

WATER DISTRICT 75-A  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 18, 2017

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 1:08pm, March 18, 2017, in the Salmon Public Library small conference room by Chairperson, Jesse Farmer-Lowell.

Those in attendance were Gregory Lowell, Gary Power, Ron Austin, Bob R. Blackadar, Dale Edwards, James W. Miller, Jim Juza, Jeff Parker, Ken Boese, Ben Jones, and IDWR Representative, Cindy Yenter. Clint Anders was present as a public observer and guest of Ben Jones.

Water Master, Greg Lowell asked to make a statement prior to the reading of the 2016 Meeting Minutes.

Greg told those present that he would not put his name in nomination for District 75-A Water Master. He stated that he would work through the month of April if the members wished him to do so to allow them to elect and train a new Water Master.

Greg further stated that 2016 had been a very difficult year, and that he had done his best to perform his duties in providing water to all users according to their legally registered water rights under the Adjudication in effect.

Greg said that he would turn all of his collected records and information over to the new Water Master and that he would take the new Water Master to all of the sites, accompanied by IDWR Representative, Cindy Yenter. Greg added that he would familiarize the newly elected person in all aspects of handling District 75-A Water Master duties as much as possible.

Greg also stated that he would introduce the new WM to all of the water users; show him or her how to handle headgates; set up diversions; familiarize him or her with all maps and PODs, etc.

Greg stated that he would work through the month of April. It was decided that the District would pay him \$160.00, plus \$30 in consideration for evaluation of Dale Edwards' Gorley Creek, etc., diversions.

IDWR Representative, Cindy Yenter, then introduced herself saying that her function would be to give customer support and technical support to the District, plus overseeing Wild Scenic Agreements.

Cindy went on to state that she was sorry to see Greg leave the Water Master position. She said that the water users should consider whether to elect a new WM at the

meeting or to schedule a separate meeting in order to give themselves the opportunity to find a suitable candidate and to vote a new WM into the position. She added that the Advisory Committee can elect a new WM.

Greg offered the alternative that the users elect Greg as WM and elect an Assistant WM who would serve, but would go to Greg for advice and guidance.

Cindy stated that payment to Greg can only be the total amount, not an assessed percentage. She asked if the Farmer's Ditch was separate from the Water District and was told that it was.

Dale Edwards asked what would happen if there were no WM elected in two weeks.

Cindy Yenter answered that the Department of Water Resources could appoint a WM.

Dale asked if that would be during the interim.

Cindy said that the Department could legally appoint someone to fill in.

Dale was concerned that they would be without a WM.

Cindy assured him that she would ask the Department to move quickly.

There was further general discussion concerning this subject, ending with the agreement to make the situation work out.

Chairperson Jesse Farmer-Lowell suggested that further discussion and resolution of the WM situation be taken up under New Business.

Gary Power stated that they needed to come up with a new WM as soon as possible, and that Greg's knowledge was very important.

#### MINUTES – 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

Secretary Jesse Farmer-Lowell then read the Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting.

A motion was made by Bob Blackadar to approve the Minutes as read. The motion was seconded by James Miller, and the Minutes were approved unanimously.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT - 2016

Treasurer Jesse Farmer-Lowell read the 2016 Financial Report. having passed copies out to all present.

A motion was made by Jim Juza to approve the 2016 Financial Report as written. The motion was seconded by Jeff Parker, and the Financial Report was unanimously approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

Dale Edwards brought up the fees on his water rights in relationship to the 2016 Budget saying that there were changes. He and Greg had discussed this, and there will be an adjustment made in the budget assessments addressing Dale's fees.

Gary Power advised the group that a pipe had been installed and a measuring devise put in on the north side of Leesburg road. He stated that there is now no problem of water leakage.

Cindy Yenter brought up the matter of assessing fees in the traditional method, including the \$60 paid separately by Dale Edwards.

Cindy stated that there was a statutory requirement, and a discussion followed regarding how assessments should be and were made.

Dale Edwards stated that they had the adjudication, and the District set up a contingency fund of eight or nine thousand, and chose to charge half of the assessment to water users, and half would be paid by the District.

Cindy Yenter said she understood that arrangement and approved of it.

Cindy inquired what the flat fees were in the budget.

