

WATER DISTRICT 143 – ANNUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 22, 2019 – 7:00 PM  
RAFT RIVER HIGH SCHOOL – MALTA, ID  
Call to order at 7:02 PM with 28 water users present

Agenda was prepared by Water Master Nathan Erickson and Advisory Board at their organization meeting.  
(See attached agenda)

**A motion was made by Nolan Branch, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alan Harper to have Advisory Board Member Scott Nichols serve as chairman of the annual meeting. Motion passed.**

**Motion was made by Rod Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd Webb to have Darin Harper act as meeting secretary. Motion passed.**

Minutes of the 2018 annual meeting were read. **Motion to approve the minutes was made by Jay Harper, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kurt Yates. Motion passed**

Members of the Advisory Committee were read with no changes going into 2019. Members are: Jake Gerratt, Mike Wheeler, Nolan Branch, Kirt Yates, Dallen Ward, Scott Nichols, and Jason Webb.

Watermaster Report was given by Nathan Erickson. Reported on flow meters. 532 POD of which 380 are irrigation, 47 commercial, 104 unused. Of 427 meters required, 17 had no meter installed, 65 no fall reading, and 298 working meters.

Seventy-six expansion rights involving 6,804 acres will be fully curtailed in 2019.

In 2017 there were 6 Notice of Violations issued and resolved.  
In 2018 there were 3 Notice of Violation issued and resolved.

Curtailment order – Sept 17, 2018 – 16 wells were curtailed.

2019 Watermaster Expectations: Curtailment diversions, Flow meter compliance, variance review, expansion water rights review, review of transfers, annual report.

Flow meter facts: Minimum spacing, 3X diameter up stream, 2X diameter down stream. Refer to list of approved meters. Grounding requirements, chemigation requirements.

**Motion was made by Todd Webb to approve the budget of \$15,000.00 with the Idaho Department of Water Resources kicking in \$1,416.00 if expenses go above the \$15,000.00. Also to add a contingency of \$2000.00 if expenses go above the \$16,416.00 with an explanation of why the \$2,000.00 was needed. If not spent, the contingency of \$2000.00 will carryover into 2020. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nolan Branch. Motion passed.**

Resolutions were read by Scott Nichols. (see attached Resolutions) **A motion was made by Kirt Yates to approve the Resolutions, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd Gerratt. Motion passed.**

Basin recharge update was presented by Jaxon Higgs. Map and discussion of current and proposed recharge ponds with horizontal injection pipe. Many sites take water in very well, whereas there are a few that are not as effective. Three additional recharge sites on the Simplot property are in process of approval and the flood control ditch will undergo an extension through the Barker pivot and potentially farther north allowing additional water to be recharged and also provide flood control capability. Mitigation plan was briefly reviewed with a tier system of water usage reduction being based on water right priority date.

Next meeting January 26, 2020

**Motion was made by Rod Jones to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lane Schuuman. Motion passed.**  
Minutes submitted by Darin Harper – Recording Secretary

**WATER DISTRICT NO. 143  
RAFT RIVER BASIN  
2019 APPROVED RESOLUTIONS**

The water users of Water District No. 143, as part of the annual district meeting held on January 22, 2019, 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 28, 2020.

**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).

Water District 143 Annual Meeting  
Tuesday January 22, 2019  
Sign In

Kirt Yates

Janet McFarland  
Kimberly McFarland

Jane Schuman

Todd Bell

Larry Montgomery

Nolan Bush

Barry Edwards

Jack Wight & Edmaine Wight

Alan Harper

JASON HARPER

D. Jay Harper

1000 Gerratt

Fuzell Jones

at 2000

W. John

W. Quinn Harper

Brigham Duncan

Mike Spence

Kellan Rex

Ken Woodworth

Joseph Grush

Lorin Jones

## **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 2019 fiscal year, beginning February 1, 2019 and ending on January 31, 2020 shall be Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred and Sixteen Dollars (\$16,416) for Watermaster duties. Upon spending Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) the Department will pay One Thousand Four Hundred and Sixteen Dollars (\$1,416) for Watermaster duties. If the total budgeted amount of \$16,416 is spent there will be an additional Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) of contingency budget paid by the users. Prior to use of the contingency budget the Watermaster will notify the Advisory Committee and provide an explanation for the overage, if any.

- 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) Whereas Idaho Code § 42-612 and § 42-615 require that proposed water district budgets and annual assessments to individual right holders be prorated based upon the amount of water delivered or used by individual right holders during the past season or seasons (not to exceed five seasons) and, whereas records of water delivery currently do not exist for all diversions within the newly created Water District 143, it is therefore resolved that Water District 143 will use authorized water right flow rates for determining a pro-rata assessment.
- 4) 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.

**WATER DISTRICT 143  
2019 BUDGET  
JANUARY 22, 2019**

***Administrative Charges***

Watermaster Services	\$15,726
Clerical Staff	\$690
Estimated 2018 Carryover	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,416</b>
<b>IDWR contribution</b>	<b>\$1,416</b>
<b>Proposed 2019 Budget</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>