



State of Idaho

## DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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EASTERN REGION

DIRK KEMPTHORNE  
Governor

KARL J. DREHER  
Director

FEBRUARY 10, 2003

MR GERALD L BROWN  
PO BOX 378  
SODA SPRINGS ID 83276

RE: Water District No. #11

Dear Mr. Brown:

We acknowledge receipt of the Minutes of the Annual Watermaster's Election Meeting held in your district. We now have all the needed documents to complete the certification process in your water district.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Harold W. Jones*  
Harold W Jones  
Water Rights Supervisor

HWJ:dn

WATER DISTRICT 11  
2003 ANNUAL MEETING  
SODA SPRINGS, ID 83276  
FEBRUARY 4, 2003

The meeting was called to order by Jerry Brown at 2:05 PM. Nominations were opened for chairman. Golden Keetch nominated Lee Ream. Seconded by Kelly Holt. All voting was in the affirmative.

Mr. Ream opened nominations for secretary. Golden Keetch nominated Jerry Brown, seconded by Dean Mathews. Pete Peterson moved that we accept him by acclamation. Kelly Holt seconded and motion carried.

The minutes of the last meeting were read. Golden Keetch made the motion that we accept the minutes as read. Dean Mathews seconded and motion carried.

Pete Peterson, presented his watermaster report. In 2001, 578,455 acre feet of water was diverted from the system. In 2002, it was 569,836. The cost in 2001 was 7 cents per 24 hour second foot. The cost in 2002 was 8.0 cents per 24 hour second foot. There was 16% more water available above Stewart Dam in 2002 than in 2001. Below Stewart Dam to Utah there was 22% less water available in 2002 than in 2001. Natural flow at the Utah line was 1% below the prior year.

Dean Mathews moved that we accept the watermaster's report. Seconded by Steve Meek, motion carried.

Mr. Peterson presented the proposed budget for 2003 as follows:

Watermaster 105 days at \$32 per day	3,360
260 days at \$41 per day	<u>10,660</u>
Total	14,020
Asst. watermaster 160 days @ \$31 per day	4,960
Other expenses	<u>29,000</u>
Total	47,980

Golden Keetch moved that we adopt the proposed budget. Don Harris seconded the motion and motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Watermaster. Dean Mathews nominated Pete Peterson and moved that we accept him by acclamation. Steve Meek seconded and motion carried.

Nominations were opened for Treasurer. Dean Mathews nominated Jerry Brown and moved that we accept him by acclamation. Golden Keetch seconded and motion carried.

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

Kelly Holt indicated that basin wide the snowpack is 58% of normal. It was 86% last year at this time. Precipitation this year is at 65% of normal. The current level of Bear Lake is 5907.90 It was at 5911.42 last year. Low elevation in the fall of 2001 occurred on 10-31-01 at 5911.15. High elevation in the spring of 2002 was on 4-21-02 at 5912.20. Low elevation in the fall of 2002 was on 12-2-02 at 5907.57. Remaining capacity at current level is 338,000 AF. Rainbow inlet canal runoff forecast April 1, 2002 was 110,000 AF which is 38% of normal. Actual runoff April-July 2002 was 8,000 AF or 2.7%. Runoff for water year ending 9-30-02 was 28,827 AF or 10.6%. Net runoff for 2002 was negative 18,000 AF. This is the first time in history that there has been negative runoff for two years in a row. 2002 Bear Lake storage allocation was 215,000 AF (88%). Net storage releases were 204,201 AF. 182,610 AF was used by irrigators. 7482 AF were attributed to conveyance losses. 14,109 AF was attributed to inadvertent loss.

Kelly indicated that the dredging permit application was filed in March of 2001. It was approved in June 2002. Currently there are 2.57 ft of freeboard on the intake channel. Dredging will begin on or before April 1st.

Projected lake high elevation for 2003 is 5908.50. If conditions are the same as in 2002 175,000 AF would be allocated. Assuming average runoff conditions this would rise to 210,000 AF. Assuming high runoff conditions then it would be 230,000 AF.

Year end projected low elevation with a repeat of 2002 is set at 5904.00. This would be the lowest since 1935.

Helen Harrington from the Boise office of IDWR made a presentation concerning a project she has been working on. She handed out the draft copy of the Management Plan For The Bear River Ground Water Management Area. This management plan would address the process to obtain ground water rights, how to compute required mitigation, and how to obtain the resources for mitigation.

The plan may require our Watermaster to monitor tributaries to BR that are not currently in a water district. The plan would exclude the Bancroft/Lund area since it has been adjudicated and has its own water district and watermaster.

Lee Ream asked Paul Myer if the BR would be adjudicated. Paul felt that he day will probably come when this will happen. The BR compact would possibly make this more difficult because of the potential involvement of three states.

Golden Keetch asked about the stockwater filings above Stewart Dam. Pete indicated that most of the stockwater users had made application.

Mark Harris asked about the Wild Rivers movement on the Bear River. Kelly Holt indicated that there was not much interest at the present time and that the potential only existed in a couple of small areas where BLM ownership existed.

Golden Keetch moved that we adjourn. Dean Mathews seconded, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM  
wd03