



## **Weiser River Water District 67**

**% Terry Horton  
2574 School Road  
Midvale, Idaho 83645**

**Watermaster: Brandi Horton-Bonner  
(208) 550-0313**

**Chairman: Vernon Lolley  
(208) 549-0248**

**Secretary: Terry Horton  
(208) 355-2315**

**February 6, 2017**

Meeting of Water District 67 was called to order by Chairman Vernon Lolley at 1:06 pm. Minutes read by Secretary/Treasurer Terry Horton. Jacques Wray moved to approve minutes as read, Paul Striker 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

### **Election of Officers**

**Chairman-** Vernon Lolley is presently the chairman. Harmon Horton moved to re-elect Vernon, and move to cease all nominations, Jacques Wray 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

**Vice Chairman-** John Sachtjen is presently the Vice Chairman. Harmon Horton moved to re-elect John, Jacques Wray 2<sup>nd</sup> and asked to cease all nominations and cast unanimous ballot, motion carried.

**Secretary/Treasurer-** Terry Horton is presently S/T. Jacques Wray moved to re-elect Terry at same fee as 2016, Paul Striker 2<sup>nd</sup>, Robert Bumgarner moved to cease all nominations and cast unanimous ballot, motion carried.

**Watermaster-** Brandi Horton-Bonner is presently the Watermaster. Paul Striker moved to re-elect Brandi, Robert Bumgarner 2<sup>nd</sup> and moved to cease all nominations and cast unanimous ballot, motion carried.

**Assistant Watermaster's-** Gordon Galus- Bruce Gochmour- Kannon Hemenway.

**Substitute Watermaster;** Jerry Myers

Brandi mentioned that Gordon's health is preventing him from continuing with his position. She has had no luck in finding a replacement and recommends we advertise. Robert Bumgarner mentioned that Milton Ward may do the job and recommend for her to visit with him about it. Brandi will talk to Mr. Ward before advertising for the position. Jacques Wray asked what Bruce Gochmour did for the District. Brandi said she was told by Nick Miller from Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) he handled the Lower Crane. Jacques said that he did not, that she gets the calls on the Lower Crane and maybe Brandi, Nick and Credentials Committee needs to get together to determine who actually works in the capacity of a watermaster's assistant for the district.

Harmon Horton so moved, Robert Bumgarner 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried to have a meeting to address this question.

## **Election of Credential's and Advisory Committee's**

**Credentials-** Presently they are;  
Council-needed-still no volunteers  
Cambridge-John Sachjten  
Monroe Creek-Casey Chandler  
Weiser-Vernon Lolley  
Midvale-Harmon Horton  
Mann Creek-Paul Striker

Jacque Wray moved to re-elect the same committee with trying to fill Council's spot, Harmon Horton 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

**Advisory-** Presently they are;  
Council-Alvin Yantis  
Cambridge-Randy Noah  
Cambridge-John Sachtjen  
Sunnyside-Wendell Walker  
Midvale-Harmon Horton  
Mann Creek-Paul Striker  
Weiser-Vernon Lolley  
Canal Institute-Tyler Amano  
Monroe Creek-Casey Chandler

Roy Braun moved to keep same committee, Harmon Horton 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

**Budget-** presented by Brandi Bonner. In discussion of the budget, Harmon Horton mentioned that the difference between 2016 and 2017 upcoming revenues must be the result of the unassessed shares that the Watermaster found after the re-adjudication was finished. Jacque Wray said that she would have liked advance warning because their assessment increased greatly from what had been previously assessed. Terry Horton pointed out that it was moved and passed at the 2016 meeting that the previously unassessed shares would be added to the assessments, although it was not known at the time what the exact numbers would be. Harmon Horton mentioned that Middle Valley Ditch got hit too but was expecting an increase due to last year's meeting.

Further discussion concerning the budget led to Jacque Wray bringing up that when the Watermaster submits her annual report, nothing below Midvale has representation and why is that? Brandi said that Nick Miller told her not to change the way water usage has always been reported in the district, because he was going to design a new reporting system. As of yet that has not happened and she is doing what she was directed to do but did agree that they need representation.

Robert Bumgarner asked if we should write a letter to Idaho Water Users Association about not getting voicing the district's concern about the lack of action on the part of Nick and IDWR. Paul Striker asked who is Nick Miller. Brandi explained that he is the IDWR-Western Region Director.

Jacque Wray asked why the savings account is going down and where is that money being spent. Terry Horton explained that she has had to tap it to pay the bills. The money is collected through the taxing system and not everybody pays their taxes on time. They can be three years in arrears before they have to pay anything, so some of the money received through the years has been as far back as 2013. It's just how the system works. But do to Brandi having found the unassessed shares, the two checks that came in January from the counties were the most Terry has seen since she took the job of Secretary/Treasurer in 2006 and probably won't have to touch the savings this year. Jacque asked about sending out our own assessments. Terry said she would have to be paid a lot more than she is making now and it could become very costly because of the amount of share-holders there are in the two counties. Vernon Lolley said that if we did the budget would go up considerably; not just mailings but if we came up against not being able to collect and had to have legal representation to collect and so-forth, that could get very expensive for the district. Harmon said it needs to stay with being collected through the taxing system because the county already has legal representation. Robert Bumgarner asked who we would write a letter to, to get better representation out of Nick Miller with the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR). Harmon said to start with Gary Spackman the head of IDWR.

Robert Bumgarner moved to have Terry Horton and Brandi Bonner compose a letter to Gary Spackman, Jacque Wray 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried. Jacque volunteered her help in the matter if need.

Harmon Horton moved to accept the budget as presented with the assessments remaining the same, Robert Bumgarner 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Harmon Horton asked what had happened with the letter about the measuring devices and lockable head-gates that was supposed to come out of Nick last year? Brandi explained that nothing had come of it, and when she spoke with Nick on the phone before the meeting, he said he was hoping to get around to them soon. Harmon said in the letter you write to Mr. Spackman maybe we need to address this issue too. Vernon Lolley said that when this letter is written a copy needs to be sent to Nick Miller so that he is not blindsided.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Idaho Department of Water Resources- no representation present.

Request for monies to be collected-

Harmon Horton moved to ask Washington and Adams counties to continue collecting and dispersing the monies through the taxing system, Jacque Wray 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Set next meeting date- Terry said the next first Monday in February 2018 is on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Paul Striker moved to set February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for next meeting in Cambridge at the US Bank Community Room at 1:00 pm, Jacque Wray 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.

Todd Nelson asked what determines water shut down. Brandi told him it was done by priority dates. He mentioned the East Fork ditch. He was told that the Watermaster's jurisdiction stops at the diversion point where the water leaves the river to the ditch companies.

Paul Striker moved to adjourn the meeting, Harmon Horton 2<sup>nd</sup>, meeting adjourned at 2:11 pm.

Those present:

Terry Horton, Harmon Horton (MVDC), Brandi Bonner, Wade Bonner, Lori Graves for Greg Amaral, Curtis R. Hickey, Calvin Hickey, Jon Wray, Karen Hood, Keith Hood, Ned Henderson, Jacque Wray, Doug McAlvain (LVRC), Paul Striker, Stewart Syme, Carl McElhinney, Robert Bumgarner, R. Todd Nelson, Roy G. Braun.