

## *WATER DISTRICT MEETING NOTES*

*DISTRICT # 65A, SQUAW CREEK*

*MARCH 1, 2010*



I attended the annual meeting in Ola. There was a good turnout, about 15 people. Mostly a status quo meeting but with considerable discussion about budgets and proposed bull trout habitat issues.

### Results

Officers, Watermaster & Advisory Committee – same.

Funding – Current balance about \$140, expecting some funds from County collections by about June. County discontinued collections for a couple years, leaving the district to collect money on its own (Janice send bills/letters). Lots of problems encountered in that process, some people did not pay. County has resumed collections but this left the district short of money, still catching up. Example: cannot pay Watermaster on time, although he is okay with that.

Budget – Watermaster salary the same. I provided information about possible minimum assessment process, including a current list of all owners included in the district (about 160 separate owners). Discussed ways IDWR could help them if they adopted a minimum assessment (letters to water users etc.). Based on problems noted in above topic, district did not want to have a minimum assessment at this time. But they adopted an assessment for regular payers at 1.5 times the normal rate to catch up on funding and have some extra for unforeseen problems.

Members have lots of concerns about possible impacts of proposed bull trout listing being considered by the feds (US Fish & Wildlife Service?). Sage Hen Creek drainage has allegedly been proposed as critical habitat. People wonder this means with respect to filling/using Sage Hen Reservoir. When asked, told them I have not heard anything about this at IDWR.

They are looking into joining IWUA and taking other steps regarding bull trout issues.

Vaughn Spiker (former Watermaster) said the “SCS” has a rating curve for the submerged weir at Sage Hen Reservoir. He will try to get that – could be very helpful for Watermaster. I will follow up with them about this.

If a rating curve is not available, I told Watermaster about plans to measure creek flows when storage water is released this year. Will coordinate with him this summer if we proceed with measurements.

2011 meeting - 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of March, 1:00, Ola Community Center.