

FEB 10 2025

DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES  
EASTERN REGION

## WATER DISTRICT #11 BEAR RIVER

## Minutes of Annual Meeting

February 4, 2025 In Person and Via Zoom

Attending:

Connely Baldwin  
Alan Smith  
Austin Moses  
Josh Hanks  
Buffi Morris  
Mark Ipsen  
Jane Wheeler  
Don Meek  
Ryan Merrill  
Terry Jorgensen  
Joe Olsen  
David Miles  
Kara Ferguson  
Heidi Smith  
Dale Buxton  
Scott Hirschi  
David Bosen  
Bruce Lamont  
Christopher Holmes  
Joe Pacheco  
Tony Brown  
Chris Holmes

Representing

Pacificorp Energy & Advisory Board  
Cub River Irrigation & Advisory Board  
Treasurer (Retiring)  
Water Master  
Pacificorp  
Black Otter Irrigation  
Self  
Riverdale/Preston  
West Cache Irrigation  
Jorgensen Farm  
Gentile Valley Irrigation  
Last Chance Canal Company  
IDWR  
IDWR  
West Cache Irrigation  
SWH Ranch  
Bosen Land & Livestock LLC  
Wild Rose Ranch  
IDWR  
IDWR  
Treasurer  
IDWR

Connely Baldwin opened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and asked for introductions, then nominations for meeting chairman. Alan Smith moved to have Connely Baldwin act as Chair and Austin Moses act as secretary. Joe Olsen Seconded. Motion carried.

Don Meek made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2024 annual meeting. Joe Olsen seconded. Motion carried.

Advisory Board Election. Ryan Merrill moved to retain the current advisory board members to serve. Mark Ipsen seconded. Motion carried

Water Master Election. Alan Smith moved to approve Josh Hanks as Watermaster. Lyle Hoffman seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer Election. Lyle Hoffman moved to approve Tony Brown as Treasurer. Ryan Merrill seconded. Motion carried.

### **Water Supply and Regulation**

- Josh Hanks presented Watermaster report for 2024 season
- Kara Ferguson from Idaho Department of Water Resources presented water right accounting overview
- 2024 irrigation year had above-average snowpack and good natural flow
- Regulation started on June 27, 2024, later than average
- Bear Lake reservoir contents on September 30, 2024, were close to 1 million acre-feet
- Central Division Water Emergency occurred from July 19 to August 16, 2024

### **Bear River Water Rights Adjudication**

- Chris Holmes provided an update on Bear River Water Rights Adjudication
- 5,298 claims filed in the entire adjudication
- Claims review expected to take about three years
- Adjudication process to continue until around 2031
- Preston office to remain open for the next 10 years

### **Financial Report and Budget**

- Austin Moses presented 2024 financial statements
- District ended the year \$7,600 better than expected
- New budget proposed with \$98,000 to be raised by assessment
- Watermaster salary proposed to increase by 5.5%
- Other business discussed, including Bear Lake Preservation Advisory Committee meeting in April

Next meeting will be held February 3, 2026 at 2:00 pm at Soda Springs City Hall if possible.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:45 p.m.