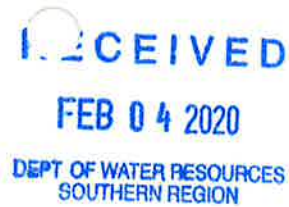


WATER DISTRICT 143 – ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 28, 2020 – 7:00 PM
RAFT RIVER HIGH SCHOOL – MALTA, ID
Call to order at 7:05 pm



Agenda was prepared by Water Master Nathan Erickson and Advisory Board at their organization meeting held on January 7, 2020. (See attached agenda)

A motion was made by Clark Ward, 2nd by Kallen Rex to have Advisory Board Member Nolan Branch serve as chairman of the annual meeting. Motion passed.

Motion was made by Alan Harper, 2nd by Jason Webb to have Sara Jane Ward act as meeting secretary. Motion passed.

Minutes of 2019 meeting were reviewed. **Motion to approve the minutes was made by Stan Spencer, 2nd by Todd Gerratt. Motion passed.**

The current advisory committee was presented with no changes in 2020. Members are: Jake Gerratt, Mike Wheeler, Nolan Branch, Kirt Yates, Dallen Ward, Scott Nichols and Jason Webb.

Nathan Erickson then gave the Water Master Report. Flow Meters: 523 points of diversion: 375 Irrigation, 47 Commercial/stock water, 100 unused, 1 time clock. Of the 422 wells: 2 no meter, 10 no power, 16 not working, 394 with working meters.

In compliance with curtailment order dated Sept 17, 2018, 76 water rights totaling 6,804 acres have been curtailed.

There were no notices of violation in 2019.

2020 Expectations: Follow up with non-working flow meters, review variance requests, review transfers, compliance and enforcement, gather and input flow data, annual report.

Chairman Branch asked that the 2020 Resolutions be read. (See attached Resolutions) Clarification was given as questions were asked. Included in the resolutions are retaining WM Nathan Erickson and Secretary Sara Jane Ward and the budget will be \$17,000. **Motion was made by Kenny Hutchison, 2nd by Clark Ward to approve the Resolutions as presented. Motion passed.**

Mike McVay, a hydrologist from IDWR presented a power point to the group "Funding Proposal for Raft River Basin Hydrologic Investigation". IDWR has requested federal funding for a five-year study of the Raft River Basin with the goal of increasing understanding of the ground water in the basin. They will be drilling wells and putting gages in the river among other things. The first year of funding has been approved by the IWRB (Bert Stevenson was in attendance) which will allow them to assign an employee to the project who will write a grant proposal to the Department of Energy for somewhere around \$2M to pay for the remaining years of the study.

Jaxon Higgs, Water Well Consultants gave a brief report on well data collected and basin recharge projects done by the Ground Water District. The pond projects will move forward on the Simplot site as the permits have been approved.

Rod Jones moved, Alan Harper 2nd that meeting adjourn at 8:20 pm. Motion passed.

Next meeting January 26, 2021.

Approx. 25 water users in attendance (see list)

Minutes submitted by Sara Jane Ward – Recording Secretary

WATER DISTRICT 143
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

January 7, 2020

Raft River Electric Board Room, Malta, ID

1:00 pm

RECEIVED

FEB 04 2020

DEPT OF WATER RESOURCES
SOUTHERN REGION

Attendees: Division #1 Jake Gerratt
Division #2 Mike Wheeler
Division #3 Nolan Branch
Division #4 Kirt Yates
Commercial user: Scott Nichols via phone call
Commercial user: Jason Webb
IDWR Water Master 143 – Nathan Erickson, Southern Region
WD 143 Treasurer – Sara Jane Ward
Water Well Consultants – Jaxon Higgs

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm by WM Nathan Erickson. Minutes from last advisory meeting and annual meeting were provided for review. **Motion made by Mike Wheeler, 2nd by Nolan Branch to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed.** Nathan gave a brief report on WD 143:

1. Inventory –523 wells in the district. 376 that are actively used. There are 46 wells that have year round use. (Dairy & Commercial) 100 wells unused and 1 well on a time clock. 423 wells should be measured in WD143. 6% of meters are not working. (Problem with Sparling meters)
2. Expansion Rights – All of the expansion rights have been retired with a few users that will need to file a rotation plan with Nathan
3. Compliance – No compliance or enforcement issues in 2019
4. Outlook for 2020 – IDWR will not subsidize the Water Master in 2020. Nathan presented the data for a \$17,000 budget. RR Ground Water District will contract a hydrographer to gather meter data.

