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DEPT. OF WATER RESOURCES
SOUTHERN REGION

WATER DISTRICT 37B
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL WATER DISTRICT MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2026 1:00 P.M.

ITEM #1 on Agenda – CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION

Lou Andersen, Advisory Board Chairman, called the annual meeting to order at 1:07 P.M. (Copies of Meeting Agenda, 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes, 2025 Budget to Actuals, 2026 Proposed Budget and Resolutions were handed out at entrance).

ITEM #2 and #3 on Agenda – SELECTION OF 2026 MEETING CHAIRMAN and SELECTION OF 2026 MEETING SECRETARY.

Jim Kramer nominated Lou Andersen for Meeting Chairman, no other nominations.

Jim Kramer moved to select Lou Andersen as Meeting Chairman of the annual meeting. Rod Gonsales seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

Mike Caven moved to select Teresa Andersen as secretary of the annual meeting. Rod Gonsales seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

ITEM #4 on Agenda– APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Lou asked everyone to take a few minutes to look over the 2025 annual meeting minutes and opened the floor for discussion. No discussion.

Jay Caven moved to approve the minutes as presented. Jim Kramer seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

ITEM #5 on Agenda – WATERMASTER REPORT OF 2025 YEAR

Lou turned the floor over to Rusty for the Water Master report.

Rusty gave some of the NRCS Snow Data, as of Feb 9th, shows Big Wood drainage at 91%, this time last year was 82%. Snow-tel sites: Camas Creek Divide is at 13% of normal, last year was 95% - Soldier Ranger Station at 3% of normal, last year was 65%. Rusty mentioned the last time the snowfall was like this year was in 1977. Magic Reservoir is at 39,041 AF currently, full storage is 191,500 AF and they need 240,000 AF for the season – last year at the time of our meeting storage was at 135,079 AF. The current inflow is 3 CFS, last year this time it was 124 CFS - there's actually more water coming in Camas Creek right now than the Wood River.

There are currently 413 water rights, and 152 different water right users. Currently, there are 85 meters, 1 PCCs, 2 time clocks. Rusty touched on forfeiture dates, everything was “decreed” in 2010 and in Idaho will be forfeited if water is not used for five consecutive years. Not having water to use, is not cause for forfeiture. Rusty includes that in his Water Master report, if there is no water to use he will indicate that so the water right is protected.

Rusty reiterated his job duties and responsibilities which include:

- measuring all the groundwater and surface water usage
- making sure the meters & devices are up to standards
- make sure all water amounts are recorded in IDWRs water data base
- give certified Water Master report at the end of the year
- facilitate water cuts when the creeks start drying up
- helping IDWR identify issues on non-compliance
- keeping the advisory board up to date on issues
- communicating with irrigators

Other Duties:

- investigate illegal pumping
- meet new water users to help with irrigation plans
- meet with IDWR inspectors
- assist Real Estate agents with water rights on properties changing hands
- watch for drought declarations
- portable flowmeters – retest
- water bank and water transfers that have to be reviewed

Not Rusty's job or responsibility but he is willing to help with paperwork:

- water transfers
- water bank applications
- address changes
- ownership changes
- knowing when your water bank expires

Rusty mentioned several things that he should not be doing as Water Master, those include:

- maintaining water user's devices
- policing water delivery after the POD
- well depth measuring or monitoring
- dealing with beaver dams
- policing water delivery in town-domestic use under ½ acre

Rusty explained the water bank program. A program to put unused water aside which protects the water rights from forfeiture.

Groundwater - there are 41 big wells, 6 small wells and 7 municipal wells. Rusty talked about the meters, recording readings and the continual issue with batteries. If meters fail – contact Rusty before installing new meters – all new meters have to be IDWR approved.

