



# Water Literate Leaders of Northern Colorado

## January 18, 2023 | Speaker Biographies

#### **ANDY PINEDA** | Agricultural Engineer, Larimer & Weld Irrigation

Andy Pineda has over 40 years of experience in water resources activities in the northern Colorado region having worked for City of Fort Collins Water Utilities, Northern Water, and Larimer and Weld Irrigation companies. His professional interests include water rights, policy and rule administration, water supply availability, water quality, reservoir operations, efficient water use, systems modeling, and irrigated agriculture. Andy earned a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Engineering from Colorado State University a long time ago. Andy enjoys fishing, golf, swimming, and putzing around his yard in north Fort Collins.

## **EMILY HUNT** | Deputy Infrastructure Director, City of Thornton

Emily Hunt is the Deputy Infrastructure Director for Water at the city of Thornton. She has over twenty-five years of experience in Water Resources. Emily participated in the Colorado Foundation for Water Education's Water Leaders Program in 2006. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Colorado Water Congress and is the President of the Colorado Water Trust. Emily earned her bachelor's degree in Geology from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and her master's degree in Geography from the University of Denver. When not at work, Emily enjoys being outside, and growing spicy things.

#### **BRETT BOVEE** | President, WestWater Research

Brett Bovee is the President of WestWater Research. Brett brings close to 20 years of experience conducting a variety of engineering, economic, and water rights studies across the Western states. Many of these projects have been focused on water resources management and water development concepts in the pursuit, protection, and use of water rights. Since joining WestWater, Brett has performed dozens of focused water right valuation studies and broader economic and water market analyses. Brett brings a unique perspective to projects, combining a background in water resources engineering with a developed knowledge of water rights and economics.

### JENI ARNDT | Mayor, City of Fort Collins

Fort Collins has been home since I was three weeks old. After attending Moore Elementary, Blevins Junior High School, and Poudre High School, I earned an undergraduate degree in Sociology at Colorado College. Soon afterwards I earned an MA in Geography from the University of Colorado followed by an MA in Special Education from Purdue University in Indiana. After teaching special education for a few years, I earned a Ph.D. in Literacy and Language from Purdue.

When I was away—in college, in the Peace Corps (Morocco), in graduate school, living and working in Mozambique, Africa— Fort Collins was always my home. When the opportunity arose to live anywhere, my husband, Channing, and I enthusiastically returned to Fort Collins with our three children. My work experience includes Congressional intern, ESL teacher, Peace Corps volunteer, secondary special education teacher, middle school principal, International Baccalaureate Coordinator, university faculty member and department head.

In addition to working, teaching and attending school, I have been an active volunteer. Serving in the Peace Corps in Morocco was an honor. I served on school boards in Lafayette, IN and in Mozambique. After moving back to Fort Collins, I served on the Commission on Disability as well as Childsafe before running for State Representative in 2014. As a State Representative I have focused on water, agriculture, small business and public education. After 3+ terms in the General Assembly I was elected Mayor of Fort Collins in April, 2021.

Personally, my husband of 32 years and I have three adult children. My mom, Libby James is my rock and role model. In my free time, I run, bike, swim, read and talk to people

#### TIM GATES | Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Colorado State University

Timothy (Tim) K. Gates is a Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Colorado State University. His research over the years has focused primarily on agricultural water systems, especially how streams and aquifers interact with irrigated agriculture. His studies have included monitoring, modeling and analysis of shallow groundwater flow and salt transport; water quality related to irrigated agriculture; open-channel flow and solute transport; uncertainty in water resources systems; and field monitoring and evaluation of irrigation and drainage systems. Dr. Gates has directed numerous research and training projects over the last 34 years. For more than 20 years he led an extensive research, education, and extension effort to better describe and find ways to enhance the irrigated stream-aquifer system of the Arkansas River Basin in Colorado. At CSU he teaches courses on fluid mechanics and hydraulic engineering. He has consulted on a variety of water resources and irrigation projects and has

conducted numerous short courses and training programs. Dr. Gates' international experience includes about four years in Egypt working on various irrigation projects. He also has consulted in India, Sri Lanka, Australia, and Pakistan on irrigation and water resources projects and has lectured on these subjects in China and Vietnam. He is blessed to be married to Valerie, and to have two grown sons, two daughters-in-law, and six grandchildren.