The resolutions for next year were reviewed and discussed. **Nolan Branch made a motion to accept the resolutions as presented and the WM budget of \$17,000.00. Kirt Yates 2nd. Motion passed.** This will be presented to the membership at the annual meeting on Jan 28, 2020 at Raft River High School, 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Water District 143 Annual Meeting
Tuesday January 28, 2020
Sign In

Jason Higgs

Brian Higgs

Sara Jane Ward

Clark Ward

Nolan Branch

Brogan Higley

Hattie Zobott

Joe Corrao

Jason Webb

Kenny Hutchison

Justin Miller

Janet McFarland

Phyllis McFarland

Alan Branch

Alan Harper

Alan Harper

Nathan Ward

Stanley C. Spencer

Yous Omar

Yous Omar

Beit Stevenson

Alexis Clark

Mike McKay

Nathan Erickson

**WATER DISTRICT NO. 143
RAFT RIVER BASIN
2020 RESOLUTIONS**

The water users of Water District No. 143, as part of the annual district meeting held on January 28, 2020, at Malta, Idaho, HEREBY ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:

1. DISTRICT CREATION AND BOUNDARIES

Water District 143 consists of the area and water rights as defined by the *Preliminary Order Creating Water District No. 143*, dated December 2, 2015. The district includes all ground water rights in the Raft River Basin, except rights used for domestic and stock water purposes as defined by Idaho Code § 42-111 and 42-1401A and ground water rights located within Water District 130 overlying the ESPA.

2. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It is herewith resolved that an advisory committee shall be selected to provide input to the watermaster and the Director of IDWR. The advisory committee will meet as often as needed to address the structure, governance and operation of the district. Seven water users shall comprise the advisory committee, five representing irrigation and two non-irrigation. The five irrigation representatives will be selected from the five divisions as defined by the Raft River Ground Water District. It shall be required that six of the seven representatives shall not be members of the Raft River Ground Water District Board. The advisory committee members for the ensuing year shall be the following (members selected at the meeting):

Member #1(RRGWD Division 1): Jake Gerratt
Member #2(RRGWD Division 2): Mike Wheeler
Member #3(RRGWD Division 3): Nolan Branch (RRGWD Board Member)
Member #4(RRGWD Division 4): Kirt Yates
Member #5(RRGWD Division 5): Dallen Ward
Member #6(Non-irrigation): Scott Nichols
Member #7(Non-irrigation): Jason Webb

3. ANNUAL MEETING DATE

It is herewith resolved that the Annual Meeting for Water District 143 shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of January of each year at a time and place to be determined each successive year unless the Director of IDWR should find it necessary to change the meeting date or unless changed by resolution of the district at any annual meeting. The next Annual Meeting will be held on January 26, 2021.

4. ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Copies of the minutes of the annual meeting and all approved resolutions shall be filed with the Director of IDWR immediately after the annual meeting in accordance with Idaho Code § 42-605(5).

5. ELECTION OF WATERMASTER AND TREASURER

It is herewith resolved that the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) be elected to provide the watermaster services for Water District 143 and that the Director of IDWR appoint Nathan Erickson, an employee of IDWR, or other employees of IDWR as may be necessary, to serve as the watermaster for the ensuing year.

It is herewith resolved that Sara Jane Ward be elected Water District 143 treasurer. The duties of the treasurer will be to approve expenses, oversee disbursement of Water District funds, and to prepare or authorize a review of financial affairs of the district at the end of each fiscal year, in accordance with Idaho Code Section § 42-619.

