

Weiser River Water District 67 % Terry Horton 2574 School Road Midvale, Idaho 83645 WESTERN I

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Watermaster: Brandi Horton-Bonner Chairman: James Harberd (208) 550-0313 (208) 550-1432 Sec/Treas: Terry Horton (208) 355-2315

February 6, 2023

WATER DISTRICT 67 ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN CAMBRIDGE- FAIR GROUNDS, EXHIBIT HALL- 1:00 P.M. MINUTES

Meeting called to by Chairman James Harberd at 1:02 pm.

Minutes read by outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Terry Horton. Vernon Lolley moved to accept as presented, Paul Striker 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

Terry presented the actuals and proposed budget. Lloyd Roberts asked why the raise to the Watermaster and Watermaster's Assistants salaries. Outgoing Watermaster Brandi Horton-Bonner explained that at the last Advisory Committee meeting the proposed budget was reviewed and it was determined that the pay to the Watermaster wasn't equal to the hours put in for that position. The same was determined for the Watermaster's Assistants. The Advisory Committee therefore decided to raise the Watermaster's salary by \$6,000 and increase the salaries for the Assistants by 20%. The same was done for the Secretary/Treasurer, and the Secretary/Treasurer would also be receiving a per diem for their internet and phone bills, just like the Watermaster does.

Discussion was held about retaining Brandi to train the new Watermaster. Brandi told them that she made the offer in her resignation letter that she would be willing to be hired as a private contractor to train the new Watermaster from April 1 to July 31st at a cost of \$2,000.00 per month plus mileage. She said that the Advisory Committee had recommended possibly hiring her for a month in the spring and a month in the summer in order to cover the two most important aspects of the job; paperwork and diversion locations in the spring, and curtailment and storage water delivery in the summer. Mike Summers suggested hiring her for a couple of months and take the pay out of the Watermaster's salary rather than adding an additional cost to the proposed budget, letting her choose which months she felt would be most appropriate. Randy Noah agreed with Mike as it would help with a smooth transition for the new Watermaster. Tim Bumgarner said he would donate some of his wages as a Watermaster's Assistant to pay her. Dale Barton suggested hiring her for one month from June 15th to July 15th would be a good time frame. Brandi agreed that would be a good time for the new Watermaster to learn about curtailments and storage water delivery. Paul Striker moved to hire Brandi as a private contractor for June 15th-July15th, with monies coming from the Watermaster

Assistant's budget line with Tim Bumgarner donating the \$2,000 from his salary. Mike Summers 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

Discussion moved to how to cover the additional expenses that would be incurred by the raises proposed in the budget. Kellie Smith from Idaho Department of Water Resources said if they raise the minimum from \$15.00 to \$25.00 it would raise the revenue by about \$3500.00, Ryan Davis said he did the math and the figure would be \$3975.00. John Bonner talked about adjudicated water rights assessing. Currently the assessments are \$1.00 per Idaho Miner's Inch (IMI) with a \$15.00 minimum. Brandi suggested the additional costs would be covered by raising the minimum assessment from \$15.00 to \$25.00 and increasing the assessments from \$1.00 per IMI to \$1.10 per IMI. After much discussion Randy Noah moved to raise the \$1.00 per IMI assessment to \$1.10 per IMI and the minimum to \$25.00, Calvin Hickey  $2^{nd}$ , motion passed with one decenting vote. Paul Striker moved to accept the proposed budget with approved raises in the assessments and Brandi be hired from June  $15^{th} - July 15^{th}$  with monies coming from the Watermaster Assistants line courtesy of Tim Bumgarner's donation, Randy Noah  $2^{nd}$ , motioned passed.

Candidates for the Secretary/Treasurer and Watermaster positions were called upon to speak and answer any questions.

1<sup>st</sup>- Jack Holmes applying for S/T position 2<sup>nd</sup>- Teressa Moore applying for S/T position

1<sup>st</sup>- Kathy Summer applying for WM's position 2<sup>nd</sup>- Jeremy Kirk applying for WM's position

A vote was called for S/T: Jack Holmes- received 27 votes Teressa Moore- received 15 votes

Jack Holmes is the new S/T for Water District 67.

A vote was called for Watermaster: Kathy Summers- received 30 votes Jeremy Kirk- received 10 votes

Kathy Summers is the new Watermaster for Water District 67

Idaho Water Users Association- Paul Arrington

Paul spoke of the current and ongoing issues in water and water legislation. He began with regional matters of importance to water users and water districts. Currently under review is the matter of whether or not the IDWR Director has the jurisdiction to place certain conditions on ground water rights. Can the Director place conditions on a ground water right insisting that existing surface water rights for the same property must be used first, with the ground water being treated as supplementary, or is that strictly the purview of the Land Use Act?

He also spoke about the domestic exemption for water rights filing possibly being eliminated. Currently the exemption allows for water to be used without filing for a water right if the water is for one home on a half-acre or less of land and the use does not exceed 13,000 gallons per day. The question is, has the ever-increasing population utilizing this exemption reached the point of adversely affecting water supplies, and therefore the outdated exemption should be dropped?

Mr. Arrington then went on to speak about grant money availability for new and aging infrastructures offering help with up to 1/3rd of the cost. The WaterSMART grant may cover up to 50%.

