

RECEIVED
JUN 04 2012
DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

4

Dept. of Water Resources
P.O. Box 83720
Bowie, Md. 83720

June 1, 2012
Uermans
P.O. Box 57
Indian Valley
Id.

Dear Mr. Peppersack,

We are writing in support of the appointment of a lateral ditch manager, which is provided for by law, for the Grays Creek Ditch.

We don't claim to know all the facts in this case but having been at the end of a ditch for 30 years, we understand the frustration when you are not receiving your water and are not able to gain access to clean the ditches leading to your property. As in placing pivot lines on or next to the ditches making it next to impossible unless there is cooperation amongst the neighbors. That apparently has not happened and without any higher authority to whom a water user can go to for a solution the Legg Family Trust now feels that this is their only choice in getting some resolution to the problem.

There may be more issues here that need to be addressed but we feel that a ditch manager would be in everyone's best interest. Assuring that all water users are receiving their correct amount and that this situation doesn't escalate into something more.

Thank you for your consideration.
in this matter. Bob + Whitney Uermans

LITTLE WEISER IRRIGATION DISTRICT
C/O J. WAYNE BURKHARDT
2410 LITTLE WEISER RD.
INDIAN VALLEY, ID 83632

Mr. Jeff Peppersack
Chief Water Allocation Bureau
Department of Water Resources
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0098

June 1, 2012

Dear Mr. Peppersack;

The Little Weiser Irrigation District Board has reviewed the response of the "Grays Creek Canal Association" to the petition for appointment of a lateral water manager on the Grays Creek Ditch. This is an obvious attempt by a few water users on the upper portion of the Grays Creek Ditch to separate themselves from the responsibility for equitable delivery of irrigation water along the entirety of the Grays Creek Ditch. This is simply an attempt to dodge the immediate issue and would not result in solving the long-standing conflicts associated with the entire Grays Creek Ditch. Equitable delivery of irrigation water has long been an issue, not just on the lower end of the ditch, but also at diversions above the concrete splitter referred to in their response.

The Little Weiser Irrigation District Board believes that the appointment of a lateral manager and installation of head gates and weirs for the entire Grays Creek Ditch is required to resolve the conflicts. The Grays Creek Ditch is a single delivery system for nearly 30 irrigators. Whether it is called a ditch, canal or lateral does nothing to change its function as a single delivery system for these water rights holders. The history of conflicts regarding water delivery along this ditch, both the upper and lower sections, warrants the appointment of a lateral manager.

Sincerely,



Jerry Jaeger
Chairman, Little Weiser Irrigation District

RECEIVED

JUN 01 2012

DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

MERRILL J. STIPPICH (JOE)

2195 Hanthorn Rd
Indian Valley, ID 83632
208-355-2208
jsstippich@yahoo.com

May 30, 2012

Mr. Jeff Peppersack
Chief Water Allocation Bureau
Idaho Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0098

RE: Grays Creek Ditch

Dear Mr. Peppersack,

The Grays Creek ditch has experienced a lot of unrest for the past 6-7 years during my tenure as water master. I have always encouraged the parties involved to work together to eliminate many of these problems. There seems to be little cooperation between the parties, so no solution has been found and the unrest continues.

It appears to me that placing the weirs and head gates on everyone's ditch to measure the water flow would be beneficial for the correct delivery of the water allocated to each user. Keeping the ditches clean needs to be a high priority for the water user to keep their flow of water maintained.

I want it noted that weirs and headgates for each and every water user on this lateral will be an added expense and in this economy I hate to see that happen.

There is support for a ditch walker to keep track of the water measurements in the Grays Creek Ditch. I am wondering who will be responsible for the ditch walker? I am happy to help and support them in anyway I can but am concerned about the ramifications of what it will entail in my job description.

The Board thinks this solution will settle some of the problems on the Grays Creek Ditch.

Sincerely,



Joe Stippich
Water Master 67-A