

**REYNOLDS CREEK DIST 57R
2018 WATER MASTER DIARY
CONNIE M BRANDAU**

RECEIVED
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WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

March 6, 2018 The annual water district meeting was held at 1:30 pm in Courthouse in Murphy, Idaho. Present were: Richard Brandau, Chairman; Jerry Hoagland, Secretary; Connie Brandau, Treasurer; Ron Rush, Kelly Clemens, Tristan Hook, Tim Hook, and Patrick Kelly, IDWR.

Water master compensation for 2018 season was set at \$70 per day and \$.55 per mile. Connie Brandau was elected water master with the understanding that Rex Evans would be her assistant, sharing the same compensation rates. The district budget was set at \$5,000 for 2018. Dean Young and Lou Sanchez were named as advisors.

Ron Rush stated that he is having trouble with the West Reynolds Lateral seeping and souring his ground. He wanted to know who was responsible for its maintenance. He was told that the lateral users were and that he should bring it to their attention at a board meeting of their district.

There was discussion about the legality of driving four wheeler or other UTV's on the Reynolds Creek Road. The county commissioners said they are NOT legal to drive on the pavement.

Patrick Kelly suggested that anyone installing pivots that may cover ground outside of the original place of use needs to file a transfer and supplied his contact information. There was discussion about water rights that need updated due to change of ownership. Their website should soon be more user friendly.

March 23, 2018 I received notices from IDWR of water right updates for Seven High Ranch Inc., and CRM-Richards change of ownership. I called IDWR to request additional water measurement books and to let them know that Rex Evans, assistant water master for 2018, would need a certificate of appointment.

March 24, 2018 Rex and I had planned to do a 57R systems review today to familiarize him with his duties, but it rained so much last night that it is too muddy to get all the way through. The creek was up and muddy this morning.

March 30, 2018 Rex and I did a 57R system review today. He got here about 9 am and we went over books and both general and specific things he needs to have or know to get the job done.

I provided a map locating the irrigation ditch diversions and weirs, a list of the points of diversion showing the different types and sizes of weirs on which to record the depth of measurement. We then went over how to calculate and record the measurements in CFS from Bulletin 552 for Parshall, Cipolletti, rectangular contracted, and broad crested weirs and various sizes of pipes that he will be dealing with.

We ran the lower reach on my Polaris side by side, then loaded it in the trailer and drove to upper Reynolds and unloaded at the end of the pavement. We reviewed the reservoir

system, Macks, Cottle, and Salmon creeks, then headed up the creek all the way to the High ditch.

We looked at every diversion on the creek except for Dobson, as it was too muddy to get there. We took pictures of measuring devices that need repair, maintenance, or replacement.

We got back to the office about 8:30 pm. Then we sat down and I showed Rex how to do the calculations and totals for water measured, and how to determine where it should be allocated.

Very few patrons are using water so far. There is water in the Boise Trust ditch, Reynolds Creek District lateral, Junayo east side, ZX barn, Timothy field, Bench ditch, Ram field, and the Community ditch. Junayo is still storing water in both the Macks and East side reservoirs (no one has made a call on water yet). Only a couple of the more junior downstream water right holds are ready for water and if I allocate by right and time they wouldn't have any water coming. There is still a little water going past SH 78 to the river.

The phones are out and will not be repaired until after 4/2/18 per Century Link, so I am unable to contact anyone. April 1st is Easter Sunday.

April 2, 2018 Phones are working again. I called Dean Young (advisor) at 9:30 am to let him know what we had found on Friday. He said that RID has a pump down and they can't get it repaired right away. He wanted to know if they can take water at the RID lateral diversion.

April 3, 2018 I called IDWR and asked for a dam safety review as a result of our 57R systems review. I spent most of the day on phone calls to determine who to contact about water use; Boone's is being farmed by Tom Benson but they have both sold to Lyndon Smith, Jason Miller is leasing Boston's, Daniel Richards is leasing Richard Brandau's, Paul Jesenko has sold to John Hepton who may have also purchased something from South Mountain/Hook and J&M/Mortenson, Lath Callaway has purchased a portion of Jerry Benson's (deceased) place and Jaca's are farming the rest of it, Youngs Riverfront Ranch is farming Goerings and Gerald Muller's (deceased).

Martin Jaca and Adam Duckett both asked about Ron Ruch's complaint at the annual meeting. I told them that IDWR can provide them with a bulletin "*Idaho Statutes Pertaining to Canals and Laterals*".

April 4, 2018 Erik Boe, the IDWR dam safety inspector, called me back at 8:30 am. He said to email my written concerns to him.

April 16, 2018 There are 9 unpaid 57R water bills to date.

May 5, 2018 RID lateral ditch below China Ditch Road is leaking in a couple of places. I walked the ditch and found a few gopher holes that are causing the problem and notified the RID ditch rider.

May 10, 2018 Treasurer's note: there are still 4 unpaid water bills. Received notice of water master training on May 23rd. I made calls to see who wants to go as they need to confirm by May 11th.

May 21, 2018 Chris Davis called at 8:30 am to let me know the creek is up and he doesn't want ANY water at this time, but he doesn't want to close the head gate and screw up anyone else's water. I went out to adjust the head gate to the appropriate flow.

May 22, 2018 There was a terrific rainstorm about 6 pm. The sand draws on the west side of the creek all ran water.

May 23, 2018 Richard Brandau 57R Chairman, Rex and I went to the IDWR water master training session in Boise at Fish and Game headquarters on Walnut St. It was suggested that water measurements be taken at least weekly during irrigation season. Waters rights in our district have a season of use from February 15th to November 15th. The annual budget would need to be addressed if that were to happen.

