

**WATER DISTRICT 11  
1995 ANNUAL MEETING  
SODA SPRINGS, ID 83276  
FEBRUARY 6, 1996**

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Brown at 2:00 PM. Nominations were opened for chairman. Dean Mathews nominated Joe Larsen. Seconded by Carly Burton. Lee Rigby moved that we accept Mr. Larsen by acclamation. Golden Keech seconded and motion carried.

Mr. Mathews opened nominations for secretary. Lee Ream nominated Jerry Brown, seconded by Lanny Weston. Joe Larsen moved that we accept Mr. Brown by acclamation. Lee Ream seconded and motion carried.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Pete Peterson, presented his watermaster report. He stated that last year we had a wet spring and as a result, good natural flow. Bear Lake reached a high of 5912.37 in 1995. The low was 5910.58. Water was pumped out of Bear Lake from July 31 thru September 16, 1995. 48,800 acre feet of water was released from Bear Lake in 1995. The irrigators used 37,034 acre feet of this amount. The cost in 1995 was .073 cents per 24 hour second foot as compared to .059 in 1994. The reason that the cost was higher is because less water was delivered in 1995 than in 1994.

Marc Gibbs moved that we accept the watermaster's report. Seconded by Lee Ream, motion carried.

Mr. Peterson presented the proposed budget for 1996 as follows:

Watermaster 105 days at \$24 per day	2,520
261 days at \$33 per day	<u>8,613</u>
Total	11,133
Asst. watermaster 240 days @ \$27 per day	6,480
Other expenses	<u>25,050</u>
Total	42,663

Carly Burton moved that we adopt the proposed budget. Reagan Wheeler seconded the motion and motion carried.

Pete mentioned that the measuring devices in the middle section need to be repaired or replaced with new 7 day "Stevens" devices. They run about \$1,200. He recommended that the canal companies take a look at improving their measuring devices when they have their budget meetings.

He also mentioned that some steps should be placed at the last chance measuring point to allow easier access by himself. He will meet with Kelly Holt to look into this.

Nominations were opened for Watermaster. Virgil Boehme nominated Pete Peterson, Kelly Holt seconded. Carly Burton moved that we accept Mr. Peterson as Watermaster by acclamation. Lanny Weston seconded and motion carried.

Reagan Wheeler made a motion that someone such as an advisory committee member should go with Pete on his rounds a couple of times each year. This person would be compensated \$100 plus expenses. Motion was seconded by Golden Keech, motion carried. Marc Gibbs agreed to go this year.

Nominations were opened for Advisory committee. Virgil Boehme moved that we retain the same advisory committee as last year. Carly Burton seconded and motion carried. Next years committee is Lee Ream, Dean Mathews, Kelly Holt, and Joe Larsen.

Carly Burton stated that the level of Bear Lake at the present time is 5911.7 and was at 5907.28 at this time last year. The Bear River Basin snowpack is at 136% of normal. It was 88% at this time last year. The projected high this year for the lake is estimated to be 5914.3 and perhaps higher in view of the recent storm. Wyoming storage will fill easily this spring and allow the excess to go down stream to Bear Lake.

He also said that they had received a dredging permit last year from the Idaho Department of Lands. However, the Corps. of Engineers revoked the permit. The Corps of engineers are wanting to require that an EIS be done. The water users could hire their own engineer and pay for the study. The other option is to request that the Corps of Engineers do it. If the latter was done it may take several years to get Congressional funding. Carly felt that in the power company's reply they would try to down play the importance of an EIS since the only impact is on a few feet of elevation from about 5902 to 5908 rather than the difference in lake levels from full pool down to the point where dredging is necessary. Dredging only affects the lake after it is already drawn down to a lower level. He hoped that they could dispel the need for an EIS.

Another point was made that perhaps the irrigators could apply for the permit rather than the power company. They might be able to get the permit under the Harbors and Rivers act whereas the power company could not qualify.

Carly reviewed the FERC relicensing project that the Power Company is currently undertaking. They will be required to deal with all interested parties including whitewater rafters, fishermen, irrigators, etc.

Norm Young discussed negotiations that his office has had with his counterparts in Utah. They are still trying to define what an emergency is as it pertains to a call on the river. This is critical since a call on the river will require water allocation based on priority date on the whole river rather than by priority date in each state. Idaho wants to require that Utah monitor the

Bear River, its tributaries and the ground water. Utah is fairly willing to do this but they will want Idaho to do the same.

Idaho feels strongly that the states and water districts should administer their water with oversight by the Bear River Commission. Utah, however, wants the Commission to operate the system and direct the watermaster and the districts.

Norm also reported on the agreement that was signed by the Bear Lake interests, the Power Company, and the irrigators. A discussion followed.

Marc Gibbs requested that the IDWR hold a public meeting when the next Idaho draft proposal is ready so that Idaho users can review it.

Golden Keech moved that we adjourn. Virgil Boehme seconded, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:18 PM

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