

Bennett Creek & Cold Springs Creek Water District #61-E
Agenda
September 13, 2011
At 2:00 PM Glenns Ferry City Hall

Call to Order:

Reading of Minutes:

Treasurer's Report:

Previous year water report:

Old Business:

The separation of Cold Springs Creek and Bennett Creek water districts.
Consideration of role of advisory committee, should it be a smaller group.
Consider the budgeting issues in regard to the conflicts on the creek to be more isolated to the parties involved.

New Business: *Water Master Compensation*
Separate Bennett cr ; C.Sprgs Vote

Proposed Budget:

14 callouts at \$75/ea	=	\$ 1,050.00
Office Supplies \$50	=	50.00
Workers Compensation	=	<u>300.00</u>
Proposed budget		\$ 1,400.00
Less overage above \$1,000	-	_____ over slush

New Proposed budget for
2011 - 2012 assessment purposes: \$ 191.71

Election of Officers:

President:

Secretary/

Treasurer:

Watermaster:

Advisory Committee:

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned to 1st Tuesday of September 2012; (September 4 – 1:00 pm, Glenns Ferry City Hall.

WATER MASTER RECORD
Cold Spings Creek
Call Out by Double Anchor, July 12, 2011

Charter Mnt. Rch. Inc.	338 (1870)	1.84cfs	=1.84 (1 st priority)	
	339 (1875)	1.5 cfs		
	332 (1875)	2.72cfs	=4.22 (3 rd priority)	
			Mainline Meter reads 1110 to 1236 Gal/Min. or 2.4 to 2.75 CFS	
Charter Mnt. Has Cold Springs Creek 100% diverted into the mainline pipe. Since it is running free flow there is no firm reading for amount of water in the creek.				

Double Anchor Rchs. Inc.	322 (1871)	0.08 cfs		
	323 (1872)	1.0cfs		
	10349 (1873)	1.26 cfs	= 2.34 (2 nd priority)	
			Weir reads 1.67 CFS	
Since Charter Mnt. Has the creek totally blocked, Dbl. Anchor water (1.67 CFS) must be springs and run-off. Dbl. Anchor also has the creek totally blocked and running into their mainline. Half Moon, who is next in line, doesn't have any more water. Dbl. Anchor (Harly) is happy but thought the water master should see what the creek looks like at least at the end of the water year.			Charter Mnt. is noncompliant since they aren't controlling the flow at their flow meter. Since I was never called out I can't say if they did control it at the flow meter and with the creek essentially dry it seems mute to make an issue of it now. They also never repaired the washed out weir, but, since I was never called out I don't know if it was used or not. Teresa and John were gone so I wasn't able to get an explanation.	

WATERMASTER'S REPORT
Water Districts # 61C, 61E
Cold Springs Creek/Bennett Creek

I was your watermaster this past irrigation season. As your watermaster it was my responsibility to be somewhat available throughout the irrigation season; a responsibility I took seriously. Due to an abundance of water this year, there never was a call out to the Watermaster.

This report is my feelings on this past water season primarily on Cold Springs Creek, Basin 61E. The Double Anchor Ranch (Harley) finally called me out on July 12th, not because he had a complaint but he felt the water master needed to see just what the creek looked like at the end of the water season. This is my finding from the Half Moon Ranch North to Charter Mountain Ranch's upper diversion.

At this time there was no water other than some spring drainage at the Half Moon Ranch.

At the Double Anchor Ranch the weir on the ranch proper was dry. At their upper diversion the creek was totally dammed off and running 1.67 cfs at the weir which is well within their allotted amount. Since Charter Mountain Ranch Inc. also had the creek totally dammed off this water must be springs and such.

As mentioned above, Charter Mountain Ranch also had the creek totally diverted into their mainline. Since there is no weir to measure at the upper diversion the watermaster must rely on the digital flow meter down at the main ranch road. The digital read out flow meter at the ranch was reading between 1110 and 1235 gal./min. With this much variance (125 Gal./Min,) the water was probably free flowing through the mainline. If this reading has any significance it would be between 2.5 and 2.75 cfs which is more than Charter Mountain's first priority (1.84 cfs) but probably not enough that any extra would reach the Double Anchor. The digital flow meter down at the lower end read 0.00. The washed out weir at the ranch that John told Dan, Rob and I he was repairing the next week was still washed out. It was dry, but since I was never called out I don't know if it was ever used. Everybody pretty much felt the season was ended and I left it that way.

If I had been called out earlier and found problems, took steps to see they were corrected, am I then supposed to assume they were corrected or is the water master supposed to follow up without being called out again. A procedure for following up on problems needs to be clarified. At your August 31, 2010 regular meeting there was a motion made, seconded and carried that everyone have a lockable headgate. There is no such device at Charter Mountain Ranch's main diversion. You need to decide if the digital flow meter down by the main ranch road is satisfactory since everyone else is required to have a weir and lockable gate. IDWR evidently did tell Charter Mnt. Rchs the flow meter was adequate.

It isn't practical to have a Watermaster that is only used in a crisis situation. He has an obligation to be somewhat available yet receive no compensation for being responsible

and never used. If the Bennett Creek & Cold Springs Creek Water District feels they need a water master then they need to utilize him a minimum of once a week during the main months of irrigating so he can be on top of what is going on. It also should specify that if some water district member isn't complying with his priority rights than he should be solely responsible for any extra cost incurred to see it is corrected. This would allow the Watermaster to keep things running smoothly. After several years of finding a new Watermaster every year, it should be obvious the current system isn't working. You budget for a Watermaster, why not use him?

I would continue to be the water master under a more workable situation but if it remains as is you will need to find yet another water master at the end of the year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Neal". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Richard Neal, Current Water Master Districts 61C and 61E