Surface water – surface measurement is more complicated, all storage including reservoirs, must be measured by a weir, flume, orifice box, or flowmeter. With the surface water, we need a headgate or

slide gate, so we can shut you off if the creek dries up and you are out of priority. Another thing that comes up is, if you have plans of pumping or diverting, it needs to be from your POD - point of diversion. If you want to change your POD, you must apply with IDWR to change your POD. There are 59 measuring devices that have to be measured weekly. Water users must let Rusty know when they are starting and stop irrigating. If the water user fails to let Rusty know when they are starting to irrigate, there is a fine of \$100.

Rusty explained how the bills are figured: he measures weekly, IDWR has a program to plug in the measurements to calculate AF used. IDWR requires a 5-year rolling average, the budget is figured on how much water is used for the year. If a bill for water usage is less than \$50, the charge is the minimum charge of \$50. 2020 water usage was high at 30,896 af and 2025 was low at 21,128 af – 2020 drops off and 2025 is added which causes a little but higher charge per af of \$2.02 for this year's assessment, compared to \$1.89 last year. The 5-yr average keeps the highs and lows a little more consistent.

Rusty reminded everyone, when ready to irrigate – their water bill must be paid and water users need to know their start and stop dates – start dates are April 15th for most surface and May 1st for some. Stop dates are Aug 31st for most groundwater and Oct. 31st for surface water. If you have groundwater, your new start date is May 1st and stop date is Sept. 15th – that is discussion for our groundwater mitigation team, they are working on that, it is not the Water District discussion.

Rusty reminded everyone that the date for next year's annual meeting is the second Thursday of February.

Lou thanked Rusty – he said Rusty does an amazing job and is the best or one of the best Water Masters in the state, he does way more than he needs to do for his job duties.

ITEM #6 on Agenda – TREASURERS REPORT FOR 2025 YEAR

Lou turned the floor over to Matt McLam for the treasurer's report. Matt went over the 2025 Budget to Actuals sheet which shows a lot of the actuals are extremely close to what was budgeted. The 2026 budget is almost a duplicate of the 2025 budget; this is what it costs to deliver water up here, to measure it and comply with the State. Matt also mentioned that the accounts receivable for the district for the 2025 budget year are very minimal.

ITEM #7 and #8 on Agenda – DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED 2026 DISTRICT 37B BUDGET and ADOPTION OF PROPOSED 2026 RESOLUTIONS AND BUDGET

Lou asked that everyone look at the 2026 proposed budget that shows we will charge a \$2.02/AF compared to last year of \$1.89. He reiterated the 5-yr average being the reason the assessment is a little higher this year but that it also is the reason it stays consistent. Lou asked if there were any questions about the budget. A question about cloud seeding was brought up and discussed, Lou explained how cloud seeding works and that we have money allocated in the budget for cloud seeding.

William Simon moved to approve the 2026 proposed budget. Rod Gonsales seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

Lou moved on to the proposed 2026 resolutions, stating there were no changes to the resolutions this year. Lou asked if there were any questions or discussion on the proposed resolutions. No discussion.

Tony Gonsales moved to approve the proposed 2026 By Laws and Resolutions as presented. Dallas Smith seconded. No opposition. Motion passed.

Lou introduced IDWR representative, Corey King. Corey said he had nothing to add, he stated that our district runs smoothly. Rusty asked Corey to speak on contact information for a Water Right agent available to help with questions on water rights. Corey said the office in Twin Falls is open from 8-5 and always on call for question concerning water rights.

Lou asked if there was any other business. No other business, asked for a motion to adjourn.

Jamon Frostenson moved to adjourn.

Tony Gonsales seconded. No opposition. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

(Attendance at the meeting included 22 attendees including water master and meeting chairman)

Water District 37B Annual Meeting – February 12, 2026

Meeting Attendees:

Rod Gonsales
Corey King
Lou Andersen
Teresa Andersen
Dallas Smith
Tony Gonsales
Janet Dennis
James Reedy
Jay Caven
Jay Faulkner
Mike Faulkner
Jim Kramer
Marc Schmidt
Mike Caven
Matt McLam