

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WATER
USERS OF THE BEAVER RIVER SYSTEM

Beaver City, Utah

February 16, 1956

Pursuant to notice given by the State Engineer of the State of Utah, a meeting of the water users of the Beaver River System was held at the County Court House in Beaver City, Utah, at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the 16th day of February, 1956, at which time and place it was determined and declared that a majority of the water users of the system were present.

Present from the State Engineer's office were: Joseph M. Tracy, State Engineer; L. C. Monsen, Chief Deputy; and Frank Reese, Chief Accountant.

Mr. Tracy called the meeting to order, read the call of the meeting, stated the purpose thereof, and then turned the meeting over to Mr. Wallace D. Yardley, who thereupon called for nominations for a chairman and secretary of the meeting.

Upon motion of S. Taylor Farnsworth, seconded by H. C. Stapley and passed unanimously, Wallace D. Yardley was elected chairman.

Upon motion of Amasa Barton, seconded by Ellis Yardley and passed unanimously, C. Victor Smith was elected secretary.

The Secretary then read the minutes of the Water Users and of the Water Users' Committee for the year 1955, which, upon motion of F. D. Williams, seconded by B. Nowers, were unanimously accepted and approved.

Mr. Frank Reese gave the financial report for the system for the year 1955, pointing out that every delinquency and every account was fully paid for the first time in many years. Upon motion of S. Taylor Farnsworth, seconded by Amasa Barton, the report was unanimously approved.

Mr. Walter Mackerell gave his report as water commissioner of the Beaver River System for 1955. Snow coverage and water for 1956 were discussed and forecasts for 1956 were read. Mr. William White requested a report on the run-off of the Beaver River as compared to other years. The total acre-feet of run-off by streams was given for 1955, but the figures for past years were not readily available. Weirs on the various ditches were discussed. Mr. Monson reported that generally the weirs were in good condition, but that about three ditches lacked measuring devices. Upon motion of B. Nowers, seconded by F. D. Williams and passed unanimously the report of the water commissioner was approved. Also an unanimous vote of thanks was given Mr. Mackerell for his work and efforts as water commissioner.

file



The Secretary read applications for the position of water commissioner of the system from Robert A. Brown, Cloyce Lee Strong and DeVon Bohn. S. Taylor Farnsworth reported that at a meeting of the upper users, Lee Strong had been determined to be the preference for the position, and he thereupon nominated Lee Strong. The nomination was seconded by M. J. Warr. Robert A. Brown was nominated by F. D. Williams and the nomination was seconded by Lee R. Fillmore. It was moved by Albert T. Smith, and duly seconded, that nominations cease; and moved by B. Nowers, and duly seconded, that voting be done by secret ballot. Both motions carried and voting for a water commissioner proceeded by secret ballot.

The chairman was duly authorized to appoint three judges to count the ballots. Stanley McKnight, S. Taylor Farnsworth and J. Frank Smith were appointed. The judges determined the results of the voting to be as follows: Lee Strong received 38 votes and Robert A. Brown received 21 votes.

F. D. Williams moved that hereafter voting for a water commissioner be done on a stock or some other equitable basis. Considerable discussion was had on the notion, but there was no second.

Nominations for a Water Users' Committee for 1956 were called for. J. S. Murdock nominated Stanley McKnight to replace Mr. Sam Cline. The nomination was seconded by F. D. Williams. F. D. Williams moved that all the 1955 members of the Water Users' Committee, with the exception of Sam Cline, be retained for another year. The motion was seconded by B. Nowers and unanimously carried. Carry-over members were Wallace D. Yardley, John G. White, Amasa Barton and J. S. Murdock.

It was duly moved, seconded, and passed unanimously, that the newly elected Water Users' Committee be authorized to set up a budget for 1956, and that the State Engineer be authorized to make assessments accordingly.

Albert T. Smith moved that in future years voting for a water commissioner be done on a dollar assessment basis. The motion was seconded by Clair Rollins, and upon being put to a vote was unanimously passed.

Mr. Tracy discussed the method of levying assessments and stated that at present assessments were made on the basis of decreed rights, but that perhaps a more satisfactory method, and one approved by the Supreme Court, was on the basis of a five-year average of water delivered. No further recommendation or action was taken on the matter.

Present business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned subject to further call of the State Engineer.

Dated at Beaver City, Utah, this 16th day of February, 1956.


Secretary