

WATER DISTRICT MEETING NOTES WEISER RIVER #67



Steve Lester February 2, 2015

I attended the annual meeting in Cambridge today. Attendance was good, "full house."

Results

Officers, WM, Advisory Committee – same.

Funding – Current balance is good, about 1.5 (?) times annual budget. It was suggested by 1 member that this is about the right cushion organizations should have.

Budget – Approved 50% increase to restore assessment to \$0.90/acre (where it was several years ago). Will raise about an additional \$12-13,000. Designate half for Watermaster raise and half to save for measuring equipment etc. fund. Also adopted \$15 minimum if individual assessment is less than that (but this is not a minimum assessment per right owner?).

Oath & Certificate of Appointment – Deputy Watermasters have not been covered by this in past and should be. They will submit completed oaths to IDWR so we can issue certificates.

Discussion

I discussed recent work completed on lower ½ of system and how it starts the process of upgrading water management so people get more benefit from it. Said IDWR will try to help them by providing information and other tools, work more closely with Watermaster, help identify key sites for measurement etc. This will include site visit(s) with Watermaster to understand how delivery decisions are made and deliveries accomplished.

IDWR can facilitate this work starting this year, although we are experiencing significant staff turnover. Told them we will do our best to help.

Jay Edwards of Weiser Irrigation District discussed good results they got from installing modern measurement & telemetry devices, partly funded by IWRB. Installation, calibration etc. work done by Idaho Water Engineering (Tuthill et al). Includes real-time remote access to data.

This message was surprisingly well received. District voted to proceed with this work, suggesting a steering committee to work with Watermaster. Jay would be good candidate for that working group.

2016 meeting same schedule as 2015 for date, time and place.