

# Payette River Basin, State of Idaho

## Water District No. 65

Chairman: Roy Maxwell  
Vice Chairman: Wayne Martin  
Secretary: Marc Haws  
Watermaster: Ron Shurtleff

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### 2019 Annual Meeting

**Date:** January 15, 2015  
**Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Location:** USDA Service Center, 1805 Highway 16, Emmett, Idaho

**Attending:** Fred Coburn, Norm Collinsworth, Wayne Martin, Mike Meyer, Doyle Fackler, Marcia Herr, Ed Parsons, Casey Odette, Lucas Budell, Warren Budell, Michael Shippy, Marc Haws, Ron Mio, Paul Gilbert, Ken Mineard, Justin Jones, Roy Maxwell, Carl Hayes, Steve Rekow, John Hartman, Dan Surmeier, Chad Henggeler, Dyke Nagasaka, Stewart Russell, Jason Brown, Marc Shigeta, Doris Allen, Winfield Smith, Neil Shippy, Betty Knox, Recording Secretary, and Watermaster, Ron Shurtleff

**Guests:** Director Spackman IDWR, Justin Shearer, IDWR, Allen Bradbury, IDWR, Matt Anders, IDWR, Kurt Folke, Quest CPAs PC, Lanie Paquin, Deputy Area Manager USBR, Roland Springer, Area Manager, USBR, Rick Hendrick, USBR and John Robinson, USBR, Operations Control Center

**Welcome:** Chairman Maxwell called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

**Minutes:** Chairman Maxwell directed attention to the minutes of the previous year's Annual Meeting on the second page of the meeting packet. Mr. Maxwell asked everyone to read through the minutes of the previous meeting in preparation for their approval. **Chad Henggeler moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2018 Annual Meeting. Doyle Fackler seconded the motion and the motion carried.**

**Audit Report:** Chairman Maxwell introduced Mr. Kurt Folke, from the Quest Accounting Firm. Mr. Folke asked everyone to turn to pages 12 and 13 of the handout packets. He reported the entire audit report is not included in the handouts but only the pages which he will refer to in this presentation. He said there are several complete reports on the head table if anyone is interested.

Mr. Folke said the Watermaster had presented a clean set of financial records and everything was in order. He reported he had audited the financial statements of the major funds of the Water District as of December 31, 2018. He stated the audit had been conducted in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and to standards applicable to Government auditing. Mr. Folke then directed attention to page 12 of the handout where he pointed out the Statement of Revenues and Expenses. Mr. Folke explained by line the Revenue and Expense Sheet and then brought attention to the Statement of Net

Positon on the previous page. Here he noted the District came into 2018 with a net position of \$425,035, and at the end of the year that positon had increased to \$434,021 a gain of \$8,986. Mr. Folke reported that based on the District's usual operating budget this amount represents about 15 months of carryover funding which is a good and reasonable position. Mr. Folke asked if there were any questions about the Audit.

After some discussion, **John Hartman moved to accept the financial report as presented by Mr. Folke. The motion was seconded by Doyle Fackler and the motion carried.**

**B.O.R**  
**Update:**

Chairman Maxwell introduced Ms. Melanie Paquin the Deputy Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, Snake River Area. Ms. Paquin said she would report some Bureau of Reclamation news and what may be coming from Washington. She reported the government is in the process of relocating government boundaries in an attempt to gain uniformity within the different agencies. She said it appears the Bureau will not see much of a change as the other agencies are adjusting to the Bureau's boundaries for the most part. This is causing a lot of organizational activity.

Ms. Paquin mentioned the Department of Interior has not yet received its appropriation for 2019 and there is some anticipation about how funding will allotted this year. She mentioned the Bureau is paying close attention to the Columbia River Treaty and that Lore Lee is the key negotiator chosen to represent the Bureau in this process. Ms. Paquin stated the Treaty was an agreement from the 1960s between the US and Canada which spelled out flood control and Electrical Power benefits and how they were to be shared between the two nations.

With more local news Ms. Paquin reported the addition of a third unit at Black Canyon Dam has been placed on hold largely because the energy market has softened and the benefits at this time might not outweigh the investment. She reported some of the projects that were included in the plans will likely take place in 2020 which include updating the Switch Yard, and the Trash Rack. Melanie also reported ongoing studies in the Boise Basin to gain additional storage capacity whereas the three reservoirs in the system are all being looked at to see if raising the elevation at the facilities might be feasible.

Ms. Paquin thanked everyone for the opportunity to speak and asked if there were any questions.

Chairman Roy Maxwell thanked Ms. Paquin and introduced Mr. Ryan Hendrick, Bureau of Reclamation, Hydrologist and Water Operation Specialist.

