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Water District 130

DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES SOUTHERN REGION

Annual Meeting Minutes - February 4, 2025

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Magic Valley Regional Office -- Sublett Conference Room

Attendance: Justin Temple, Bart Webster, Benton Palmer, Gary Lemmon, Meribeth Lomkin, Joey Wallace, Brian Ragan - IDWR, Lynn Carlquist, Dean Stevenson, Cayden Henslee – IDWR, Corey King – IDWR, Sally Toone, Phillip Henderhan, Mark Ginning, Arnold Peterson, Dan Suhr, Wyatt Shakespear, Steven Toone, Johnny Smith, Mike James, Blake Hansen, Ryan Shurtliff, Jesse Bolgord, Brent Stanger

Call Meeting to Order

Watermaster Corey King called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Justin Temple moved that Dean Stevenson serve as WD-130 Advisory Committee meeting chairman and that Meribeth Lomkin serve as WD-130 Advisory Committee meeting secretary, Phillip Henderhan seconded the motion, motion passed.

Dean Stevenson welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the group.

The 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed. Dean Stevenson moved to approve the minutes, Arnold Peterson seconded the motion, motion passed.

3. Water District Summary and Financial Report

The group reviewed the WD-130 balance sheet and discussed that the Advisory Committee recommended that we carry over the balance which is a result of staff shortages in 2024 reducing wages spent.

The group reviewed the proposed WD-130 budget for 2025 which does not include any changes from 2024 and proposes a very similar assessment from previous years. There was no discussion.

The group reviewed the 2025 proposed resolutions, changes indicated in red font, mostly updating dates. Watermaster name (Corey King) and Treasurer name (Lynn Carlquist) listed in bold font. Lynn Carlquist and Dean Stevenson sign checks for the Water District. List of current Advisory Committee members were shown on the meeting room screen during this review.

Dean Stevenson noted that WD-130 Advisory Committee is set up so that half of votes are allocated to consumptive water users and half of votes are allocated to non-consumptive water users.

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2. Break into Subdistricts

The group separated into subdistricts for discussion and then the meeting reconvened. Most sub-districts had no reports back to the group. Magic Valley Subdistrict adding Blake Hansen as an alternate. Spring Users Subdistrict will replace Jim Henderhan with Phillip Henderhan to represent Riverence Holdings.

5. Other Business: Presentation by Watermaster Corey King – WD 130 Water Meter Status:

86% of meters appear to be working, overall good numbers as expected. Geographically the numbers vary. Carey Valley's shorter irrigation season and use of groundwater wells as supplemental to their surface water use leads to differences in meter status.

Discussion:

Question: Will we change from self-reporting to telemetry reporting? Water users can still self-report. Water district 130 is not going to require telemetry reporting for now, we are letting the Upper Snake Water Districts work the bugs out of telemetry reporting.

Question: Does telemetry just replace a person taking data in the field or does it replace the meter itself? We still need to put eyes in the field. Telemetry replaces some of the time taking data in the field, but not the meter.

City of Twin Falls has telemetry on their water system – their application shows nearly "real time" use. But not all meters have the telemetry output – there are differences with on screen readout vs pulse to telemetry.

When GWD 130 went to monthly self-reporting, we decreased the broken meter problem. When water users are reading their meters, they get them fixed when they break.

Telemetry won't replace ground truthing of meter output – will still need to visit a couple of times a year.

Back to Watermaster's Presentation:

Reports from IDWR's Hydrology group spring flow tracking work.

Snow Water Equivalent map from February 3.

Discussion:

Cloud Seeding in Central Idaho (Payette, Boise, & Big Wood basins) has been temporarily suspended for now due to avalanche danger. Cloud seeing continues in Fastern Idaho.

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Current water system (reservoir) supply – keep doing your snow dances. Justin says that the Bureau of Reclamation is predicting spill at Milner to relieve fill levels at American Falls, depending upon irrigation demand and how snow comes off. Spill would trigger the Water Board's ability to recharge.

4. Review Proposed Resolutions and Budget:

If the Water District accepts the resolutions, we are taking four actions – appointing Corey King as Watermaster and Lynn Carlquist as Treasurer, appointing the Advisory Committee, and accepting the Water District Budget.

Benton Palmer moved to accept the WD-130 2025 Resolutions, Gary Lemmon seconded the motion, motion passed.

6. Adjourn:

Justin Temple moved to adjourn the meeting, Mark Ginning seconded the motion, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Meubech Lomb

Meribeth Lomkin,

Secretary