

MINUTES OF CEDAR VALLEY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1980

7:30 P.M.

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WATER RIGHTS

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Donald Norseth. He introduced Mr. Art May who handles matters pertaining to underground water and works with Mr. Norseth in matters pertinent to distribution. Mr. Norseth stated that keeping up with the water forecast in the State was difficult. Up until January 1st, there was very little snow. After that, in Salt Lake City, the snow piled up in one week, and by the 1st of February they were 114-140% of normal. The Beaver River was 130% of normal and Coal Creek, 148%, on the 1st of February. Mr. Norseth went on to say that all of the reservoirs in the State are in a good state so far as water content goes, and all in all it looks like a good water year, although there may be some flooding.

Mr. Norseth stated that this is our annual distribution meeting where we get together and talk about water and what goes on in distribution and administering the water. We will hear the minutes from last year's meeting, go over the financial report, hear the Commissioner's Report, prepare a budget and appoint a Commissioner. At the end, we leave a little time for discussion of anything pertinent to water matters. Secretary LaRee Garfield then read the minutes of the previous meeting. Howard Nelson made the motion that the minutes be approved as read; Norman J. Grimshaw seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by the members present.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. Norseth went over the Financial Statement for 1979, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference. Mr. Norseth explained that we go on a calendar year for the Financial Statement. J. Cressel Sherratt made the motion that the Financial Statement be approved; Wesley Bauer seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by the members present.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: (A copy of this report was given to the heads of the various fields prior to the meeting, and a copy of the same is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference).

Clemont began his report by stating his recommendations for the coming year. These recommendations are as follows: (1) Provide some means of meter repair. There are now 47 broken meters out of 161 total; (2) Connect both sets of hydraulic gates to one power source, as the Commissioner needs power at both locations year round. He also recommended that line be installed between the two units and all power go through the meter at the main gates.

Clemont went on to say the a Utah Water Users Association workshop will be held in St. George next week, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, at the Four Seasons, and all counties should be represented at that workshop, and all water users should be members of that association. Clemont stated that he has served on the

board for six years, and he feels that it is important that we be involved with water problems in the State. He further stated that this is the first time the workshop has been held in this end of the state.

Clemont went on to say this report contains the daily flow of each field. Page 14 lists all of the water used in our system last year, and that the total water used in our system in 1979 was 74,074.90 acre feet.

Clemont said that much is still being said about people with sprinkling systems being able to use more water. He also said that even in good years we have not been able to reach our rights. Broken meters are a terrible problem, and there are 49 people in the valley who will not fix their meters, and it is really a hassle. We have got to force people to fix their broken meters! George Vandenberghe said that meters are simple to fix, and Howard Nelson stated that he has repaired his meter himself. Mr. Norseth stated that it is a serious thing when we shut people off, but there is a solution, and it has been done in other places. It takes the responsibility off of our backs, he said. He went on to say that it is not fair to everyone else for people to overpump when their meters are broken.

Clemont stated that so far as costs, he and his deputy need to be reimbursed for their travel. Mr. Norseth said that most systems pay 30¢ per mile, and Clemont said that he would feel good about that figure. He further stated that inflation has caused him to recommend a 10% increase for him and his deputy. Clemont then resigned as Water Commissioner. George Vandenberghe made the motion that the Commissioner's Report be approved; Howard Nelson seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the members present.

BUDGET: The 1979 budget expenditures were discussed and a budget for 1980 was set up. The total budget for 1980 is \$7,498.25. A copy of the budget is attached hereto and made a part hereof by reference. Wesley Bauer made the motion that the proposed 1980 budget be accepted; Ivor D. Jones seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the members present. Wesley Bauer then made the motion that the total 1980 assessment be accepted; Howard Nelson seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the members present.

Chairman Brent Jones then stated that we needed to make recommendations for a new Water Commissioner. Howard Nelson made the motion that we retain Clemont and his deputy for the coming year; Norman Grimshaw seconded the motion. Howard Nelson then moved that we proceed to ballot; Ivor D. Jones seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by the members present. Mr. Norseth said that the State would move ahead to officially appoint Clemont and his deputy, both of whom do an outstanding job.

Norman Grimshaw then asked for further discussion on pumping more water than is coming into our valley and what can be done about it. Clemont said that the law says that a person has a right to use up to four acre feet of water per acre; it does not say that a person has to use all of that. If a person owns a water right for 100 acres of land, he may pump up to four acre feet per acre

to irrigate that land. If a person is going to extend out, he begins pumping more than he is entitled to. If everyone pumped their rights in this valley, we would soon not be able to pump. Gerald Stoker stated that there is a study underway now where several wells are being monitored to see what depercolation effects they are getting. With floor irrigation there is a 20-30% recharge; with sprinkler type irrigation, if there is any recharge, it is less than 5%. If the expansion of acres is allowed, this is what will happen. Norman Grimshaw then asked how many additional acres have been used as a result of sprinkler systems, and Gerald Stoker said that they had begun a study to determine this but have had to pull off. He estimated, however, that it is probably an additional 40%. Clemont said he figured about 1/3 more land had been put into use. He said a man who is landlocked cannot extend his pumping, and this is not fair. Also, there are a lot of people who are looking for ways to get around Clemont and the regulations. Norman Grimshaw said that he falls into the category of being landlocked, and most people are using the same wells they used before, but are increasing their production. He said that it is his observation that more water has been allocated than there is water available, and the State Engineer should begin to look to cutting off some of the last water allocations, in addition to the sprinkler set up. This valley is at least 30% oversubscribed now, and since 1963, pumping in the valley has increased by 10,000 acre feet. Mr. Grimshaw went on to say that the sooner we address resolves to this problem, the less suffering will take place when hard times come. Sheldon Westorer said that we are not going to stop growth. He said that Monte Vista has 60 acre feet of water, and they are using about 20 acre feet per year. Paul Holper said that at Monte Vista, four people are leaving their meters broken purposely and overpumping, and if the meters are fixed, this should take care of the problem. Clemont said that we need a meter repairman in this area, even though they are simple to fix. Mr. Norseth said that Beaver put into their budget an item called "meter parts" and put in \$1,500.00 for parts. Parts are purchased with this fund so that parts are available for the people to repair their meters. George Vandenberghe wondered about having a spare meter on hand and charging the person who got it so that another one could be purchased. Clemont said that he would have to have four spare meters because of the different sizes. J. Cressel Sherratt suggested that we get some meter parts and have the association buy them, and then get someone to repair the meters. Clemont said that he would not touch a meter to repair it without first having the money. Chairman Brent Jones said he wonders about the possibility of mentioning to Jim Clark about having parts available for meters, at least the ones he sells. Chairman Jones said that he would talk to Mr. Clark about this.

Chairman Jones stated that nominations were in order for a chairman and board. J. Cressel Sherratt nominated Brent Jones; Wesley Bauer seconded the nomination. Norman Grimshaw moved that we retain the present board; Wesley Bauer seconded the motion, and it was unanimously passed by the members present.

Howard Nelson moved that the meeting adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

/s/ LaRee Garfield
Secretary