

Paris Creek Water District 11-E

February 2nd, 2024

Annual Spring Meeting Agenda

6:00 PM at the Paris City Hall

Jason Christensen, Advisory Board Chair (2023) will conduct the meeting. Kandis Christensen will record the meeting minutes. Jason will submit the meeting minutes to IDWR.

Agenda Items:

Meeting called to order by Jason Christensen.

Motioned by Jason Christensen 2nd by Daryl Sleight

Read and Approve 2023 Meeting Minutes. **Vote to Approve 2023 Minutes.**

Motioned by Dan Kelsey 2nd by Reed Sleight

2023 Financial Report – Jason Christensen (2023 Acting Watermaster).

Proposed Budget for 2024 – Jason Christensen (2023 Acting Watermaster).

Proposed Budget for 2024 - \$4742.00. Proposed Assessment for 2024 - \$550.00

Water Master - \$3000.00

Secretary/Treasurer - \$500.00

Misc. Expenditures - \$1692.00

Total Proposed Cost for 2024 - \$5192.00

Note: Additional Expenditure for 2024. Excavator – 2 hours at \$125 to move rocks to divert water in and out of Third Creek in the spring and fall.

Vote to Adopt 2024 Proposed Budget.

Motioned by Dan Kelsey 2nd by Brad Wilks

PacifiCorp/Diversion/Sink Hole Report – Dan Kelsey (2023 Advisory Board/President Pioneer-Paris Relief Co.).

Beaver Control Report – Jason Christensen (2023 Acting Watermaster)

We hired trappers that trapped 19 Beavers on Paris Creek in the fall of 2023.

Election of 2024 Advisory Board Chair, 4 other Advisory Board Members and Secretary/Treasurer. Each Advisory Board Member should represent one of the following:

Fuchs Ditch: Jason Christensen Proposed. **Vote to Approve.**

Motioned by Vernon Hemmert 2nd by Brad Wilks

Pioneer/Paris Relief Pipeline: Dan Kelsey Proposed. **Vote to Approve.**

Motioned by Brad Wilks 2nd by Reed Sleight

Upper Southfield Ditch: Brad Wilks Proposed. **Vote to Approve.**

Motioned by Dan Kelsey 2nd by John Rowley

Lower Southfield Ditch: Reed Sleight Proposed. **Vote to Approve.**

Motioned by Jason Christensen 2nd by Dan Kelsey

The Bottoms (Dry Lake, Rasmussen Ditch, Corey Wright, V Bar Ranch): Vernon Hemmert Proposed. **Vote to Approve.**

Motioned by Brad Wilks 2nd by Reed Sleight

Elect Watermaster for 2024 – Jason Christensen Proposed. **Vote to Approve Watermaster.**

Motioned by Dan Kelsey 2nd by DeAnn Rasmussen

Elect Secretary/Treasurer for 2024 – Kandis Christensen Proposed. **Vote to Approve Secretary/Treasurer.**

Motioned by Jason Christensen 2nd by Dan Kelsey

Elect Assistant Watermaster for 2024 – Richard Gleed Proposed. **Vote to Approve**

Motioned by Jason Christensen 2nd by Vernon Hemmert

Proposed Resolutions:

Resolution A – Fee and Assessment Collection

The Secretary/Treasurer will collect all fees and assessments for 2024. No ditch, canal company, pipeline company, or any other water user shall have the right to demand and receive water, and the watermaster shall not deliver any amount of water to such an entity until all fees, assessments and passed due amounts have been received by the Secretary/Treasurer on or before April 30th. **Vote to Approve Resolution A.**

Motioned by Jason Christesen 2nd by Dan Kelsey

Resolution B – Idaho Statutes Regarding Ditch Maintenance

42-1203: Maintenance of Embankments

The owner or owners of any irrigating ditch, canal or conduit shall carefully keep and ***maintain the embankments thereof in good repair, in order to prevent the water from wasting during the irrigation season***, and shall not at any time permit a greater quantity of water to be turned into said ditch, canal or conduit than the banks thereof will easily contain or than can be used for beneficial or useful purposes; it being the meaning of this section to prevent the wasting and useless discharge and running away of water

42-1204: Prevention of Damage to Others

The owners or constructors of ditches, canals, works or other aqueducts, and their successors in interest, using and employing the same to convey the waters of any stream or spring, whether the said ***ditches***, canals, works or aqueducts be upon the lands owned or claimed by them, or upon other lands, ***must carefully keep and maintain the same, and the embankments, flumes or other conduits, by which such waters are or may be conducted, in good repair and condition, so as not to damage or in any way injure the property or premises of others***. The owners or constructors have the right to enter the land across which the right-of-way extends, for the purposes of cleaning, maintaining and repairing the ditch, canal or conduit, and to occupy such width of the land along the banks of the ditch, canal or conduit as is necessary to properly do the work of cleaning, maintaining and repairing the ditch, canal or conduit with personnel and with such equipment as is commonly used, or is reasonably adapted, to that work. The right-of-way also includes the right to deposit on the banks of the ditch or canal the debris and other matter necessarily required to be taken from the ditch or canal to properly clean and maintain it, but no greater width of land along the banks of the canal or ditch than is absolutely necessary for such deposits shall be occupied by the removed debris or other matter.

The Lower Southfield Ditch had a lot of problems in regard to leaking and irrigation water being contained in the ditch. The ditch has not been cleaned in several years. Jason and Kade agreed that ***no water would be diverted into the Lower Southfield Ditch for the 2024 irrigation season prior to the ditch maintenance being completed. Vote to Approve Resolution B.***

Motioned by Jason Christensen 2nd by Brad Wilks

Resolution C – Sink Hole

Throughout the 2024 water season, the water that is being lost in the sink hole on Joan Hulme's property be allowed to run down the Fuchs Ditch and returned to the creek below the sink hole so that it remains available to other users downstream. The maximum capacity of the Fuch's Ditch flume. Resolution C will stay in place until the sink hole is repaired. **Vote to Approve Resolution C.**

Motioned by Jason Christensen 2nd by Reed Sleight

Discussion Points

Irrigation Season

The decree for Paris Creek provides general conditions about the period of use, water measurement requirements and distribution of water. In general, our period of use is May 1st through September 15th. The only exception that Jason has in writing from IDWR is the Pioneer Irrigation Company right 11-66A. The point of diversion, place of use, nature of use or period of use of an existing water right may be changed by filing an application for transfer with the department.

The Lower Southfield ditch has requested a longer irrigation season through Jason and through IDWR via the adjudication. After a lengthy conversation with IDWR Jason has concluded that we can in fact leave the water in the Lower Southfield Ditch for a longer period of use if that has been happening historically. Jason has confirmed that the Lower Southfield Ditch generally has water in it until October 15th or 30th depending on the fall weather.

We need to agree (vote) on a date so that Jason is not stuck in the middle of two parties that want different arbitrary shut off dates. **Pick a Shut Off date for the Lower Southfield Ditch and Vote to Approve.**

Oct. 15th was agreed upon.

Motioned by Jason Christensen 2nd by Reed Sleight

Is there any other diversion that would like or need a Shut Off date later than September 15th?
Pioneer Irrigation Co. is exempt from this rule.

Thanks for your time and attendance!!