for inspection by the public during regular business hours.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED THIS 7<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021.

ATTEST:

Sarah Efthim-Williamson, City Clerk

CITY OF CREEDE

leffrex Largon, Mayor

LAW OFFICES

RICHARD J. MEHREN JENNIFER M. DILALLA 2595 CANYON BOULEVARD, SUITE 300 BOULDER, COLORADO 80302

FELEPHONE: (303) 443-8782 FAX: (303) 443-8796 INTERNET: www.mwnw.com RAPHAEL J. MOSES (1913-2011) CHARLES N. WOODRUFF (1941-1996)

OF COUNSEL
JOHN WITTEMYER
DAVID L. HARRISON
JAMES R. MONTGOMERY
I'MO THY J. BEA FON

JOHN E, PECKLER
JOSHUA B, BOISSEVAIN
LINDSEY A, RATCLIFF

December 2, 2021

# PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL BY EMAIL

City of Creede Attn: Mr. Louis Fineberg, City Manager P.O. Box 457 Creede, CO 81130

Re: Engagement Agreement - Special Water Counsel

Dear Louis.

To follow up on the emails we've exchanged recently, this letter describes the terms on which Moses, Wittemyer, Harrison and Woodruff, P.C. ("MWHW") will continue to provide legal services as special water counsel to the City of Creede, and on which the City agrees to continue to engage MWHW in that role.

The scope of work will be to assist and advise the City in its water rights-related matters, including but not limited to protecting and developing its existing water rights portfolio; reviewing the monthly Division 3 Water Court resume and advising the City as to any applications that have the potential for injury to the City's water rights and other interests; advising the City with respect to its augmentation plan, water service, wells and related matters; and being available to the City to answer questions or undertake projects at your and the City's request.

While the City is a long-time client of MWHW, we have determined that the scope of work described above does not present a conflict with work we are doing or have done for other clients of the firm. However, if an unforeseen conflict should arise, it is the firm's policy to cease representing the newer client and to continue representing the more senior client(s). By agreeing to retain our firm, you acknowledge this policy and agree that if it becomes necessary in the event of an unforeseen conflict, you will retain separate counsel and will consent to our continuing representation of the senior client(s).

I will be primarily responsible for the work performed on the City's behalf, with help from our associate attorneys and legal assistants whenever possible. Our hourly rates for 2021 are listed on the attached fee schedule. We review and adjust those hourly billing rates on an annual basis, and we will advise you in writing of any rate changes before undertaking any work at rates different

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from those on the fee schedule. Our monthly bills will indicate the hourly charges by attorney or other staff member, as well as any out-of-pocket expenses. Mileage is billed at the IRS standard mileage rate (currently  $56\phi$  per mile). Payment of invoices is due within 30 days of billing, and it is the firm's policy to charge interest at a rate of 1% per month on any principal balance that is not paid within that time.

We will use our best efforts in representing the City in connection with the scope of work identified above, but we make no promises or guarantees regarding the outcome. Our comments regarding the probable outcome of any matter are mere expressions of opinion. We cannot guarantee that any case or controversy involving court action or administrative proceedings will be resolved within a specific time frame because that is often beyond our control. The City agrees to provide us with all data, documents, or other information relating to the matters within the scope of our representation. The City has the right to terminate the engagement of our firm at any time, and we reserve the right to do the same within ethical constraints and upon adequate notice to the City of such termination.

If the policies, terms, and conditions of this proposal for legal services are acceptable, please sign below and return a copy to me.

We are excited to continue working with you and the City, and we look forward to collaborating with the City's general counsel in ensuring the City's secure water future.

Sincerely,

MOSES, WITTEMYER, HARRISON AND WOODRUFF, P.C.

Lidae J. Mehren

Richard J. Mehren

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The foregoing is accepted as the terms of engagement of Moses, Wittemyer, Harrison and Woodruff, P.C. to serve as special water counsel to the City of Creede with respect to the matters described in this letter.

Dated: Dec. 7th rou

Louis Fineberg
City Manager

RJM/jab Attachment

cc: Rick Samson (by email)

#### LAW OFFICES

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JOHN E. PECKLER JOSHUA B. BOISSEVAIN LINDSEY A. RATCLIFF

This is to advise that effective January 1, 2021 our hourly rates for professional services rendered will be as follows:

David L. Harrison	\$315.00 per hour
James R. Montgomery	\$305.00 per hour
Timothy J. Beaton	\$305.00 per hour
Richard J. Mehren	\$285.00 per hour
Jennifer M. DiLalla	\$260.00 per hour
John E. Peckler	\$195.00 per hour
Joshua B. Boissevain	\$190.00 per hour
Lindsey A. Ratcliff	\$190.00 per hour
Paralegal	\$105.00 per hour
Senior Law Clerks	\$105.00 per hour

Interest at the rate of 1.0% per month accrues on amounts not paid within 30 days of billing.

The firm reserves the right to charge on other than an hourly rate basis, or to charge a fee in addition to hourly rates, for work involving special risks, effort or time constraints including, without limitation, opinions relating to title, bonds and similar matters.