May 24, 2018 Daniel Richards said that the cloudburst on 5/22/18 washed out the ditch above the waste gate in the big sand draw below the canyon. It filled several hundred feet of the ditch with sand and rocks.

May 25, 2018 Rex went out to measure today.

May 31, 2018 I received a call at 9 pm from Melanie Oliveira from Hawaii about water rights on property that she owns. Several years ago the Oliveira's had purchased property from LaVar Young. She wanted to know how to "put the water right in her name". She asked if I would look into it for her.

June 1, 2018 I got online at 9 am and went to IDWR website and home page, then searched for transfer of water right and downloaded PDF for 42-248/42. I had to use the water right locator map to find the water right number, which led me to the original Wm. Tinchler (deceased) water right. It had never been transferred out of his name. I called her back at 11:15 with the information.

June 3, 2018 Daniel Richards called to let me know he put stock water in the RID lateral. I told him that (from past experience) it takes about 40 inches of water to get to Schuster Gulch. 40 inches = .80 cfs = 2" over the 4 foot cipolletti weir. I also let him know that RID does not want any water further down the ditch as everyone is haying.

June 8, 2018 Rex went out to measure today.

June 25, 2018 There are Mormon Crickets, thick, everywhere around here now, on both sides of the creek.

July 6, 2018 Rex went out to measure today. It will probably be the last time this season as the creek is running intermittently. Senior right holders are taking what is available at their diversions and it still isn't enough to fill even the oldest rights.

September 4, 2018 I received a phone message from Jason Phillips stating that to get a building permit his Owyhee County Planning and Zoning Conditional Use Permit

requires that he needs to record an irrigation lateral users agreement, signed by all pertinent parties, which includes the chairman of Reynolds Creek Dist. 57R.

September 6, 2018 Jason Phillips called again. I told him that he would need to contact the parties to see when they could all meet.

September 12, 2018 Phillips called back to say he has scheduled a meeting for 6 pm tomorrow with the owners of the "Tincher" property.

September 13, 2018 The following people met at "Tinchers" to discuss a potential water users agreement: property owners Melanie Oliveira, Jason Phillips, and La Var Young; Jerry Hoagland, 57R secretary and RID chairman; Richard Brandau, 57R chairman; Connie Brandau, 57R water master; Denise Lacy, POA for Melanie Oliverira.

Connie took notes of the meeting and was delegated to write up a rough draft of a water users agreement for review.

September 14, 2018 I wrote up a rough draft of a potential water users agreement. I had to call everyone to see how to get it to them for their review. Most chose to receive it via email.

September 17, 2018 I emailed the draft water users agreement to all parties involved.

September 28, 2018 After being away from the phone for over a week, there were lots of messages regarding the draft water users agreement, to which I responded.

October 15, 2018 Dean Young came to the office to have me "tweak" the draft agreement that I had saved on my computer. He had me make 4 print outs and also email it to 7 people for notarized signatures.

I have been getting Owyhee County P&Z CUP notifications asking for comments from our District 57R. Rich, Dean and I discussed the need to draft a policy statement for both RID and 57R and worked on the wording for that. It needs to be on the agenda for our next annual 57R meeting.

November 15, 2018 Someone left a message that the agreement, to be know as "The Tincher Water Users Agreement" still has not been signed.

November 23, 2018 Jon Stosich, a realtor, called and asked me to mail a final copy of the Tincher Water Users Agreement to him. Jason Phillips called a bit later and that he would come by and pick it up in person.

December 1, 2018 Phillips came by to pick up the water users agreement and will see that the signatures get notarized.

January 11, 2019 I received a change of ownership notice by email from IDWR. Hook's sold some property to State Hiway 78 Trust. I spoke with Debbi Judd at IDWR about it. She walked me through the process of using IDWR's more user friendly website and the type of software I should have on my computer to access the information.

January 12, 2019 I spoke with Tristan Hook at 10 am. We discussed the IDWR notice of water right splits of the original high flow / flood right (Tom Benson's 57-573) into two rights 57-11778 Hiway 78 Trust and and 57-22119 Hook Family LTD Partnership. He said that the contact person for Hiway 78 Trust is John Hepton, Trustee. The high flow right 57-11773 created a flood right for land that did not have a water right out of the creek prior to that filing. This place of use is the pivot and area above West Reynolds Irrigation District gravity flow pump ditch which is still within their districts boundary.

January 21, 2019 I worked all day on updating all of the water rights information provided to me by IDWR. Transfer #81188 added points of diversion, which led me to research other water rights points of diversion. I found several discrepancies that will need to be addressed.

January 22, 2019 I had to go to Nampa for office supplies to finish updating my water master book of individual water rights and cumulative ditch rights.

January 23, 2019 I worked all day on updating the excel spreadsheet, addresses, water right ownership, splits, and pro-rating budget amounts of those splits. I got on Owyhee County website and viewed Parcel Maps to verify ownership of properties that have changed hands but have not yet transferred water rights into their name. I spoke to the RID chairman and he said their district is having the same problem.

I called various patrons to see if I could facilitate getting this years bills to the correct business for payment.

January 24, 2019 I finished up the 2018 Water Masters Report, except for the water masters diary, getting it notarized, and mailing it.

January 25, 2019 I called IDWR and spoke with Phill Hummer about water being taken from a point of diversion that is not on the water right. He said that would be considered "non-compliance" and needs to be addressed. This should also be on the agenda for the annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Connie M. Brandau, Water Master
Reynolds Creek Dist. 57R