**Ryan Hedrick**  
**USBR:**

Mr. Hedrick the Middle Snake River Field Office Water Operations manager began his presentation by displaying the Precipitation Chart from October 1 to January 12, 2019. He reported the Payette Basin has only received 68% of its normal precipitation to date; the Snow Water Equivalent looks a little better however, with 72% for the same time period. Ryan then compared the content of the Payette reservoir system in 2018 at 76% to this year with only 58% of a full condition. Ryan then compared this year to the 30 year average and 2019 ranked 94% of the average from 1981 to present. Mr. Hedrick displayed a Chart of the Unregulated Flow of the Payette River near Horseshoe Bend and noted since the start for the new water year the stream flow has been well below normal. Ryan compared the reservoir's fill conditions in Chart form, indicating the reservoirs are within the median range, but on the low side of normal. Mr. Hedrick displayed several SNOTEL Charts representing the basin's Snow Water Equivalent, at this time the composite of the snow measurement sites in the Payette Basin rank the snowpack at only 69% of the average between 1981 and present. Mr. Hedrick showed the NOAA prediction probability charts, which indicated dryer than normal conditions for the next 8 to 14 days, and he noted when looking out further the prediction center is forecasting above normal temperatures with below normal precipitation. Mr. Hedrick thanked everyone for the chance to report and asked if there were any questions.

**Matthew**  
**Anders**  
**IDWR:**

Chairman Maxwell thanked Mr. Hedrick for his report and introduced Mr. Matthew Anders, Technical Hydrologist, from The Department of Water Resources.

Mr. Anders reported that he has recently been assigned to assist with the Payette Water Right Accounting due to the loss of Liz Cresto and Dan Stanaway who have recently left the Department.

Matthew began his report by displaying the Payette Basin Snowpack Comparison Chart. He noted the 2018 snowpack peaked at 88% of what is considered normal. With a Natural Flow Chart at the Horseshoe Bend site Matthew pointed out where this past year the Day of Allocation occurred 22 days earlier than in the previous year. He displayed the river volume passing the Horseshoe Bend in a chart which indicated the river flow from April through September to be at near normal when compared over a ten year period. Mr. Anders displayed a storage use chart indicating storage usage above the ten year average, but noted the carryover volumes in both Cascade and Deadwood Reservoirs ended the season in line with the average of the past ten years. Mr. Anders explained the storage system reconciliation report by saying the result from the accounting program is compared to the actual content in the reservoir system on October 31<sup>st</sup>. He stated the difference should range between 0 and 10,000 AF for a system as large as the Payette. Matt pointed out the Total Storage Available figure of 881,031 acre feet

and stated this is the reservoir fill plus the late fill. Matt then noted the Total Storage used amount of 390,317 acre feet. Mr. Anders noted that after subtracting the used figure from the available amount the result is 490,714 acre feet, and when compared to the actual reservoir content on October 31<sup>st</sup>, the difference is only 492 acre feet. Matt said this is evidence the accounting system is performing correctly.

Mr. Anders continued by explaining the 2018 Storage Report. He pointed out the difference between the 100% fill amount and the actual amount that can be used for allocation because of evaporation loss. He continued through the report and explained the process of computing the carryover figure for each account based on usage, transfers, and losses that influence the ending amounts. Matt explained that the carryover amounts are very important during years when the reservoir does not fill completely, but on years when the reservoir does fill those figures then get replaced with a full allocation. Mr. Anders ended his report and asked if there were any questions.

**Watermaster  
Report:**

Chairman Maxwell turned the floor to Ron Shurtleff and asked for his 2018 Watermaster Report: Ron said much of what he has to report has been covered by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources so he will try to not duplicate, but give some entity specific information.

Ron displayed a natural flow chart and then presented a comparison between the storage usage in 2017 and this past year of 2018, which is slightly more than double the amount. He attributed this to the earlier day of allocation and noted the storage use season continued to shutoff time with not help from weather events. Ron displayed the Carryover figures to the 2019 year and explained even though these amounts are less than last year's 137,381 acre feet is a very healthy amount to carry forward to the next season. Ron displayed the rental pool assignments and explained the good water year allowed upstream entities to participate in the Flow Augmentation program which reduced the demand for Payette water. Ron also gave a brief explanation of the 2019 water supply outlook, and then moved on to report on the District's Cost Share Program.

He reported a budget of \$103,000 and requests for \$100,399. Ron displayed a list of nine projects that had made request for assistance and the amount approved for each project. Ron stated seven of the nine projects are complete and funded but two projects were not attempted and may be redirected. Ron showed some photos of the projects and asked if there were any questions.

**Budget  
Committee:**

Chairman Maxwell thanked Mr. Shurtleff for his report and called for the Budget Committee Report. Chairman Maxwell noted the Budget Committee Chairman Jim Standley was not present and asked Watermaster Shurtleff to report for the Budget Committee.