Greg Lowell explained that they referred to the minimum users who were simply charged the flat fee.

Jeff Parker told the group that Arrowhead had installed a new head gate at a new diversion which was taking care of an existing problem.

Cindy Yenter stated that the new diversion may not match the water right. She said that she would check up on it and GPS it to resolve the issue.

There was further general discussion on this topic which included no new proposed actions to be taken.

### NEW BUSINESS

Greg brought up the subject that there would have to be an additionally revised budget due to the necessary. change in distribution of cost divided among the users according to percentage of use as the District will no longer be paying half of the fees.

## WATER MASTER'S REPORT

Greg explained that his Annual Report was compiled differently this year due to the fact that his computer crashed causing a major loss of information. This loss included the figures for day-to-day usage of water.

He passed out charts showing liquid equivalent quantity in relationship to a temperature chart, and photographs he took during the year of meter readings and diversion conditions. Using that information, he was able to compile the report of water usage, confirming his figures with the photographs.

Greg stated that he is going to review the water rights of the City of Salmon and the other District Water Users with Cindy for clarification next year.

Greg explained that there are always many varied factors day-to-day which affect the distribution of water, such as rain, temperature, and actual water usage.

He said that because of such factors in 2016 the water level dropped below 3.8 cfs early in the season, causing water right dates to come into play more drastically than most years. Greg told the group that he discussed the situation with Tim Lukes, IDWR Water Master Supervisor, and also with Cindy Yenter, both of whom approved of Greg's management of water right management. They also both agreed that the manner in which water rights were written in the adjudication made it difficult to interpret proper usage under the circumstances.

Greg said that translation of the agreement must be resolved so that everyone is on the same page. Greg stated that the matter can be worked out with Cindy, the new Water Master, Arrowhead, the City of Salmon, and Dale Edwards. Then they can build a record system for transparency.

Greg Lowell stated that the closing meter readings from 2016 and the opening meter readings from 2017 will show winter usage. He explained that actual usages are nowhere close to acre per foot limitations, but rather about a third or a quarter of that amount for both the City and Arrowhead.

Cindy Yenter suggested that the District could use a calendar year, January through December.

There was further discussion concerning changing to a calendar year, and no decision was made.

Greg said that he will take the meter reading on March 31<sup>st</sup> this year, and the District can work it out with the new Water Master.

Discussion continued with no resolution.

The Chairperson stated that perhaps, indeed, it should be a matter for the new regime to resolve.

Gary Power said that it should be resolved at this meeting.

Cindy Yenter stated that the water should be actively regulated in the summer months but that the Water Master's term was for a year.

Again, there was further discussion on the matter.

Ron Austin stated that he felt that the District was doing better with the system they have.

Jim Austin said, "we're different here".

Gary Power asked about who cares if the water is measured year around.

Greg Lowell answered that the Water Master cares because of the complexity of the District. He further stated that adding categories for record keeping will complicate the system further.

Jim Juza stated that the season end was getting close and asked how long it would take for transition and training.

Gary Power stated that a reading will be taken in March, and they will have to measure in December.

Cindy Yenter said that it will all work out.

Gary answered that he understands and that they should remain with the present system.

Greg Lowell explained that every situation differs.

Cindy stated that they will have an informal meeting to discuss the different possibilities.

#### COMENSATIONS FOR WATER MASTER

#### & SECRETARY/TREASURER/CHAIRPERSON

The group took part in a discussion regarding payment to a new Water Master.

Bob Blackadar pointed out that Greg's salary of \$1100 was for an experienced Water Master. He stated that Greg had started out at \$840 and, with raises reached \$1100.

Gary Power mentioned that it will take time for the new Water Master to get up to speed.

Greg Lowell gave an explanation of the work and time spent during the season and also the preparation time spent during the winter putting together all of the factors for the new budget.

Jim Juza questioned how Greg's salary compared to other Water Masters.

Cindy Yenter said that the District needed to be more realistic, and that other Water Masters made about \$125 a week.

There was further discussion regarding what time Greg put in during the season and in preparation during the winter.

A motion was made by Gary Power that the Water Master's salary be raised fifty percent to \$1650. The motion was seconded by Dale Edwards and passed unanimously.

