Water District 36A - Annual Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 – 2:00 PM

Hagerman American Legion Hall

281 North State St., Hagerman, ID 83332

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Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome & Introductions
3. Election of Meeting Chairman & Secretary
4. Approval of Minutes from the 2023 WD36A Annual Meeting
5. Adoption of 2024 Budget
6. Approval of 2024 Resolutions
7. Selection of 2024 Advisory Board Members
8. Water Master's Report & Goals for 2024
9. District Q&A
10. Adjourn

2023 WD36A Water Master, Secretary/Treasurer, Chairman and Advisory Board Members:

Matt Doperalski	Water Master
Linda Lemmon	Secretary/Treasurer
Frank Erwin (Hagerman Water Users Assoc.)	Chairman
Skyler Farnsworth (IDFG)	Board Member
Phillip Henderson (Riverence Farms)	Board Member
Bud Huntley (Big Bend Irrigation & Mining Co.)	Board Member
Gary Lemmon (Big Springs Water Users Assoc.)	Board Member
John Mavencamp (Brailsford Ditch)	Board Member
Billy McCarthy (Hunt Ditch, Curran Ditch)	Board Member
Butch Morris (Hoagland Tunnel Ditch)	Board Member
Dan Yore (Buckeye Ditch)	Board Member

This facility is ADA accessible. If you require special accommodations to attend, participate in, or understand the meeting, please contact Matt Doperalski at Mattwm36a@gmail.com or (208) 949-0523 at least 72-hours prior to the meeting.

Water District 36A – Annual Meeting

January 16, 2024, 2:00 pm

Hagerman American Legion Hall, Hagerman, ID 83332

(1-3) Call to Order, Welcome, Meeting Chairman/Secretary Elections

Matt Doperalski, WD 36A Water Master, opened the meeting at 2:03 pm, welcomed everyone and identified IDWR employees in attendance (Cory King, Rob Whitney). Twenty seven people were in attendance representing 32 of the 72 assessed diversions in the District, plus individual water rights.

Matt Doperalski asked for nominations for a meeting Chair and meeting Secretary. ***Skyler Farnsworth nominated and Elizabeth Bennion seconded Frank Erwin as meeting Chair and Linda Lemmon as meeting Secretary.*** No other nominations were offered and nominations were closed. ***Motion carried by hand vote with none opposed.***

Handouts available on the entry table for review: Agenda for today's meeting, Minutes from the January 17, 2023 Water District 36A Annual Meeting, the 2023 Treasurer's Report and Proposed 2024 Water District 36A Budget, and the proposed 2024 Water District 36A Resolutions.

(4) Approval of FY 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

Frank Erwin asked for a motion to approve the minutes from last year's annual meeting as presented. ***A motion was made by Skyler Farmsworth and seconded by Elizabeth Bennion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2023 Annual Meeting as written and presented. Motion carried by hand vote with none opposed.***

(5) Adoption of Proposed 2024 Budget

Frank Erwin asked Matt Doperalski to review the handout titled ***Water District 36A Budget Summary*** which included both the 2023 Treasurer's Report (adopted and actual budgets) and the 2024 Proposed Budget. Matt explained that there was no change proposed for the assessment rate per 24-hr second foot nor the minimum assessment amount for 2024. Matt explained that District employees (Water Master and Secretary/Treasurer) would be participating in the State's PERSI retirement program starting in 2024. To participate in PERSI, the District must deposit into the state retirement program an additional amount from its budget equal to a state-mandated percentage of the annual salaries paid by the District. Rather than increase the overall District budget for 2024 by that percentage, Matt's proposed budget includes voluntary employee salary reductions so that the value of the proposed 2024 salary plus the value of the proposed PERSI contributions (when withdrawn at retirement) would be equivalent to the salary paid in 2023. In other words, no net increase.

