



Proclamation No. 2020-10

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING**  
**Martha “Marti” J. Gee**  
**FOR 34 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF**  
**SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH**

**Whereas**, Marti was born in Portland, OR, and after growing up there, moved to Elk Grove Village, IL just outside of Chicago; and

**Whereas**, Marti graduated from Harper College in Chicago as a Radiology Technician and moved to Park City in 1979; and

**Whereas**, Marti built her home in Summit Park in 1980-1981 and started volunteering in 1985 for the private Summit Park Water system when she began to notice ongoing water quality issues; and

**Whereas**, Marti approached the Summit County Commission in 1987 to create a public Special Service District in Summit Park to allow for a more economical and sustainable way to fund and construct improvements on the now failing system; and

**Whereas**, Marti persuaded then Governor Norman Bangertter to declare Summit Park in a state of emergency, to which the US Army Corps of Engineers delivered water by truck to Summit Park beginning in the winter of 1988-89 and lasting for eight (8) months; and

**Whereas**, Marti, as manager of the new Special Service District (and the first woman certified as a water operator in Utah), was fundamental, after the emergency, to develop enough high-quality water and obtain new water rights to serve Summit Park’s immediate needs. She dedicated days and nights to serving Summit Park for 14 years; and

**Whereas**, Marti began to recognize in the late 1990s (after a moratorium on new growth for some systems), many developments and water systems in western Summit County were also experiencing critical shortages. She understood the concept that there was not always an adequate quantity or quality of groundwater beneath each development to serve each project with their own private system sustainably and that a broader vision was required to protect the County citizenry; and

**Whereas**, Marti envisioned a public regional water agency which would combine the strengths and weaknesses of each water system through interconnections and provide economy of scale of operation. This public regional water agency would best serve the County and protect the long-term health and property values; and

**Whereas**, Marti petitioned the County Commission in 1999 to form Mountain Regional Water Special Service District; the arduous effort was completed in January of 2000. This District facilitated her vision of bringing new imported water from the Weber River into western Summit County to supplement much of the failing groundwater systems and meet new growth demands. This new Lost Canyon Project pumped its first water in 2004. Now all water systems in the western County, including Park City, rely heavily on this project to meet customer needs and future growth; and

**Whereas**, Marti worked hard to see the new District grow over the years from one system of 300 connections to over 15 interconnected systems of over 4,000 connections, with peak water deliveries exceeding 10 million gallons per day; and

**Whereas**, Without the vision and determination of Marti, much of Western Summit County would still be struggling for water rights, water storage and pipeline capacity, as well as critical emergency fire suppression capability; and

**Whereas**, Marti has been a strong customer service advocate. She has shown the courage necessary to stand up for the homeowner against pressure from massive development challenges. She instituted resilient water contamination safety measures (cross-connection) and instituted conservation incentive-based rates at the District, and has served in many water public service capacities, including the Intermountain Chapter of the American Water Works Association Board and President; and

**Whereas**, Marti must now focus on preparing for a very long retirement, requiring her to travel on many adventures with her husband, to visit their children, and four beautiful granddaughters.

**Now, therefore**, be it resolved that the Summit County Council does hereby recognize the retirement of Marti Gee from Mountain Regional Water Special Service District and further thanks her for all of her noble contributions to the health and safety of western Summit County, as well as her continued support of the District’s employees. Marti’s lasting commitments have made Summit County a far better and safer place for those who live within and visit.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.  
SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Clyde, Chair

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Glenn Wright, Vice Chair

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Roger Armstrong

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Kim Carson

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Chris Robinson

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Kent Jones, Clerk