

Hagerman, Idaho
February 16, 1994

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Department of Water Resources

Tim Luke
Department of Water Resources
1301 North Orchard Street
Statehouse Mail
Boise, Idaho 83720

Dear Sir:

This letter is to inform you that the advisory board for Water District 36A met last night to advise and consult with the Watermaster, George Lemmon, relative to the Department of Water Resources latest directives to him. Most specifically, setting up a budget for the coming irrigation season.

We found an almost total lack of any logical method to proceed to do this due to the fact that the Department was unable to furnish "copies of the decrees and/or abstracts of water rights" as provided for under Section 43-608 Idaho Code that were in any way intelligible. According to your letter you have found this to be true also. It would seem that the Department should get some sort of legislation to require the County Assessors to notify the Department of Land ownership changes any time there are water rights involved so that you could at least keep some track of your responsibilities. Since that will not help us at the present time, we decided to contact the executives of each of the approximately 25 separate ditches involved and try to get them to give us the names and addresses of the current owners of the water in their systems. Since, as you probably know, we have systems that are owned by the corporation and systems that have individuals owning the rights separately, it will take some time to get all the data together. Until we have this first step in hand we can't proceed to the budgeting process. We are thinking of having each of these ditches designate someone to be their deputy watermaster under the control of the District Watermaster. That would greatly simplify the entire process.

We, regretfully, agree that it is time to change the way we have done business for over half a century, but we want to be sure we find a better way before we do.

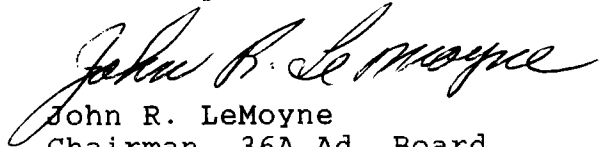
I will look forward to seeing you at our annual meeting to be held the first of March at 1 p.m. at the Ag Room in the High School at Hagerman. Hopefully, we will have some usable data to work with at that time. Incidentally, we have not been notified of this as yet with the usual cards from the Department. Please check.

Another item of concern to us is the proposal to consolidate our district into Water Dist 01. If this is to be, are we merely treading water trying to come up with a budget, etc.? Don't we

have to have a hearing so that the waterusers can be informed? I am sure that should be the way to go even if it is not required. Another concern is that the budget, if it were to be adopted, would go on the tax rolls and would be collected in December and June. We would not have any money to work with until next year. How do you propose to do that?

We will be looking forward to seeing you and hearing the answers to all these questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. LeMoyne". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

John R. LeMoyne
Chairman, 36A Ad. Board
901 A Gridley Island
Hagerman, ID. 83332