

Water District #11 Annual Meeting
Caribou County Emergency Services Building
February 1, 2011 2:00 P.M.

Agenda

Election of meeting Chairman and Meeting Secretary - Connely Baldwin
(previous years meeting chairman)

Review and Approval of Minutes of Feb. 4, 2010 Annual Meeting

Advisory Board Election - Meeting Chairman

Watermaster Election - Meeting Chairman

Treasurer Election - Meeting Chairman

Watermaster's Report - Rock Holbrook

Grant Project Update - Rock Holbrook and Lyla Detmer

Water issues & news - IDWR E. office

Bear Lake Storage Forecast - Connely Baldwin

2010 Financial Results - Austin Moses

2011 Budget and Assessment - Austin Moses

Review of Un-paid Assessments - Austin Moses

Other business

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FEB 11 2011

Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region

WATER DISTRICT #11 BEAR RIVER

Minutes of Annual Meeting

February 1, 2011

Attending

Bill Robison

James Cefalo

Connely Baldwin

Larry Pitcher

Don B. Harris

Pete Petersen

Dan Forsgren

David Ure

Steve Meek

Lee Ann Gilbert

Clyde Gilbert

Joseph G. Larsen

Paul Keetch

Demar Romrell

Paul Nelson

Rock Holbrook

Austin Moses

Representing

Black Otter Irrigation

Dingle Irrigation & Advisory Board

IDWR

Pacificorp Energy

West Cache Irrigation

Gentile Valley Canal

Double 17 Ranch

Thatcher Irrigation

UR Ranches

Riverdale- Preston Irr. & Riverdale Irrigation

Smith-Bosen Irrigation

Smith Bosen Irrigation

West Cache & Advisory Board

Pegleg & West Fork

Nuffer Canal

Preston Montpelier Irr. Co.

Water Master

Treasurer

Connely Baldwin opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and asked for introductions, then nominations for meeting chairman. David Ure moved to appoint Connely Baldwin as meeting chairman. Joe Larsen seconded. All approved. Austin Moses appointed as meeting secretary.

Austin Moses read a summary of the minutes of the February 2 2010 annual meeting. Minutes approved.

Advisory Board Election. Don Harris moved to approve the same board as last year. Steve Meek seconded. All approved.

Water Master Election. David Ure spoke, saying he did not like it that Rock had cut his chain on the gate into his weir. He said there needed to be better communication and that if Rock would call him, he would let him in. Steve Meek moved to retain Rock Holbrook. Paul Keetch seconded. All Approved.

Treasurer Election. Bill Robison moved to retain Austin Moses as treasurer. David Ure seconded. All approved.

Rock Holbrook presented the annual Water Master Report. Pete Petersen said the report was not complete and listed a number of items that needed to be added or corrected; one being the flow through his weir. James Cefalo of IDWR spoke in defense of the report, saying it was one of the most comprehensive and complete that IDWR receives and is totally adequate. Steve Meek spoke up and said that Pete Petersen does not own a water right. His shares come from the Riverdale Preston Irrigation Company.

Rock Holbrook then reported on progress of the grant project to install metering and telemetry equipment throughout the Basin. He added that reporting from the system was available at "bearriverbasin.org" web site as well as much more information. There was a discussion of maintenance cost for the systems and life expectancy of it. Paul Keetch moved to accept the report. Demar Romrell seconded. All approved.

James Cefalo, IDWR, reported that the permit for the Black Bear water source transfer was denied on January 31, 2011. A number of issues were addressed in the denial, chief among them was the impact on the water sources for the Cities of Paris and Bloomington. The water rights purchased will remain in the Nuffer and Sorenson ditches. David Ure asked if they could still be transferred out of the ditch? James responded that any transfer would have to go through the same process as for the Black Bear application. Bill Robison explained that the transfer of the water from the ditches and the resulting lack of head, would turn many acres downstream into a dry farm. He expressed concern that some financing institution has a lien on those water rights and someone will make another attempt to transfer them. He stated that the water needs to flow through the ranches and then back into the River, rather than around them. He also expressed concern that the historical rights were being changed by the transfer process. James Cefalo explained the train of ownership and connection to the land. There continued a discussion of the transfer process and possibility of water rights being severed from the land. Included in the discussion was the possibility of adjudication for the Bear River Basin as well as the benefits which would be derived from it. In conclusion, James explained that with the State budget cuts, the Eastern Idaho office of IDWR was cut from 12 persons to 7, and asked the irrigators to be patient with any requests they may have.

Connely Baldwin reported on the Bear Lake Storage forecast, stating that the present elevation is 5,910.6 ft. and the high is forecast to reach 5,916 ft. At that level there will be a full storage allocation. Snow pack in the basin is at 140% of normal with some stations already reporting at the normal April 1st peak. Even with a dry spring the year should see full allocation to irrigators.

Austin Moses presented the financial statements for the previous year. He also presented the proposed budget for the 2011 year. David Ure moved to approve the budget as presented and set assessments based upon it. Bill Robison seconded. All approved. Austin also read a list of overdue assessments and requested help in contacting those not paying.

There was a discussion of maintenance work to be done by Pacificorp during the irrigation season and reason for variability of river flows.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:25 p.m.