

**Minutes of Water District 74
Annual Meeting
Monday, March 4, 2002**

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Department of Water Resources
Eastern Region

PRESENT

RJ Smith
Paul Fisher
Bob Thomas
Bill Loudy
Ed Snook
Rick Sager
Donna Barsalou

ABSENT

Blair Kauer
Bill Snyder

CALL TO ORDER

RJ Smith, Chairman, opened the Annual Water District 74 meeting at 7:10 p.m. Secretary Donna Barsalou read minutes from the 2000 annual meeting. Minutes were approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report was read by Secretary Donna Barsalou. Report was approved as read.

S-14 TRANSFER

Bob Loucks reported to the group the progress on the S-14 transfer. Bob reported on taking water from the Salmon River to transfer to 10 water users currently using from L-6. The problem is that all the users have to agree to the transfer. Bob is sure the transfer will happen, but in 2003 season, not 2002. Annual cost of pumping for the irrigators will be about the same as it is now. There is a 12' increase in pumping height from the pump station to where the ditch comes around Cemetery Lane. BPA has offered to pay the increase pumping cost.

FISH AND GAME

Rick reported for the Fish and Game on Lemhi Agreements with NMFS. The critical time is in May. He would like to encourage all users to turn on earlier. He also requested that all users notify the Fish and Game one week prior to turning on so they can get screens ready and working. He reported that 22 smolts died below a screen last summer. Be sure to call the Fish and Game to make sure the gates are down.

TURN ON AGREEMENT

Rick asked the users to please let him know a couple days in advance before they turned on. Encouraged users to get going earlier so the problem of having the river go dry at L-6 doesn't occur in May had it typically has. Hopefully this will avoid low management times.

NMFS

RJ reported on the 1 year agreement with NMFS to bank water in the 2001 season. There will probably be the same type of agreement in 2002, although the plan has not been ironed out yet. The agreement may be better than we'd hoped for. When that meeting is past there will be a general meeting at the Lemhi Grange to inform the users of the agreement decision.

WATER TRANSFERS

RJ asked the users how they felt about the transfer? Bill Loudy was concerned about Junior users, he feels they are losing out. Gordon S. asked if this has produced a better stream flow and if it benefits recharge. RJ commented all in all he feels it has been beneficial to the whole system. Carl Ellsworth commented he thinks the guys transferring think it really helps them. RJ commented that about 1 year out of seven in May we have trouble when everyone turns on the same day. Management will help with this. Turn on Agreement is the tool, we can make it work. Please notify Rick and the Fish and Game before turning on.

BUDGET

RJ explained the budget as proposed. Bob Loucks commented the thinks Rick does a very good job and thought it made more sense to give Rick a 5% raise. There was a discussion on Rick's wages and benefits. Rick said he is happy with his present wage as long as the Water Rental Committee is willing to pay him for the extra work involved there. RJ reported that the Water Bank plan will not last forever. There was a discussion about the water banking agreement, how much the water is worth, etc. RJ asked if there were any comments on the budget. Motion: (Mulkey – Wolfe) to approve the budget of \$45/cfs on 694.81 cfs. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

OFFICERS

Secretary – Motion: (Snook – Ellsworth) to cast a unanimous ballot for Donna Barsalou as secretary. All in favor, motion carried.

Water Master – Motion: (Ellsworth – Mulkey) to cast a unanimous ballot for Rick Sager as Water Master. All in favor, motion carried.

Directors: Motion: (Mulkey – Herbst) to retain current directors. Seats vacant are Ed Snook and Bill Loudy. All in favor, motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ed Snook had a question on screens. There was a discussion on screens and what is acceptable.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Donna L. Barsalou, Secretary.