Gary Power said that the salary had been too low and that it was unfair to Greg in the face of the new Water Master's salary.

Gary made a motion that the District make up the difference in Greg's salary for the last year with a bonus of \$550.

The motion was seconded by Jim Juza and passed unanimously.

Cindy felt that that was a wonderful idea and generous.

Greg again offered to assist the new Water Master during April for a consulting fee of \$160, plus \$30 in consideration for evaluation of Dale Edwards' Gorley Creek, etc., diversions.

A motion was made and seconded to that effect, and passed unanimously.

Expenses for the Water Master were discussed and Cindy Yenter inquired about how many miles Greg put on his truck during the season. Greg answered it was about 560 miles, and added that the standing expense amount was sufficient. A motion was made by Jeff Parker and seconded by Bob Blackadar to keep the Water Master's expenses at \$300. The motion passed unanimously.

Dale Edwards then made a motion that the Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer's salary be raised to \$400, and the expenses be left at \$100. The motion was seconded by Jim Austin, and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Gary Power to award a bonus of \$50 to Jesse Farmer-Lowell as 2016's Chairperson/Secretary/Treasurer in order to match the new salary rate for 2017. The motion was seconded by Jim Juza, and passed unanimously.

### ELECTION OF NEW WATER MASTER

Clint Anders was presented as the sole nominee for the position of Water Master by Ben Jones. Discussion with Clint was held off the record.

Ron Austin made a motion to elect Clint Anders for the position of Water Master. The motion was seconded by Jeff Parker, and was passed unanimously.

### ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN/SECRETARY/TREASURER

Cindy Yenter stated that this position was not an elected position but was, rather, appointed. There was discussion as to how to proceed.

Ron Austin stated that he and his wife, Rita might be willing to serve in this position.

A motion was made by Jim Austin to accept their offer, seconded by Bob Blackadar, and passed unanimously.

### APPOINTMENT OF THE CREDENTIALS

#### AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bob Blackadar made the motion that the committee members remain the same. The motion was seconded by Jim Uza, and passed unanimously.

Therefore, the Credentials and Advisory Committee will include James Miller, as representative of the City of Salmon, Dale Edwards, Bob Blackadar, and Jeff Parker, the Arrowhead representative

### APPROVAL OF THE ADJUSTED 2017 BUDGET

There was discussion about adjusting the budget to cover the new salaries, bonuses and consulting fee with the resolution that Greg would adjust the budget to \$3600, making the necessary changes in User Fees.

A motion was made by Bob Blackadar to accept the adjusted budget amount, seconded by Dale Edwards, and was passed unanimously.

### RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Bob Blackadar that the resolutions remain the same as they were in 2016. The motion was seconded by Dale Edwards.

1. The 2018 Annual Water District 75-A meeting will be held at 1pm on the third Saturday of March in the Salmon Public Library small conference room.

2. All payments are to be made to the Lemhi County Treasurer by June 1, 2016. Late payment will be subject to an 8% penalty fee.
3. The Water Master will withhold water until a User's assessment is paid.
4. The Water Master shall work from April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018.
5. Gorley Creek water rights will be assessed a flat fee of \$60.00.
6. A charge of 20.00 will be assessed each user named in the Adopted Budget of this District whose share of the total budget is less than 1% of the Budget.

### OPEN DISCUSSION

James Miller explained to everyone that the City ponds had been a nightmare during 2016. He apologized for any difficulties caused and stated that he appreciated the cooperation of the Water Users.

Greg Lowell told the group that James made the decision for the City to pump over 12 million gallons of water from the river, stating that doing so was not required. He thanked James for doing everything he could to ease the situation.

Jim Juza thanked James Miller.

Jeff Parker raised the issue that the US Forest Service making efforts to take actions toward fuel reduction and other Salmon Municipal Water Shed improvements in order to preserve water quality. It was agreed that Jeff would keep an eye on the situation and advise the Water District if any type of supportive action should be taken.

Bob Blackadar made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Gary Power, and passed unanimously.

