

WD

RECEIVED
MAY 04 2009
DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Whiskey Creek Water Meeting (District 13 – S) 3-16-09

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am on Monday March 16, 2009. Those present were Mike Tingey, Steve Tingey, Joe Swensen, Marlowe Mickelson, Paul Mendenhall, Keith Bitton, Max Nichols and Teri Nichols. The visitors were Phil Coonts from Grace State fish hatchery, Michael Holliday from I.D.W.R., Mark Stenberg from Pacific Corp., Kent Clegg, and Marty Mickelson.

The minutes of the previous meeting, March 2008, were read and approved. Motion by Mike Tingey, seconded Paul Mendenhall and unanimously approved. Max again brought importance of updating water rights into updated owners. Some are two and three generations behind. Copies of applications were handed out. Michael Holliday, IDWR, stated the old decree may be different than present usage. He gave an example of 160 acre piece that irrigates only 80 acres. What do you do with the water if you sell only 80 acres? Sometimes there are disputes that require field examinations because many deeds do not have specifics on water rights. Include the chain of title to the current owner of record. The costs are \$25 per right to change ownership and if it needs to be split, the cost would be \$100 per split.

2009 Budget: Frank proposed that the budget be set at \$ 280.00 for 2009, Marlowe seconded it and it was unanimously approved. The \$ 280.00 will be prorated as in the past by the number of inches owned.

Kent Clegg said that they will have a Corps permit to go ahead by the end of March. All work will be done before and after the irrigation season. He stated that they will be creating ponds and islands in their project. Frank asked if there was a lot of silt. Kent said only 3-4 inches in the stream bed. Frank once again stated that it was healthy throughout the 1960's. He said, " I have seen degradation advance and it has not been exclusively by livestock and the Fish and Game must accept responsibility also in this matter."

A slide presentation was shown in the Nathan Hales project by Kent and Mark Stenberg from Pacific Corp. Max said that it will be interesting to see the results of these first projects on Nathan's agenda and perhaps will open possibilities for others who may be interested in working with PC. Max asked Kent to notify the Water Master when they are ready to start the project.

Mark Stenberg, PC said there is grant fund money for trout, repairing fences and anything to improve water habitat. They will be happy to talk to any of us about them. Funds will be provided by NRCR 70% and 30% by Pacific Corp; we merely need to be willing landowners. He has applications available. PC is working hard to prevent fish from being listed as endangered.

Phil Coonts from the Fish Hatchery said that he would welcome anyone to come down and talk to them and examine hatchery operations. He said that he is new to this area but has had 22 years hatchery experience. He passed out a map and information regarding the culinary springs at the hatchery. It was suggested that the committee come to the hatchery and look at the proposed site of the project and

evaluate any problems that might arise. Max asked if there were any concerns or questions and there were none

MICKELSON DITCH: In 2005 it was agreed that we would start the project and pay for it with a per inch assessment . In 2006 a \$10 per inch assessment was made to assist with the improvements agreed on for the first phase of piping. The invoices for the \$10 per inch were mailed in 2007 and most paid. In 2008 the assessment for the final payment was approved in our water meeting with the amount being \$8 per inch. Invoices were mailed in June 2008 and there are some who have not paid for both 2007 and 2008. Max asked for suggestions on what should be done. It was unanimously agreed that an additional invoice be sent requesting payment by 1 May 2009. If payment is not received the Water Master is authorized by the State of Idaho to withhold water until payment is received. Paul felt that if payment is not received that water should be shut off. Michael stated that we all agreed in the beginning that we would all pay our share until the project was complete. Frank agreed with the above comments and Max stated that he would be happy to discuss individual questions after the meeting. Michael Holliday. IDWR suggested that we may want to work with members who may have a difficult time making a full payment. The group felt this would be reasonable. The outstanding balance on the Mickelson project is \$6,738.00.

MENDENHALL DITCH: We were able to complete this project in 2008 and there will not be an assessment for this phase because Charles ,Max ,and Mike have absorbed the apx.\$7,000.00 excess expense

Voting for Officers and Water Master:

A motion was made by Frank to retain the Chairman, Water Master, secretary and Advisory board as presently constituted. This was seconded by STEVE, and the voting was unanimous. The chairman is Max, the Water Master is Mike, the secretary is Teri, and the Advisory board is as follows; Frank, Marlowe, and Paul.

Kent stated that he had a problem getting his water to flow out of the box above the hatchery, and at times it was very meager. This should not happen unless there is an obstruction in the line. Mike, Kent, and Max will get this problem taken care of before the 1st. of May. We will go to the box as soon as the snow and mud subside and solve the problem. Adjourned at 12:25pm

