

WATER DISTRICT 37B
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL WATER DISTRICT MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2024 1:00 P.M.

RECEIVED
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DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES
SOUTHERN REGION

ITEM #1 on Agenda – CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Lou Andersen, Advisory Board Chairman, called the annual meeting to order at 1:13 P.M. (Copies of Meeting Agenda, 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes, 2023 Budget to Actuals, 2024 Proposed Budget and Resolutions were handed out at entrance).

ITEM #2 and #3 on Agenda – SELECTION OF 2024 MEETING CHAIRMAN and SELECTION OF 2024 MEETING SECRETARY.

Rod Gonsales nominated Lou Andersen for Meeting Chairman, no other nominations.

Rod Gonsales moved to select Lou Andersen as Meeting Chairman of the annual meeting. Dallas Smith seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

Jim Kramer moved to select Teresa Andersen as secretary of the annual meeting. Rod Gonsales seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

ITEM #4 on Agenda– APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2023 ANNUAL MEETING

Lou asked that everyone take a few minutes to look over the 2023 annual meeting minutes and opened the floor for discussion. No discussion.

Rod Gonsales moved to approve the minutes as presented. Jim Kramer seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

ITEM #5 on Agenda – WATERMASTER REPORT OF 2023 YEAR

Lou turned the floor over to Rusty for the Water Master report.

Rusty had a map as the background on his laptop that shows the boundaries of the Water District 37B which consists of the entire Camas Creek Drainage and does include other counties besides Camas County. Rusty explained the way the water district bills acres, going on a 5-year average.

Rusty gave some of the NRCS Snow Data, as of Feb 5, shows Big Wood drainage at 82% of normal, Jan. 1 was at 48% and last year at this time was 128%. Snow-tel sites on Camas Creek Divide is at 95%, last year was 129% - Soldier Ranger Station at 65% of normal, last year was 117%. Magic Reservoir is at 135,000 AF currently, full storage is 191,500 AF and they need 240,000 AF for the season. There was discussion about the short snowfall year and possibly not having enough runoff this year.

There are currently 409 water rights, and 136 different water right owners. At this time, there are 78 meters, 2 PCCs, 2 time clocks, and 48 surface water measuring devices that need to be measured once a week. There are 47 water rights in the water bank and currently 3 being rented out. Rusty touched on forfeiture dates, everything was "decreed" in 2010 and in Idaho will be forfeited if not used for five

consecutive years. Rusty stated that this year is the Water District's 10 year anniversary, the water district was formed in 2014.

Rusty reiterated his job duties and responsibilities and also gave a list of things that are not his job or responsibility but he is willing to help with. He mentioned several things that he should not be doing as water master, those include:

- maintaining water user's devices – changing batteries – cleaning sand
- policing water delivery after the POD
- dealing with beaver dams
- policing water delivery in town or domestic use

Rusty explained the water bank program, 47 water rights currently in the bank. There is one set price for the State of Idaho to rent water from the water bank and it makes the water very expensive, but putting water rights in the bank does protect the water right.

Groundwater - there are 41 big wells, 6 small wells and 7 municipals. Rusty talked about the meters, recording readings and the continual issue with batteries. If meters fail they have to be replaced with an IDWR approved meter.

Surface water – there are 48 devices and have to be measured weekly.

Rusty reminded everyone, water users need to know their start and stop dates – start dates are April 15th for most surface and May 1st for most ground. End dates are Oct. 31st for surface and Sept. 15th for ground. All assessments must be paid in full before any water can be turned on - and users need to contact Rusty when they turn on water so he can get accurate measurements.

Rusty reminded everyone that the date for the annual meeting is the second Thursday of February.

Rusty briefly touched on the budget and the fact that the cost per acre feet is a little higher this year due to dropping off a higher usage year (2018) and adding last year which was a low usage year.

ITEM #6 on Agenda – TREASURERS REPORT FOR 2023 YEAR

Lou turned the floor over to Matt McLam for the treasurer's report. Matt went over the Budget to Actuals sheet which shows several items that were under budget in 2023, one being Rusty's mileage but the committee chose to leave it the same for the 2024 budget in case he may need to drive more this year. Going forward on the 2024 budget, Worker's Comp needed to be increased a little bit, office supplies is increased a little bit to purchase a piece of equipment for Rusty. Twin Lakes credit changes every year, so a few minor changes to the budget increases it a little bit which also increases the cost per AF a little bit this year.

ITEM #7 and #8 on Agenda – DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED 2024 DISTRICT 37B BUDGET and ADOPTION OF PROPOSED 2024 RESOLUTIONS AND BUDGET

Lou also touched on the fact that the budget moves around and the increase per AF of \$.31 is still cheap compared to other places. With a high usage year dropping off and a low usage year added on, we have less AF to work with which means everyone must pay more per AF.

Lou asked if anyone had questions about the budget. He stated that the resolutions had not changed from last year and asked for a motion to approve the proposed 2024 budget and proposed 2024 resolutions.

Rod Gonsales moved to approve the 2024 proposed budget and resolutions. Jim Kramer seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

Lou introduced Corey King and Dustin White from IDWR, who attended the meeting. They commented that Rusty was doing a great job and the Water District as a whole is run very well.

Lou asked if there was any other business. No other business, asked for a motion to adjourn.

Rod Gonsales moved to adjourn.

Dennis Strom seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unopposed. Meeting adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

(Attendance at the meeting included 16 attendees including water master)