

Orr Affidavit

Exhibit 79

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DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Excerpted pages of the “Minutes of the Meeting
on Snake River Flood Control Problems”
(Dec. 16, 1957)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
ON SNAKE RIVER FLOOD CONTROL PROBLEMS

Jackson, Wyoming
December 16, 1957

The meeting was held in the Wort Hotel in Jackson among interested parties of both Idaho and Wyoming. A list of the persons in attendance is as follows:

Milward L. Simpson	Governor of Wyoming	Cheyenne, Wyoming
Keith Thomson	Rep. from Wyoming	Cheyenne, Wyoming
E. L. White	Bureau of Rec.	Boise, Idaho
Harold T. Nelson	Bureau of Rec., Director, Region 1	Boise, Idaho
Glenn H. Simmons	Bureau of Rec.	Burley, Idaho
Leo D. Murdock	Committee of Nine	Blackfoot, Idaho
Alex Coleman	Committee of Nine	St. Anthony, Idaho
N. V. Sharp	Committee of Nine	Fyler, Idaho
Mark R. Kulp	Idaho Governor's Rep.	Boise, Idaho
William F. Hart	Corps of Engineers	Walla Walla, Wash.
Howard A. Preston	Corps of Engineers	Walla Walla, Wash.
Willis Walker	Committee of Nine	Rexburg, Idaho
Lloyd Van DeBurg	Rancher	Jackson, Wyoming
Burce Porter	State Senator, Teton County	Jackson, Wyoming
Harry Barker, Jr.	State Representative, Teton County	Moose, Wyoming
R. P. Parry	Attorney	Twin Falls, Idaho
James L. Bowman	Bureau of Rec.	Moran, Wyoming
Orvil Nielson	American Falls Reservoir District No. 2	Gooding, Idaho
William Kerner	American Falls Reservoir District No. 2	Shoshone, Idaho
Robert W. Ferebarell	American Falls Reservoir District No. 2	Shoshone, Idaho
Lynn Crandall	Snake River Watermaster	Idaho Falls, Idaho
L. F. Thornton	Natural Resource Board	Thermopolis, Wyo.
E. B. Hitchcock	Natural Resource Board	Rock Springs, Wyo.
Walter W. King	Chamber of Commerce	Wilson, Wyoming
Lee Lundy		Wilson, Wyoming
Eugene P. Linn	Rancher	Wilson, Wyoming
Byron Jenkins	Rancher	Jackson, Wyo.
J. G. Imeson	Rancher	Jackson, Wyo.
H. C. Richards		Jackson, Wyo.
C. B. Goring	Protective Union Board	Blackfoot, Idaho
E. Roy Stanger	Progressive Irr. Dist.	Idaho Falls, Idaho

He doubted whether they would be sympathetic to making a cash contribution to the operation and maintenance of flood protection works in the Jackson area.

Mr. R. P. Parry then spoke as representative of the water users in the lower Snake River Valley below American Falls Reservoir. Mr. Parry also recognized the problem of the Wyoming users and stated that if possible Idaho would be most willing to co-operate. He brought out that since there is such a large portion of government ownership within the county, the Federal government should participate in the cost of operation and maintenance of the flood control works. He stated that the possibilities of obtaining financial assistance from the water users in Idaho would be guesswork at this time. It would not be possible for the Committee of Nine to make any commitments-- they could only put forth an expression of their opinion. Also, the question of how Idaho might be able to obtain money to help in such a situation is open to question. Mr. Parry re-emphasized his point that the Federal government should co-operate on the flood control works and offered his assistance in contacting the authorities in the state of Idaho and their Congressional delegation in this regard.

Congressman Thomson pointed out that from his discussions with the Federal government, there was little possibility of the various agencies requesting funds for such a purpose as maintaining flood protection works that were outside of the area of their immediate jurisdiction. He also stated that there is the opinion that the Federal government is contributing the initial construction cost and therefore, has done their share. Congressman Thomson expressed his idea of making power revenues available for paying the operation and maintenance charges.

Mr. Parry stated that he doubted if this could be done from Palisades; however, it might be possible with the Burns Creek Project. There would be sufficient power revenues from that project to take care of flood control operation and maintenance-- all that would be needed would be the authorizing legislation.

Mr. William Holden, Attorney for the water users on the upper river in Idaho, re-emphasized the difficulties involved in obtaining assessments from the fifty or sixty water users groups in Idaho. He doubted the legality of such a move and also the practicality of it. He stated that the group present at the meeting did not want to give any assurances of their ability to make a financial contribution when they were not sure it could be done. He suggested that the Corps of Engineers investigate the possibility of making a different interpretation to the law requiring financial ability of the local district.