He then moved on to broader issues, addressing the salmon and steelhead issue; it is becoming a larger matter than it has been in a long time with a lot of push from the Northern Idaho Tribes for fish re-introduction. He touched on the matter of the Biden Administration's involvement in Waters of the United States (WOTUS) and the continuing back and forth concerning the definitions and restrictions which have constantly been rewritten since the Obama Administration.

## Lost Valley Reservoir project- Dale Barton

Dale spoke about the Lost Valley Reservoir Board's current position on the proposed raising of the dam. At present they are attempting to raise money for the Environmental Impact Study (EIS). They are aware of the availability of grant monies and have been applying. So far, other avenues they've pursued for finances have not worked out. He mentioned that two gentlemen from Idaho Water Engineering were present at the meeting today if anyone wished to talk to them after the meeting about the matter, and if anyone was interested in new water shares as he didn't want to take up anymore of the meeting's time.

Measurement devices- Kellie Smith reminded the stockholders that the IDWR is now moving forward with the completion of the measurement order issued years ago, and that people need to get their measuring devices and controlling works repaired and/or installed as it is required by state law, and they will be checking diversions for compliance this year.

## Other items-

It was pointed out that some of the usual business of the annual meeting had been left off of the meeting agenda, and should be addressed. So began the election of the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Advisory Committee and Credentials Committee. Terry read off the names on the two committees (see attached) and said that John Sachtjen is retiring from the Vice Chairman position, as well as his position on the Advisory Committee. It was also noted that John Bonner requested to be removed from Advisory Committee.

Ryan Davis moved to retain James Harberd as the Chairman, Jack Holmes 2nd, Paul Striker moved to cease all nominations and cast a unanimous ballot, motion passed. Calvin Hickey nominated Jerry Yantis to be the Vice Chairman, John Sachtjen 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jack Holmes moved to cease all nominations and cast a unanimous ballot, motion passed.

## Advisory Committee:

Randy Noah nominated Howard Sutton to replace John Bonner, Casey Chandler 2<sup>nd</sup>, vote called, 1 nay from Howard Sutton, motion passed. Ray Turnbull moved to replace John Sachtjen with Robert Sachtjen, John Sachtjen 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

Ryan Davis moved to retain the Advisory Committee with Howard Sutton replacing John Bonner and Robert Sachtjen replacing John Sachtjen, Mike Summers 2nd, motion passed. Credentials Committee:

John Sachtjen moved to have Robert Sachtjen replace him on this committee, Ray Turnbull 2<sup>nd</sup>, Paul Striker moved to retain the Credentials committee with Robert replacing John, Randy Noah 2nd, motion passed.

John Sachtjen moved to send a letter again to Adams and Washington Counties to continue collecting and dispersing the assessments through the taxing system, Ryan Davis 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

The next annual meeting date is February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Paul Striker moved to set the date for February 5th, 2024 here at the Exhibit Hall in Cambridge at 1:00 pm., Vernon Lolley 2nd, motion passed.

Lloyd Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting, Mike Summers 2<sup>nd</sup>, meeting adjourned at 2:26 pm.

## Those present:

Terry Horton- outgoing Secretary/Treasurer - Water District 67 Dale Barton- Lost Valley Reservoir Tim Bumgarner- Watermaster's Assistant - Rush Creek Ryan Davis- Weiser Irrigation District, Watermaster's Assistant - Weiser Jim Harberd- Chairman WD67 Jack Holmes- Crane Creek Reservoir Ken Roberts- Weiser Herb Endicott- New Plymouth Lloyd Roberts- Weiser, Crane Creek Arlyn Towell- Keithley Creek John Sachtjen- Cambridge Kellie Smith-Boise IDWR Mike Summers- Cambridge Linda M. Kellar- Cambridge John Bonner- Midvale Vernon Lolley- Weiser Skip & Toni Burnett- Council Brandi Horton-Bonner- outgoing Watermaster - Water District 67 Calvin Hickey- Weiser Micah Harley- Weiser

Randy Noah- Cambridge Casey Chandler-Weiser Wyatt Smith- Cambridge Glen & Shelley Frederickson - Cambridge Trudy Morris- Midvale Robert Sachtjen- Cambridge Frank Schwartz- Cambridge Teressa Moore -- Cambridge Jerry Yantis- Council Allen Bradbury- IDWR Douglas Jones- Idaho Water Engineering Hal Anderson- Idaho Water Engineering Ferrel Crossley-Goodrich Marjorie Jeri Bemis- Cambridge Paul & Gayle Poorman- Cambridge Randy Kocher- Cambridge Kate Noah- Cambridge Dean Page- Cambridge Russel Mink- Cambridge C. Ray Turnbull- Cambridge Paul Striker- Monroe Creek Debra Dibble- Cambridge Reece Robinett- Cambridge Nick Wade- Sorenson Rinehart Ditch- Council Paul Arrington- IWUA Jay Edwards- East Weiser Irrigation District This Newsone ? Newsome- Cambridge <----> Howard Sutton-Midvale Tyler Reynolds- Cambridge Cody Chandler-Weiser Kirk Chandler-Weiser Jeff Glemser (for Schwall) Indian Valley Irv Leen - Midvale Matt & Kathy Summers- Cambridge Darin Sutton-Midvale

Could not make out these names from the sign in sheet

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