

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Little Wood River Irrigation District held Wednesday, March 10, 1999, at the water office in Carey at 7:30 p.m. Present were Mike Beus (Bureau of Reclamation), John and David Coleman, Dar Parke, Jerry Cenarrusa, Milo Mecham, Bob Simpson Dennis Stewart, Kathi Peck and Dick Payne. Minutes of the watermaster meeting were read and approved by a motion from Milo and seconded by Dennis.

Bob reviewed the snow forecast, handing out charts and graphs. Currently there is 16,600 a/f in the reservoir with an estimated runoff of 145,000 a/f. The hydro plant is running at 100% capacity and is dropping the reservoir about 500 a/f/day.

Mike Beus distributed some handouts and addressed the runoff issue versus the amount of storage space in the dam. He recommended that we increase the outflow to 850 a/f/day, thereby dropping the dam to recommended levels within nine days. After some discussion, one main question emerged. "What if we hadn't had the money to spend to have the river channel cleared of snow so that the water could get down the valley?" The district has spent approximately \$20,000 for excavation of the snow buildup in the channels. The county flood control district has contributed \$4000, nearly all their budget. "Can the Bureau help us put pressure on the county to increase our area's flood control budget?" Mr. Beus will look into the matter.

Dick Payne made a motion that we follow Mr. Beus' suggestion by increasing the outflow and drop the reservoir, Jerry seconded the motion, voting unanimous. Dar suggested to Mike Beus that he plan on meeting with the irrigation board every spring about this time. Mr. Beus left at this time.

The floor was turned over to John Coleman at this time, who outlined the next steps necessary in our merger. Next, we must annex all properties not currently within the district. John will prepare these documents and Kathi will mail them to the waterusers. Elections will hopefully be able to happen about August.

The payment of the watermaster budget was brought up and discussed. Dick Payne made a motion that the irrigation district again pay the entire watermaster budget for the waterusers, Dennis seconded, voting was unanimous.

Dar asked John about the Bank of America account which is holding money from Washington Mutual Bank. John expressed the opinion that it is our money held in reserve for power plant repairs and suggested that we close that account and put the money in the state investment fund. Jerry made a motion to that effect, Milo seconded, voting unanimous.

Dam inspections will be held April 1st and May 26th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



Kathi Peck, Secretary

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MAR 25 1999

Department of Water Resources
Southern Region

Minutes of the annual watermaster meeting of Water District #37N held March 1, 1999, at the Carey School Multi-purpose Room at 2:00 p.m. Present were: David Coleman, Dar Parke, Jerry Cenarrusa, Milo Mecham, Larry & Donna Peterson, Phil Homer, Lita West, Verda O'Crowley, Chip Molyneux, Cory Skinner (Water Resources), Bob Simpson, Robb & Kathi Peck, Creg Hansen, De Farnworth, Terry Gregory (Fish & Game), Greg Mann, Dick Payne, David Parke, Hal Bingham, and Alton Patterson.

Dar Parke opened the meeting by asking for nominations for a chairman and secretary for this meeting. Milo nominated Dar as chairman and Kathi as secretary. Robb seconded, Phil moved that nominations cease, and the voting was unanimous. Dar then asked Bob Simpson to review the watermaster budget for 1999 which was posted on a blackboard. He noted that there was no increase over last year. Robb Peck moved to accept the budget as presented, De seconded and voting was unanimous.

Nominations for watermaster were then opened. Robb nominated Bob Simpson to be the watermaster for 1999, De seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

The waterusers present were then asked to vote upon the merger of the canal board with the irrigation district. Each wateruser had received a letter telling them that this vote would take place today. The canal company members voted their shares of canal stock and the irrigation district members each had one vote. There was two ballots—one for each entity. A copy of the ballots is attached to these minutes, as well as the tabulation sheet. Before the vote took place, some discussion was entertained. Waterusers were assured that their canal shares would remain the same, only now would be attached to their property, but still able to be sold off the property with the board's approval. This merger also has no bearing on the adjudication process. All members present then marked their ballot, signing the canal company ballot and the number of shares they own. Kathi had a list of the canal shares so as to assist the members in determining the correct amount.

The voting was unanimous on both measures, with 20 votes being cast for the irrigation district and 200 shares voted of canal stock. A district wide election for directors will be the next step.

Some discussion followed on the hydro plant production and the money it generates. Dar reported that the district had about \$1,000,000 in investments at this time. At least half that should be kept in reserve for repairs on the hydro plant. Other prospective projects are being looked into. Lita West asked about the district contributing to the 4-H fat stock sale and the scholarships for seniors that were given last year. She wanted to know if there was some way to reap a tax benefit for each wateruser from these donations. She also expressed a desire to see esthetic improvements made to the canal systems, and referred to Europe's canals and their landscaping.

Phil moved that the meeting be adjourned at 2:45, Robb seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Kathi Peck

Kathi Peck, Secretary