Ron asked everyone to turn to page 24 of the packets to view a comparison between the previous budget and this year's proposed budget. Mr. Shurtleff

reported the budget committee had met on October 17, 2018 and prepared this worksheet which was then taken to the total Advisory Board on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Ron said at the November meeting the Advisory Board decided to submit this proposed budget to the general membership as printed in the packets. Ron pointed out the changes from the previous budget to include reducing the projected Administration Fees from \$208,000 to \$160,000. He explained the recent good water years in Idaho have reduced the demand for Payette River water used for flow augmentation. He went on to report there will be no medical Insurance requirement in 2019, and also the need for the Water District to carry its own liability and property insurance was eliminated because the District is now included in the State of Idaho insurance program. Mr. Shurtleff noted the Idaho Water Users dues had increased last year causing an increase to that item from \$23,250 to \$25,500. Ron pointed out there will be no vehicle purchase in 2019 so that item does not appear in this proposed budget. Mr. Shurtleff reported the Advisory Board is submitting this Budget to this Annual Meeting as their Recommendation for 2019. Ron said page 25 of the packet has the budget in its formal format, as it will appear if approved and attached to Resolution No. 2.

Some discussion ensued after which, **John Hartman moved to approve the budget as presented and to attach it to Resolution No. 2 as Attachment A. Doyle Fackler seconded the motion, and the motion carried.**

**Nomination  
Committee:**

Chairman Maxwell asked Mr. Shurtleff to continue with page 26 the Nominations submitted by the Nominating Committee. Ron pointed out this submission included the Suggested Advisory Board, the Officers of the Board and the next Budget and Nominating Committee. Ron noted at line 11 Michael Shippy has agreed to take a position as Alternate for the Enterprise Ditch. At that time Mr. Jason Brown announced he is willing to fill the position for the Butler/Banes Ditch on the Gill Slough, representing the Sisler property. Chairman Maxwell asked if there were any other recommendations to the Nominations list. Hearing none, **Dan Surmeier moved to approve the list as amended and to attach it to Resolution No. 6 as Attachment B. Doyle Fackler seconded the motion, and the motion carried.**

**Resolutions:**

Chairman Maxwell asked those present if they would like to address and vote on each resolution separately, or if they would like to adopt them with one inclusive motion. It was suggested that the resolutions be reviewed individually with the possibility of adopting them with one inclusive motion. Watermaster Shurtleff read through the each Resolution and explained its purpose.

Mr. Marc Haws said he would like to address Resolution No. 3 which fixes the Watermaster's salary. Mr. Haws noted that the Watermaster had saved the Water District quite a sum of money from previous budgets and thus **Mr. Haws moved to amend the budget Attachment to include a \$1000 raise in salary for the**

**Watermaster. The motion was seconded by Ms. Doris Allen, and the motion carried.**

Mr. Haws then noted a correction is needed in Resolution No. 14 where the Advisory board is directed to revisit the Cost Share Applications. He noted since the District is now meeting only once every two months there may not be a meeting held in October. **After some discussion the consensus was to include October and November in the first sentence of Resolution No. 14 to facilitate alternate month meetings.**

Watermaster Shurtleff explained the purpose of the new Resolution No. 16, to insure all water orders to adjust the flow at Cascade and Deadwood Reservoirs are communicated through the Water District No. 65 Watermaster. Mr. Roland Springer, Area Manager of the Bureau of Reclamation stated he thought the Resolution was too confining for the Bureau to accept and recommended that it not be adopted. After some discussion **Mr. Marc Haws moved to adopt the Resolution as presented. The motion died for lack of a second.** Mr. Roland Springer said he would be willing to accept the first sentence, *“A motion to be made and seconded, that the Advisory Board recommend to the Bureau of Reclamation a formal procedure of transmitting water orders be used to adjust the flow rates at Cascade Reservoir and Deadwood Reservoir”*. Some discussion ensued. Watermaster Shurtleff suggested that the second sentence should also be included if the resolution is to be useful. *“Whereas the water users are affected when flow adjustments are conducted, it is most efficient and important to communicate all flow rate changes through the Water District 65 Watermaster.* Mr. Rowland Springer stated that he would not accept including the second sentence. After much further discussion, **John Hartman moved to add Resolution No. 16, but only with the inclusion of the first sentence and omitting the remaining sentences. The motion was seconded by Casey Odette and the motion carried.**

Chairman Maxwell asked if everyone attending was ready to approve the Resolutions numbers 1 through 16. **Doyle Fackler moved to approve all Resolutions No. 1 thorough 16 with their amendments. Wayne Martin seconded the motion, and the motion carried.**

**Set 2019 Annual Meeting Date:**

Chairman Maxwell stated it is time to set the date and time for next year’s Annual Meeting. He further stated it has been suggested to set it for this second Tuesday in January which will be January 14, 2020 at 1:00 PM at this location if still available. **Doyle Fackler moved, Chad Henggeler seconded to set the meeting for January 14, 2020 at 1:00 PM in the USDA Service Center, 1805 Highway 16 Emmett, ID. The motion carried.**

**Adjournment:**

Chairman Maxwell asked if there is any other business that should be brought before this 2019 Annual Meeting. Chairman Maxwell stated that there will be an operators meeting in February or March to be held at Black Canyon Dam. Chairman Maxwell thanked everyone for attending.

**Doyle Fackler moved to adjourn, Steve Rekow seconded the motion, and the motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted

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Chairman, Roy Maxwell

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Betty Knox, Recording Secretary