The meeting was therefore adjourned at 3:49pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Jesse Farmer-Lowell,

Secretary, Water District 75-A



**2017 BUDGET DISTRICT 75A**

**(REVISED)**

**ITEMS:**

**WATERMASTER SALARY \$1650**

**WATERMASTER EXPENSES \$300**

**PRIOR WATERMASTER BONUS \$550**

**DEPUTY SALARY FOR APRIL (ONLY) \$160**

**TREASURER SALARY AND EXPENSES \$500**

**PRIOR TREASURER BONUS \$50**

**WORKMENS COMPENSATION CONTRIBUTION \$300**

**FICA/MISCELANEOUS \$60**

**PORTION OF EDWARDS ASSESSMENT TO DEPUTY \$30**

**TOTAL BUDGET \$3600**

WATER RIGHT OWNER	IDWR RIGHT #	POD NAME	COMMENT	DELIVERY 2016 AVERAGE CFS x DAYS DELIVERED	Percentage of use	budget portion of \$3540	FARMER'S Jesse Lateral user	Ditch contribution portion of \$1152
EDWARDS	75-2, 11A, 10046, 2162, 2035, 10047, 2034, 14254, 10051,	#1 Chippis Ck.	WITH CONDITIONS /AGREEMENT	255	17	601.80	Blackadar, Jim & Lois	178.80
AWD	75-196, 21, 14467	#2D Chippis Creek domestic	METERED (IN GALLONS)	METER APRIL 1: 37,442,300 METER NOV. 1: 43,726,600 USED 6,284,300			Blackadar, Robert	394.80
AWD	75-22, 5, 14465,	#2I Chippis Ck. irrigation & storage	WITH CONDITIONS /AGREEMENT	Combined total for domestic & alternate diversions #2D and #8}			Bills, Richard J.	70.80
AWD	75-22, 5	#8 Pollard Canyon Creek - irrigation	WITH CONDITIONS /AGREEMENT	Combined total for domestic & alternate diversions #2D and #8} 174	12	424.80	Silver Peak Austin, Jim & Ron	178.80
CITY OF SALMON	75-17A, 17B, 10075, 19B, 19C, 26A, 11A, 4, 7, 7563	#3 Chippis Ck, #4 Pollard canyon Ck, #5 Jesse Ck - all municipal	WITH CONDITIONS /AGREEMENT	Meter 4/01 579,483,000 Meter 11/01 903,187,000 = use: 323,704,000 (supplemented with 12,763,000 gal. from Salmon River pumps) TOTAL 540	35	1239.00	Boesse, Ken & Wendy	34.40
JOHN GOODMAN	75-14063	Pollard Canyon	pump	10	1	35.40	Gaver, Jami	34.40
PROKSCH/BENE DICT	75-14	#9 Pollard Canyon	high water	10	1	35.40	Skunberg, Ilona, Leonard Power, Gary	34.40
POWER/HADDO CK	75-1A, 1B, 13A, 13B	#6 Jesse Creek	blown out early	10	1	35.40	Haddock, Cheryl	34.40
FARMER'S DITCH (AKA Jesse Lateral Ditch)	75-19D, 19H, 14535, 14536, 14123, 14124, 14125, 14533, 14534, 113A, 113B, 113C, 10475, 11614	#7 Jesse Ck irrigation	490	32		1132.80		
	75-10491, 4443, 14267,	#7 domestic	10	1		35.40	Wallingford	34.40
			1499	100		3540.00	Morgan	34.40
							Petrick, Elma	34.40
							Tilford, Wilma ?	34.40
Edwards	extra charge Gortley Ck. etc	separate assessment budget 75A	60.00					1132.80
Total Budget						3600.00		

March 29, 2017

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
900 N SKYLINE DR STE A  
IDAHO FALLS ID 83402

RE: Appointment of Replacement Secretary/Treasurer, Water District 75A

The undersigned are members of the duly elected Advisory Committee of Water District 75A (WD75A). During the annual meeting of WD75A, held on March 18, 2017, Ron Austin was elected to the position of District Secretary/Treasurer. Mr. Austin later advised us that he will not be able to carry out the duties of the position.


The Advisory Committee has met and selected Bob Blackadar to fill the position of WD75A Secretary/Treasurer for the upcoming year. Mr. Blackadar has agreed to carry out the duties and will execute the necessary oath of office. Please appoint Mr. Blackadar as Secretary/Treasurer of WD75A.

