

April 23, 2015

Birch Creek Culinary Water Board
647 East Birch Creek Road
Mink Creek, Idaho 83263

Attention: Board of Directors

Gentlemen;

Recently, I was asked by members of the current Board of Directors to document the events that led up to the rejection of my requests to gain approval to connect a new house to the Birch Creek Culinary Water System (BCCWS). In striving to comply with this request, I asked for some information from the approved minutes of the annual meetings held by the functioning Board of Directors between the years 2000 and 2007. This was the period of time that I went through an ongoing process of trying to obtain approval on water for my house.

It was a surprise to discover that the minutes documented very little record of my requests and the resulting open public discussions by the Board pursuant to my requests. However, it was documented that myself and in some cases my accompanying wife (Laurel), were in attendance at five meetings between 2000 and 2007. The only other documented activity in the minutes referring to the requests I made and presented before the BCCWS Board of Directors, was in the year 2000 annual meeting. There was reference to a discussion being held upon converting the half hookup that already existed for my livestock to a full hookup which would include my house. I remember that there was considerable discussion and unyielding opinions and without any vote or majority ruling, I was told there was not enough water available for another home hookup.

I can attest that in at least four meetings after the above meeting and through the year 2007, I requested further consideration by the Board in allowing my home to have a water connection. In the 2006 annual meeting the Chairman of the Board at the time (Lynn Jensen), stated that he had been in contact with water authorities in Idaho Falls and was told that legally the Board could be required to allow me a house hookup. But his comments seemed to be ignored and the statement was made again that there was not enough water.

In April of 2007 at the annual meeting, I proposed that the Board consider charging me a new house hookup fee, like most cities require. I explained this would provide capital for repairs and begin a fund for the future improvement to the system. After hearing some supportive comments by others in attendance; the conducting Chairman of the Board (Jeff Seamons), stood firm and unyielding in stating again that he felt there was not enough water in the BCCWS to supply my house and he was not in support of procedure change. As stated above, the minutes for the annual meetings held after the year 2000 make no reference to my proposals, requests, and resulting discussions that in fact took place pursuant to obtaining a culinary water hookup for my home.

Sincerely submitted,



Ross M. Wilde

