Weiser River Water District 67

% Jack Holmes

P.O. Box 829

Weiser, Id. 83672

Watermaster: Kathy Summers	Chairman: James Harberd	Sec/Treas: Jack Holmes
208-550-7667	208-550-1432	208-741-3275

Minutes of Water District 67 Annual Meeting 02/05/2024

The annual meeting of Water District 67 was called to order at 1:10 by Chairman Jim Harberd on February 5, 2024.

The first item of business was to select a chairman for the upcoming year. It was moved and seconded to re-elect Jim Harberd to serve as chairman. The motion passed.

Next was the reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as read. The motion passed.

The Watermaster gave a report of the events of the past year. It was a learning year for the new watermaster, but with the help of the past watermaster and the representative from the Idaho Department of Water Resources, the problems were handled and the outlook for this year is to be better.

The budget was then presented with a discussion that followed. It was suggested that a certain amount of the excess funds which have been dedicated for the installation of measuring devices should be set aside for a contingency account in the event that extra assistant watermasters be needed to address problems in short water years. The amount suggested was to be $10,000.00. Following the discussion, it was moved and seconded to accept the proposed budget with no increase in assessments and that there be a designated contingency fund set aside in the amount of $10,000.00 for emergencies. The motion passed.

Also presented in the Treasurer's report was a discussion of how to determine overdue assessments. The Treasurer reported that there are only 4 delinquent properties from the past two years. These properties will be notified of the fact that they will not receive water until the past assessments are paid. In July of this year we will be able to determine if last years assessments were paid and any landowner that is delinquent will be subject to shutdown of their water.

The election of the Watermaster was next on the agenda. It was moved and seconded that Kathy Summers be re-elected as there were no other nominations. Motion passed.

Election of the Secretary/Treasurer followed and Jack Holmes was re-elected since no other nominations were presented.

The election of the assistant watermasters followed. The need for extra assistants was discussed and the possibility of the watermaster getting help in drainages other than the normal streams from the existing assistants. The current assistants have knowledge of the laws and rules of the district and could help sooner than educating a new assistant. It was recommended to the Watermaster to use this avenue first

in times when extra help may be needed. It was moved and seconded to re-elect the assistant watermasters that were employed this past year. The motion passed. The Assistant Watermasters are Jim Harberd, Jim Brewer, Tim Bumgarner and Ryan Davis.

The selection of the Advisory Committee members followed. The representative from the Institute Canal declined to serve another year. Colton Chandler was suggested as a replacement. It was moved and seconded that the Advisory board be re-elected with Colton Chandler being the representative of the Institute Canal. The motion passed. Members are as follows: Howard Sutton, Midvale; Vernon Lolley, Weiser; Robert Sachtjen, Cambridge; Jerry Yantis, Council; Randy Noah, Cambridge; Curtis Hickey, Sunnyside; Paul Striker, Mann Creek; Colton Chandler, Institute Canal; and Casey Chander, Monroe Creek.

The selection of the Credentials Committee was next. It was moved and seconded to re-elect the existing committee members. Motion passed. Members are John Bonner, Midvale; Vernon Lolley, Weiser; Robert Sachtjen, Cambridge; Casey Chandler, Monroe Creek; Paul Striker, Mann Creek; and Jerry Yantis, Council.

Kellie Smith from the Idaho Department of Water Resources gave a short discussion of their work and the main item is the installation of the measuring devices and the controllable headgates and the fact that they are required and the watermaster can curtail the water to those not in compliance.

Paul Arrington, Director of the Idaho Water Users Association gave a presentation on the ongoing work of his association. First was the work with the legislative session that is underway and the proposed legislation. There is great concern throughout the state about the depletion of the aquifer due to the increased population and the requirements or lack of requirements for domestic wells. There are 3000-3500new wells each year that over ten years amounts to an extra 15,000 acres of water use that is not regulated. Second issue was the one of ditch easements through private property and the methods of resolution of disputes. Most end up in court at great costs. Several attendees discussed the methods of resolution with Mr. Arrington. The regional issues that are being handled by the IWUA include the federal changes to the laws that may affect the Lower Snake River Dams and their removal that will help restore fish runs. The tribal agreements are coming to an end and will need to be renegotiated and the IWUA is working to keep protections of the water users in place. A discussion of the rate increases for members of the association was discussed. The rate has gone from 18 cents per acre to 20 cents and will increase by one cent each of the next two years. It was moved and seconded that we continue to be members of the association. Motion passed.

Irv Leen presented an update of the planned Lost Valley Reservoir enlargement. They have received a matching grant to conduct the Environmental Impact Study. They are in the process of raising the matching funds. Engineering work is in progress to meet the demands of the U.S. Forest Service since the dam and land is on Forest Service property.

The measuring devices that need to be installed in the river to assist the watermaster came under discussion and a committee of volunteers was formed to get this project underway. Volunteers were John Bonner, Jack Holmes, Ryan Davis, Irv Leen, Ken Potter, Jim Harberd, and Kellie Smith of IDWR.

It was moved and seconded that we request the tax collectors from Adams and Washington County to continue to collect the assessments and distribute the funds to us through their system. Motion passed.

It was moved and seconded that the next annual meeting be held on February 5, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. at the Washington County Fairground Exhibit hall. Motion passed.

With no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 P.M.

WATER DISTRICT 67 - WATERMASTER'S PROPOSED BUDGET			2024
		2/1/2023-1/31/24	2/1/2024-1/31/25
c/o Jack Holmes P.O. Box 829 Weiser, Id. 83672	2023 Proposed Budget	2023 Actual Expenses	2024 Proposed Budget
Watermaster's Salary	$ 30,000.00	$ 29,375.00	$ 30,000.00
Watermaster Assistants Salaries	$ 16,000.00	$ 17,160.00	$ 16,000.00
Secretary Salary	$ 2,400.00	$ 2,400.00	$ 2,400.00
Mileage	$ 4,000.00	$ 3,081.12	$ 4,000.00
Internet & Phone Purdium (WM & S/T)	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
Office	$ 400.00	$ -	$ 400.00
State Insurance Fund	$ 3,000.00	$ 1,768.00	$ 3,000.00
Social Security	$ 5,000.00	$ 2,362.89	$ 5,000.00
PERSI	$ 4,000.00	$ 3,458.63	$ 4,000.00
Washington County Fee	$ 250.00	$ 176.00	$ 250.00
Miscellaneous	$ 3,000.00	$ 2,000.00	$ 3,000.00
Idaho Water Users Association	$ 5,100.00	$ 5,062.50	$ 5,100.00
Exhibit Hall Rent	$ 175.00	$ 175.00	$ 175.00
TOTALS	**$ 74,325.00**	**$ 68,019.14**	**$ 74,325.00**
US Bank Savings Account		**$ 40,109.88**	
US Bank Checking Account		**$ 81,351.76**	
Ending Balance		**$ 121,461.64**	
Receipts			
Washington County		**$ 51,680.40**	
Adams County		**$ 11,777.66**	
TOTALS		**$ 63,458.06**	
ASSESSMENTS			
2023 Assessment @ $1.10 (w/$25.00 min.)		**$ 74,240.05**	
2024 Assessment @ $1.10 (w/$25.00 min.)		**$ 74,240.05**	
(Adams County- $11,846.87)			
(Washington County- $62,393.18)			