6. WATERMASTER DUTIES

The Watermaster shall perform his or her duties as required by Chapter 6, Title 42, Idaho Code and in accordance with:

- a. Direction and guidance provided by the Director of IDWR;
- b. The annual water district resolution adopted herein.
- c. Guidance and input from the Water District 143 Advisory Committee.

It is here with resolved beginning fall of 2018 the Raft River Ground Water District (RRGWD) will be responsible for the collection of flow meter totalizing data and entering it into the IDWR database for calculation of annual use for members of the RRGWD. The RRGWD will contract a hydrographer to complete this work. Flow meters on wells owned by users not participating in RRGWD will be the responsibility of the Watermaster.

7. WATERMASTER TERM OF SERVICE

As provided in Idaho Code § 42-608(4), watermaster's term of service shall begin upon appointment by the Director of IDWR immediately following the annual meeting election and continue until the next annual meeting, or until a successor is appointed and qualified under the provision of Section 42-604, Idaho Code.

8. WATER DISTRICT BUDGET

The water users of Water District 143 hereby empower the elected advisory committee to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Water District and the Director of IDWR that will provide for the following:

- 1) The budget for Water District 143 for the 2020 fiscal year, beginning February 1, 2020 and ending on January 31, 2021 shall be Seventeen Thousand Dollars (\$17,000) for Watermaster duties.
- 2) Given that the water district cost for administering water for many water users is greater than their normal assessments would be based upon their total water right, it is resolved that pursuant to Idaho Code § 42-612 the watermaster of Water District 143 is authorized to assess a \$20 minimum charge for watermaster services to water users within his or her jurisdiction.

- 3) In accordance with Idaho Code § 42-612 (5), the assessment amount for each individual user as shown in the annual adopted budget shall constitute a final determination of the amount due for that year. In the computation of assessments, the watermaster shall use a 5-year rolling average of diversions for each water user.
- 4) Water users in Water District 143 who are not participating in RRGWD and require the watermaster to read meters for annual water use will be assessed a measurement and reporting fee of \$50 per well each year.
- 5) If IDWR is elected to provide watermaster services, the watermaster shall maintain an office for the ensuing year within the IDWR Southern Regional Office, located in Twin Falls, Idaho. IDWR will provide office space, vehicles and the use of all necessary office and field equipment, and other necessary watermaster expenses. This arrangement shall not give Water District 143 any ownership interest in any IDWR office space and equipment.

9. COLLECTION OF THE BUDGET AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

It is herewith resolved that the budget for Water District 143 be collected from the water users by the Water District 143 Watermaster as provided by Idaho § 42-618. The Watermaster will make an assessment to each water user in pro-rata amounts as determined by the budget which is formally adopted at the annual meeting. Collection of the assessment for water right holders which are members of the Raft River Ground Water District (RRGWD) shall be assessed through the RRGWD. Water right holders which are not members of the RRGWD shall receive an assessment directly from Water District 143. All funds shall be deposited in a bank account maintained by the water district at D.L. Evans Bank in Albion, ID. Treasurer shall disperse funds from water district bank account using two-party signature checks signed by Treasurer and one member of the Advisory Committee.

10. WATERMASTER ACCESS TO CONTROL STRUCTURES AND MEASURING DEVICES

Whereas watermaster access to control structures and measuring devices is essential for providing watermaster services and limiting expenses, it is herewith resolved that all users shall provide for watermaster access where access to control structures and measuring devices is through a locked gate and other reasonable means of access are not available. The user shall, upon request by the watermaster, provide to the watermaster a key or combination to any such locks.

11. ENTRY OF LANDS BY WATERMASTER

It is herewith resolved that the watermaster and any watermaster assistants are authorized as employees of IDWR under Idaho Code § 42-1701(5) to make reasonable entry on lands within the district, in accordance with IDWR policy, to carry out the duties of the watermaster as instructed by IDWR. These duties include but are not limited to:

1. Inventory of diversions in the district, including inspection of conveyance infrastructure and place of use of water.
2. Measuring and recording rates of diversions, and regulating diversions as necessary from the ground water diversions within the district.
3. Monitoring the place, period, and nature of use of water to identify unauthorized diversion and use and/or to determine compliance required by any agreement or order of IDWR.