

Cold Springs Creek / Bennett Creek Water District

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WATER RESOURCES
WESTERN REGION

Idaho Department of Water Resources

2735 Airport Way

Boise, Idaho 83705

Dear Mr. Westra,

As president I thought it might be important to send you a quick letter with the outcome of the special meeting of Cold Springs / Bennett Creek water District. The meeting was very well attended all but 4 water users were in attendance with 2 of those voting by proxy. Before the meeting copies of the By-Laws, agendas, and minutes of the previous meeting were distributed.

Meeting called to order at approximately 1:10 pm March 16, at Glens Ferry City Hall.

I informed the users that the only thing that would be voted on at the meeting would be the watermaster. I stated the even though minutes of the previous meeting were provided they would not be approved or voted on until the annual meeting.

It was stated that Proxy votes would be used for the Blackwells and Ms. Denny.

Harley Riggs asked for a report from water resources as to why Water Resources declined the watermaster position in the first place. Rob Whitely stated that manpower shortage and budget issues were the primary reasons.

Mr. Merrill Brown inquired as to whether or not he in fact was supposed to be there since he only has an instream water right for stockwater, and the water was not deliverable. I told him yes he has a legal water right on Bennett Creek that makes him a water user. Elsie Riggs said no he wasn't bill therefore he is not. He voted in the meeting.

The floor was opened for nominations, Harley Riggs nominated Rich Neal. I nominated Jennifer Baker. I asked Mr. Neur if he intended to run for watermaster but he declined nomination.

Mr. Neal spoke as to his qualifications and history in the community. He asked about access to properties, training and as usual was very concerned about being provide the information to perform the job. Rob Whitely assured him that yes Water resources would provide him training and walk him through the creek. I told him that the last training to 1 ½ days but that was for two creeks.

I spoke as to Mrs. Bakers qualifications, and that she was already trained by water resources, as she was not in attendance.

During this time there was some discussion as to why previous watermaster quit. This resulted in some finger pointing, and innuendos being made.

Mr. Brown called for nominations to be closed.

I called for roll call vote.

Vote was Rich Neal – 13 Jennifer Baker – 3 Abstained – 1 Absent – 2

I opened discussion to have alternate watermasters in case this one quit or had other issues that prohibited him from performing duties. There was some discussion.

Lou Anderson put forth a motion to not have any alternates, this was seconded but I don't remember by whom. Quite a bit more discussion was held on the motion. It was stated the they did not want to give the watermaster a easy way out. Also, there was quite a bit of discussion, if the watermaster quit would Water resources have to come out to regulate the water until a next special meeting was called. There was a note that the advisory committee should handle it in that case. However, that could not be installed until the next annual meeting.

The question was called

I called for roll call vote

It was stated several times a Yea vote would be voting for "not having a alternate".

Yea – 11 Nay – 5 Absent – 3

At this point I opened the floor for presentation of item for the next agenda:

- Discuss the role of the advisory committee and consider limiting it to a smaller group than all members.
- The separation of Bennett Creek from Cold Springs Creek.
- Consider the budgeting issues in regard to the conflict being more isolated to the parties involved.
- Pivots being used that are perceived as unlicensed.
- The Date and Time of the Annual Meeting.

I stated that items and concerns regarding the By-Laws and the District should be submitted to me and Elsie. These should be submitted 2 weeks to a month before the annual meeting so that they may put on the agenda and sent out prior to the meeting. This is so that all member be informed about what will be addressed.

Motion made to adjourn by Ann Wilson, 2nd by Lou Anderson.

Meeting was adjourned to the 1st Tuesday of September 2011: (September 6th – 1:00pm Glenns Ferry City Hall

Thank you for your time in these matters, I look forward to getting the issued calmed down soon.

Sincerely,



Teresa McCallum