

WATER DISTRICT GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY IDWR

ANNUAL MEETING

Election of Watermaster and Officers.

Budget adopted and assessments established.

Advisory Committee formed to assist Watermaster and Officers (might not apply in very small districts since not enough people).

Other business as needed - special problems, IDWR information updates, scheduling of next year's meeting, etc.

ACCEPTABLE MANAGEMENT

Informal agreement or arrangement is acceptable where all water users are satisfied with water delivery situation. Any method you choose to meet this goal is acceptable to IDWR if it is acceptable to all of you.

The only water rights eligible for Watermaster delivery are those identified by a decree, license, or permit. The proper list of deliverable rights will be supplied to the Watermaster by IDWR.

Ideally, all diversions calling for Watermaster delivery of water during water shortage periods will have standard measuring devices and lockable diversion works - typically a screw-valve metal headgate at the creek and a weir in the ditch near the headgate to allow practical adjustment and measurement by Watermaster.

If measuring devices are installed for all diversions, Watermaster delivers available water on priority basis, totally delivering most senior right first, then next senior right and so on until all available water is delivered. Junior diversions where no water is available are totally closed.

In the above scenario, Watermaster records water deliveries and then sums total amount of water per right delivered in one irrigation season. The total flows delivered form the basis for determining costs per water user for water district expenses.

Without measuring devices, Watermaster uses recorded water rights as the basis for water-delivery billing purposes. Watermaster makes best effort to see that each water user receives a fair share of water based on priority dates. This is acceptable as long as all water users are satisfied.

WATER DELIVERY PROBLEMS

Refer all water delivery problems to Watermaster to see if can be successfully resolved locally to everyone's satisfaction. Water users and/or the Watermaster can call on the Advisory Committee for help. If the problem cannot be solved locally, Watermaster and/or water users should contact IDWR Western Regional office (334-2190).

IDWR will make a site assessment with the Watermaster, Advisory Committee (as needed), and the water users to see what is needed to correct the problem.