

Water District 110
Annual Meeting Minutes (Draft)
West Jefferson School District 253
February 12, 2025

At 12:03 p.m. Kirk Jacobs called the meeting to order.

Daren Bitter moved to elect Kirk Jacobs as meeting chairman and Christina Henman as meeting secretary; seconded by Steve Shives: motion passed.

Christina Henman reviewed the 2024 annual meeting minutes that were provided. Daren Bitter moved to accept the minutes; seconded by Steve Shives: motion passed.

Blake Jordan introduced Harrison Hadsock and Tanner Wood as new IDWR employees who will be assisting with water district work. Blake also discussed the curtailment that had occurred in the prior season, and confirmed that IDWR did not actively curtail any water rights, and only tagged diversions.

Blake Jordan presented the 2024 financial report. There was a \$14,058 increase in the account balance. Total assets increased by 7.26%. The district spent \$21,483 less than the IDWR contract amount, though one month was still due (~\$3,000-\$4,000 anticipated amount.) This surplus was due to being short staffed for most of the year. The district's net income was \$17,607.65.

Blake Jordan presented the 2025 proposed budget. Blake proposed a change in how assessments are collected, with the details of the change to be reflected in the resolutions (resolution #8.) The purpose of these changes will be to bring assessments in line with statute, as well as lower the administrative burden by basing assessments on meter readings/total water use. He proposed collecting approx. \$80,000 in assessments and maintaining the IDWR contract at \$85,000.

Blake Jordan presented the resolutions and proposed changes. The resolutions reflect the appointment of the Watermaster (Blake Jordan) and Treasurer (Kirk Jacobs). Minor changes were made to update dates from 2024 to 2025. Resolution #7 was updated to reflect the updated proposed budget amounts. Resolution #8 included significant changes, striking all previous language and replacing it with a new resolution reflecting the proposed change in how assessments are to be collected. Currently, assessments are based on water rights/diversions; however, statute says that assessments should be based on water usage. Primary changes include: waiving assessment fees for domestic/stockwater rights as described in Idaho Code §42-111, set a minimum assessment of \$25.00 for those with water rights that are not measured (this will bring in ~15 water users who have not been receiving assessments), and utilize a 5-year averaging system. The 5-year averaging system was explained as rolling over each year so that it will always reflect the most recent 5 years. A question was asked how the averaging system would affect assessment amounts. Blake clarified that it shouldn't make too much of an impact; there might be a slight increase for some of the larger water users. Resolution #7 (pertaining to the budget) had a typo labeling it as #6 (duplicated); which will be corrected.

Tanner Wood presented the Water Master's Report. The summarized report included a field season review, an annual volume report, IDWR activity within the district, 2025 water outlook, and enforcement procedures. Tanner clarified that blank displays were responsible for most meter deficiencies.

Darren Bitter moved to approve the Financial Reports, Proposed Budget, and Resolutions; seconded by Lee Burtenshaw: Motion passed.

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Time was given to review the advisory committee. It was brought up that many of the water district advisory committee members also serve on the Jefferson Clark Ground Water District board, and that two members were up for re-election after the water district annual meeting. It was clarified that the advisory committee can be changed as needed.

Lynn Burtenshaw moved to accept the current advisory committee; seconded by Kyle Jacobs: Motion passed.

Kirk Jacobs mentioned that the water district had the option of electing private water district staff instead of utilizing the IDWR contract and explained that the contract has been a very efficient way to manage the district.

Kirk Jacobs opened to address new issues. Blake Jordan explained that the current curtailment was only applicable to consumptive uses, and that domestic in-house and non-consumptive water use is not included. Water users affected by the curtailment have the option to join existing water districts with a mitigation plan in place, form their own mitigation plan, or curtail their water use. IDWR will contact those affected. Blake clarified that water users already in a ground water district are covered by the district's mitigation plan. There was significant discussion about concerns regarding the methodology, including whether the Director of IDWR would review how numbers are produced, whether it causes issues with Blackfoot reaches, and if the new methodology created unforeseen problems in the future. Blake clarified that if water users want to change or contest the new methodology, they may need to pursue legal action. Blake Jordan also discussed upcoming water district boundary expansions, explaining that IDWR plans to create new water districts to cover water rights that are currently unregulated. Water District 110 has ~30 diversions nearby that could potentially be brought in. Blake clarified that when the Department begins to make moves in that direction, public information meetings will be held. Kirk Jacobs stressed that water users should ensure that their ownership and address information is updated. Kirk Jacobs also announced that part of the mitigation plan is a stipulation that monthly readings are provided in 2026. Kirk recommended that water users keep track of their meters, and suggested taking a weekly photo as an easy way to know your numbers. It was asked whether water users were responsible for reporting their readings to the state, but that is still being decided. IDWR will also take their own beginning, mid-season, and end-of-year readings.

Darren Bitter moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Lex Williams: meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.



Christina Henman, 2024 Meeting Secretary

2/12/2024

Date

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