Frank asked for a motion to approve the budget. ***A motion to adopt the proposed budget as presented was made by Skyler Farnsworth and seconded by Elizabeth Bennion.*** There was no further discussion. ***Motion carried by hand vote with no opposing votes.***

(6) Adoption of Proposed 2024 Resolutions

Matt reviewed the handout titled ***Water District 36A - Proposed Resolutions for 2024*** which describes the rules under which the District will operate this year. The proposed resolutions had been reviewed and approved previously by the Advisory Board at their annual meeting in December 2023. Matt explained that the changes in the proposed resolutions included updating dates in resolutions 5, 6 & 10 and adding a new resolution #12. The new resolution is necessary to comply with state statute on the alternative way of voting at District meetings should someone request a vote by Credentials. Rather than a simple voice or hand vote, voting by credentials entitles each water user who holds a water right to have one vote for each dollar paid to cover his/her proportional share of the District's annual assessment. Oftentimes, water users along common ditches receive a single bill from the ditch company that combines the ditch company's O&M costs with the District assessment fee. The new resolution would require the ditch company to provide sufficient detail on its annual invoice so that each water user who has a water right along the ditch could provide the Credentials

Committee with appropriate information for voting purposes at the Water District 36A annual meeting. This resolution would not apply to the ditch companies that have shareholders.

Frank asked for a motion to adopt the resolutions. ***Skyler Farnsworth moved and Elizabeth Bennion seconded that the 2024 proposed resolutions be adopted as presented.*** There was no further discussion. ***Motion carried by hand vote with none opposed.***

(7) <u>Election of Water District 36A Advisory Board for FY 2024</u>

Frank explained that the current Advisory Board members indicated that they would be willing to serve again this year.

Skyler Farnsworth moved and Elizabeth Bennion seconded that the Advisory Board members who served in 2023 be re-elected to serve in 2024. No other nominations were offered from the floor and the nominations were closed. ***Motion carried by hand vote with none opposed.***

2024 Advisory Board Members are: ***Frank Erwin, Hagerman Water Users Association***
Skyler Farnsworth, Idaho Fish & Game
Philip Henderson, Riverence Farms
Bud Huntley, Big Bend Irrigation & Mining Co.
Gary Lemmon, Big Springs Water Users Assoc.
John Mavencamp, Brailsford Ditch
Billy McCarthy, Curren Ditch, Hunt Ditch, Bar-S Ditch
Howard Morris, Hoagland Tunnel
Dan Yore, Buckeye Ditch

(8) <u>Water Master's Report & Goals for 2024</u>

Matt presented a graph depicting historical flows along Billingsley Creek over the past 19 years that had been measured at the Hwy 30 bridge gauge. Although the graph indicated a slight upward trend in flows passing that particular gauge, he showed additional graphs depicting declining flows from springs in the District.

Matt shared that his focus this past year had been to ensure completion of several projects started in 2023, including replacing measuring devices on the Anderson Pond Ditch and at Three Springs. Installation of a new controllable and lockable structure along the Big Bend Ditch was still in discussion. He also ordered minor adjustments along the Idaho Power Ditch and the Barlogi Ditch. Unlike 2022, no major flow augmentations along Billingsley Creek were required this year.

Going forward, Matt said he would be capturing pipeline information in the District to update a map Frank Erwin had created when he was Water Master.

(9) <u>District Q&A</u>

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm. Motion to adjourn was made by Skyler Farnsworth and seconded by Tom Seiberling. There were no opposing votes.

