

**BIG COTTONWOOD WATER USERS  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
January 21, 2014  
11:00 a.m.  
OAKLEY CANAL COMPANY**

**RECEIVED**

**FEB 10 2014**

**DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES  
SOUTHERN REGION**

**PRESENT:**

Tyler Cranney

Jared Mitton

Russell Patterson

Brad Lowe F&G

Marilyn Short

James Mullen

Chantry Whittle

**NOT PRESENT:**

Arden Cranney

David Pickett

I. Jared Mitton, President called the annual meeting of the Cottonwood Water Users to order at 11:00 a.m., on January 21, 2014. The meeting was held at the Oakley Canal Company Office located at 100 West Elm St. Oakley, Idaho.

II. **Appointment of Secretary:** Tyler Cranney made a motion to appoint Marilyn Short as meeting secretary, Russell Patterson seconded the motion, All agreed, motion carried.

III. **Minutes:** The minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting were read individually. Russell Patterson made the motion to approve the minutes with minor corrections. Tyler Cranney seconded the motion. All approved.

IV. **Election/reappointment of officers:** Russell Patterson made a motion to retain the officers and board of advisors for another year, with the exception of Brad Lowe to replace Mike Todd, who retired. Tyler Cranney seconded the motion, all approved, motion carried.

The officers are: Jared Mitton - President, Tyler Cranney - Secretary/Treasurer.

The board of advisors are as follows:

Brad Lowe – Fish & Game

Arden Cranney

David Pickett

Russell Patterson- Triple Ace

Jared Mitton asked the board to retain the services of Oakley Canal Company for another year.

Tyler Cranney made a motion to retain Oakley Canal Company as Watermaster with Chantry Whittle as ditch rider, responsible for water delivery. Russell Patterson seconded motion, all approved, motion carried.

V. **Financial Report:** The board reviewed the financial reports. As of January 21, 2014, there was \$13,367.28 in the checking account. The Oakley Canal Company's 2013 assessment fee is \$5,000.00, the secretarial fee is \$300.00. There are no accounts receivables. James Mullen discussed the repairs he made to the Main diversion and the costs involved. The costs were divided among the water users rather than taking the money from the budget. Marilyn Short distributed the statements to each water user. They will pay the district for the work. The district will then pay James. The board also approved a check for \$1000.00 to Oakley Canal Company for work James will do on the lower diversion. Tyler Cranney Made a motion to pay the bills. Russell Paterson seconded the motion, all agreed, motion passed

VI. **Budget** After discussion about future project that needed to be done, Tyler Cranney made a motion to keep the budget at \$6000 for 2014. Russell Patterson seconded the motion, all agreed, motion carried. Tyler Cranney made a motion to pay Oakley Canal Company \$1000 out of the budget for work James will do on the Lower Diversion. Russell Patterson seconded the motion, all agreed, motion passed.

**VII. Watermaster's Report:** James Mullen gave the Watermaster's report.

Snow pack level at Bostetter is 17" snow depth – 3.4" water equivalency

In 2012 it was: 29" snow depth - 7.7" water equivalency

Reservoir Level is 61.5 or 14,850 acre feet

Stream flows: Trapper: 11" (550) Goose: 45" (2250)

**VIII. Old Business:**

1. James Mullen suggested the need to build catwalks over the main channel and west ditch at the main diversion. James has designed a catwalk that will meet OSHA's approval and has plans to build and install it. He further suggested that the cost be pro-rated between all the water users.

Jared Mitton suggested that the catwalks be anchored to the wall at the main diversion.

2. Cranney Farms will clean the ditches this year.

3. David Pickett asked Mike Todd if there was any help available from them to control the spreading thistles, as it has been very costly to the Picketts to try and control them. Mike Todd reported that they haven't had much problem with thistles.

4. Mike Todd reported on the progress of the Interpretive Center Project. He has collected a few more artifacts for his display. He also announced his retirement later this year, so this will be his last board meeting. All wished him well.

5. Mike Todd had concerns about the water loss around the check of the west ditch of the Main Diversion. It was decided we will modify that check for water retention.

6. The Flood Control District covered the expenses of fixing the flood channel. However it is very hard to clean out.

**IX. New Business**

1. James Mullen and Chantry Whittle presented a slide show showing the improvements to the Main Diversion that were completed this year. They also showed pictures of the area they cleaned.

2. The costs of improvements were: Structural = \$3700, diversion cleaning = \$1000. The structural costs were divided among the water users and billed to them individually. The diversion cleaning funds were taken out of the budget. When the funds are collected the District will pay James Mullen for the cost of the jobs.

3. James Mullen discussed with the board the improvements that are needed in 2014. Work needs to be done to the screen in the cement box on the lower diversion. An insert needs to be put in to regulate the water on the south side of the culvert. It will necessitate the removal of 2 trees and the check. Jared Mitton asked James about the cost of just replacing the screen. James estimated \$1000. Tyler Cranney suggested he and Picketts should split the cost of that and he would speak to Picketts about it. Tyler Cranney made a motion to approve the repairs discussed. Brad Lowe seconded the motion, all approved, motion carried.

4. James Mullen discussed the problems with willows in the West ditch. Spraying after trimming was suggested as an option to control them. Brad Lowe agreed with James that using the excavator to remove them was the best option. James estimated the cost at \$1500.00. Brad Lowe made a motion to allow the removal of willows from the west ditch mechanically and pro-rate the costs to the water users. Tyler seconded the motion, all agreed, motion carried. Brad asked James to meet with him following the meeting to work out details.

5 Pickett Ranches will clean the ditch to the flats this year -2014

The next meeting was scheduled for 10:00am, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 here at the Canal office

Russell Patterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Tyler Cranney seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 am.

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President

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Secretary/Treasurer