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APR 18 2025

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES
SOUTHERN REGION

WATER DISTRICT No. 72-A Garden Creek & Challis Creek
MEETING DATE: Monday, January 27, 2025
MEETING LOCATION: Custer County Courthouse
Challis, Idaho 83226
MEETING SECRETARY NAME: Cindy Philps

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Watermaster David Philps.

The floor was opened to nominations for the Chairman. Jake Zollinger moved to nominate Ron Bloxham as the Chairman. Motion was seconded by Steve Bauchman.

The 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted. Jake Zollinger moved to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Joel Peterson. Motion passed.

Watermaster David Philps gave his report. It was a very poor water year with having to cut all 1879's to 10%. David does not believe this has happened before. They did dump some bentonite in the highline and that did seem to help. David also reported that there has been some unauthorized use on water. Locks and chains may have to be used in the future to stop some of the unauthorized use. There was discussion on what legal action could be taken to stop the unauthorized use.

Motion by Joel Peterson to impose a fine and/or misdemeanor for unauthorized water users will be prosecuted. Seconded by Steve Bauchman. All in favor. Motion passed.

David then reported that the snowpack was at 67%. Therefore, looking like another bad water year.

Jan Vogel from Idaho Water Department then spoke. The state will be going to inventory all headgates for the district. Ron Bloxham asked if there were metal tags available for each of the diversions. Jan said that she would check into that. Steve Bauchman also asked Jan if he could receive some maps of all diversions/headgates before the irrigation season.

New business: Steve Bauchman stated that he would like a weekly report on all water usage when high water is over. There was much discussion over this. Motion was made by Steve Bauchman to have the watermaster report to him once a week when high water is over.

No vote was taken. David Philps said that he would provide that information to Steve Bauchman or whoever else would like it.

Dustin Savage also reported that he is having problems due to sediment coming into his stock water due to the Blue Mountain Pond. There was discussion on what could be done to help him. It was unanimous consent to have David help Dustin in any way he can.

Budget: Cindy Philps suggested increasing the postage by \$50 due to the increase in stamps and mailbox fee. The highline agreed to do more maintenance and install two measuring devices over the next two years in the highline. This will allow them to see how much water is being lost to shrinkage. It was also noted that the highline maintenance came in over budget by \$1,755. Due these changes it this will increase the highline budget to \$10,000 from \$4,500. The highline will request three bids for the upcoming year maintenance to try to save some money.

Moved John Keppner to accept the budget. Seconded by Joel Peterson Motion passed.

Dustin Savage moved to have David Philps as the watermaster. Seconded by Erica Rhoades. Motion passed.

Steve Bauchman moved to have Cindy Philps as secretary. Seconded by John Keppner. Motion passed.

Moved by Steve Rembelski moved to appoint the same advisory committee. Seconded by David Philps. Advisory Board as follows: Discussion was given on Anthany Gamache if he is unable to serve. Jake Zollinger will take his place. Motion passed.

Garden Creek Representatives: Tim Kemery, Dustin Savage and Alan Henderson.

Challis Creek Representatives: Ron Bloxham, Anthany Gamache and Julia Piva.

The next annual meeting will be held on the 26th of January 2026 at 7 pm at the Custer County Courthouse.

Due to no further business the meeting Chairman Ron Bloxham adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.