Minutes recorded by

Linda Lemmon

Linda Lemmon, Meeting Secretary

Minutes certified for submission to IDWR by

Frank Erwin

Frank Erwin, Meeting Chairman

Attachments: 2024 Adopted Budget, 2024 Adopted Resolutions

WATER DISTRICT 36A
BUDGET SUMMARY

	2023 Treasurer's Report		2024 Budget
	Adopted	Actual	ADOPTED
		($0.**20**/24-h sec ft)	($**0.20**/24-h sec ft)[a]
Beginning Balance (Jan 1)	3,758.10	3,758.10	2,036.73
INCOME			
Previous Year Assessments	0.00	0.00	486.78
Current Year Assessments	32,869.00	32,462.00	32,890.00
Total	$ 36,627.10	$ 36,220.10	$ 35,413.51
EXPENSES			
Water Master Wages	$27,500.00	$27,500.00	24,734.67
Secretary/Treasurer Wages	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,248.62
PERSI	0.00	0.00	3,016.73
State Insurance Fund	1,800.00	1,274.00	1,500.00
Federal Withholding (WD only)	2,295.00	2,295.00	2,064.22
Office Expenses	200.00	229.37	125.00[b]
Room Rent	135.00	135.00	185.00
Computer/Office Rent	250.00	250.00	250.00
Mileage (Water Master)[c]	100.00	0.00	100.00
Contingency	1,847.10	0.00	1,189.27
Total Expenses	$ 36,627.10	$ 34,183.37	$ 35,413.51
Ending Balance (Dec 31)	0.00	$ 2,036.73	0.00
Budget Period	***01/01/2023 to 12/31/2023***		***01/01/2024 to 12/31/2024***

[a] **The minimum** assessment per diversion will be $225 in 2024.

[b]**2024 Office Expenses** category is intended for typical office expenses such as administrative fees, audit, PO Box rental, postage, paper, ink, envelopes, etc.

[c]**Mileage** paid to Water Master for travel associated with subpoenaed testimony at mitigation hearings and depositions in Twin Falls and Boise.

[d]**2024 Contingency** category is intended for unexpected expenses. Unused funds will carry over to 2025.

WATER DISTRICT 36A – ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS FOR 2024

1 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that hereafter the annual meeting of Water District 36A shall be held on the third Tuesday in January each year.

2 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the amounts payable by each ditch, association, canal company, or other water user, as shown by the approved budget, shall become due and payable upon receipt and delinquent on April 15th, and said amount, if not paid, shall bear a penalty of 10% and interest from that date until paid, at a rate of 1% per month.

3 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that no ditch, association, canal company, or other water user shall have the right to demand and receive water, and the Water Master shall not deliver to such person(s) or entity(ies), until the amount due and payable from such user(s), as fixed by the budget, has been paid.

4 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Water Master shall be in service for a full year, commencing on February 1st of each year and continuing until the following January 31st, or until his successor as been duly qualified and elected.

5 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that Matt Doperalski be elected Water Master of Water District 36A for the ensuing year, beginning February 1, 2024, and ending January 31, 2025.

6 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that Linda Lemmon be elected Secretary/Treasurer for Water District 36A for the ensuing year, beginning February 1, 2024, and ending January 31, 2025.

7 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the elected Treasurer of Water District 36A should only disburse monies from the Water District accounts upon a voucher approved by the Water Master. Water District checks may be signed either by the Treasurer or Chairman, but must be co-signed by an Advisory Board Member. Advisory Board Members Howard Morris or Phillip Henderson shall serve for the purpose of co-signing all Water District 36A checks.

8 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that Water District 36A assessments shown in the adopted budget shall constitute a final determination of the amount due for that year (per Idaho Code 42-612).

9 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that Water District 36A assessments shall be based on the most recent reliable data available to the Water Master and shall be assessed in 24-hour second feet (per Idaho Code 42-612).

10 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that for the year 2024, a minimum charge of $225.00 shall be assessed to each individual or entity that owns a water right, whose share of the total budget is less than the above specified amount.

11 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that for all mitigation and replacement water rights administered within the boundary of Water District 36A, the Water Master shall require lockable and controllable structures at all points of delivery and measuring devices approved by both the Water District 36A Water Master and IDWR. These mitigation and replacement water right diversions shall be measured and reported to Water District 36A, and shall be assessed by Water District 36A. Costs for structures and devices shall be paid by the owner of the water right being used for mitigation or replacement purposes.

12. **BE IT RESOLVED**, that all water delivery organizations bill its members with detail showing the member dollar portion of the current year Water District Assessment.