Regards,

WD75A Advisory Members

  
Dale Edwards

  
Jeff Parker

  
James Miller

Jesse Creek Water District 75-A  
Advisory Board Meeting 3/29/2017  
Salmon Public Library

The meeting began at approximately 1 pm with the following individuals in attendance. Robert L. Blackadar, James W. Miller (City of Salmon), Clint Anders (Watermaster 75-A), Jeff Parker (Idaho Arrowhead Water District), Cindy Yender (IDWR), Dale and Laura Edwards, Ben Jones, and Greg Lowell.

The first item to be addressed was to elect Robert L. (Bob) Blackadar as secretary/treasurer for the Jesse Creek Water District for the 2017 season which is understood to run from April 1, 2017 thru March 31, 2018. A motion was made and seconded to have Mr. Blackadar serve as secretary/treasurer for the term mentioned previously and the motion carried.

A discussion ensued regarding the AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF SALMON, ARROWHEAD WATER DISTRICT, AND EDGAR AND MYRTLE EDWARDS (the agreement).

The document is available @ the Lemhi County Clerk's office recorded under instrument # 288296. A document entitled Watermaster Guidance for Delivery of Water Rights in Water District 75-A, Jesse Creek, Pollard Canyon Creek and Chipps Creek prepared by Tim Luke, IDWR Water Compliance Bureau complete with Attachments A thru D was also distributed to interested parties and served as basis for discussion.

These documents were considered to constitute a subordination agreement which essentially codified the specific water rights which are listed in the agreement. Some of the verbiage could be considered convoluted; however the documents provide direction to the Watermaster and are essential for the interpretation of the SRBA decree.

It was understood the if Daily Available Flow (ADF) fell to 3.8 cfs, the City of Salmon is entitled to all the water. The discussion hinged on the scenario that if there was a precipitation event and the ADF came above 3.8 then that would trigger a readjustment of water distribution according to the agreement. This readjustment would be considered part of the Watermaster's Tasks, Duties, and Responsibilities. (TDR's).

A brief discussion regarding pro-rata was mentioned and it was interpreted to be according to appropriation and not necessarily there is plenty of extra water available to anyone who feels they are entitled to it.

Measuring Devices were addressed briefly and since there was an order from IDWR requiring measuring devices around 1992, it was understood that measuring devices do not need to be part of the resolutions. Measuring devices are mentioned in the agreement, and it is essential that all measuring devices need to be kept in good repair and approved by IDWR. Lockable controlling works are considered to be part of the measuring device.

An inquiry as to a manifest of all the water rights which contributed to the Daily Available Flow was suggested. It is essentially available in Attachments A thru D of Tim Luke's Watermaster Guidance for Delivery of Water Rights in Water District 75-A, Jesse Creek, Pollard Canyon Creek and Chipps Creek.

A motion for adjournment was moved and seconded and the meeting adjourned @ 2:54pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert L. Blackadar  
Secretary/Treasurer *(Elected)*  
Jesse Creek Water District 75-A



**State of Idaho**

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

900 N Skyline Dr., Ste A, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402-1718

Phone: (208) 525-7161 FAX: (208) 525-7177 [www.idwr.idaho.gov](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov)

April 7, 2017

**C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**  
Governor

**GARY SPACKMAN**  
Director

Bob Blackadar  
801 Fairmont St  
Salmon ID 83467

RE: WATER DISTRICT #75A

Dear Secretary / Treasurer:

We acknowledge receipt of the Minutes of the Annual Watermaster's Election Meeting held in your district. The Watermaster Certificate will be sent under separate cover.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sharla Cox  
Administrative Assistant



**State of Idaho**

**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

900 N Skyline Dr., Ste A, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402-1718

Phone: (208) 525-7161 FAX: (208) 525-7177 [www.idwr.idaho.gov](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov)

**C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**  
Governor

**GARY SPACKMAN**  
Director

April 7, 2017

Lemhi County Treasurer / Auditor  
206 Courthouse Dr  
Salmon Id 83467

**RE: Water District No. #75A**

Dear Treasurer / Auditor:

Enclosed please find copies of the Adopted Budget and Minutes of the above Water District. They have been read and approved by this office.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact this office.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Dunn  
Sr. Water Resource Agent