

MAY 8 1990

WATER RIGHTS  
PRICEDARYLE M. REDD  
MONTICELLO, UTAH

I first became affiliated with the Blue Mt. Irrigation Co. in the early 1930's. The officers of the company were, as I remember, H. Lloyd Hansen, Pres.; Charles E. Walton, Vice Pres.; F. Peter Jones, Sec-Tres.; D..B. Perkins, board member. He also served as Water Commissioner for many years; I believe until he died. He represented all water users in the area. Wilson Allred was another board member. He also served as water master and ditch foreman for many years; I believe until he died also. I think there were two more, but I can't remember who. There were many others as the years went by. I was elected as a board member in the late 30's and held that position or as president until about 1975.

We usually started cleaning the ditches about the middle of March and tried to pick up some early water to put in the resevoirs and be ready to use what little bit of water that had been allocated for the first of May. Later on, the court allowed us to use a very small amount of water in April for irrigation.

The water rights were based on the Shelly Report. I can't remember the year that this study was made, but have been told by many people that it was probably the wettest and latest in the season of any year we have ever had.

This report was made on the conditions of that year and that year alone, by one man who was not familiar with the conditions in this area. That year, the water started running late, and ran all summer. That particular year, there was no need for water until later in the season. Mr. Shelly must have determined that we needed only a very little water in May, but in June when the land started to dry out and there were rivers of water running was when we should receive the maximum amount of water and continue receiving it as long as the water continued to run. However, only the land that was cleared and planted to crops was eligible to receive water. It must be remembered that the area was in the early stages of development and most of the land under this project had not as yet been put to the plow.

Because there was a lot of water that year, and a lot of water was used for a long period of time, Mr. Shelly must have figured this would be the condition of every year. If we were to come close to using as much water on an ordinary year as was used that year, the irrigation season would have to start when the water starts to run in April. The Pioneers, who developed this system, used the water when it was needed. They made good, beneficial

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use of the water. The water had to be used when it was available, and this was in April, at least 99 times out of a 100 that was the situation.

It is my opinion that the Blue Mt. Irrigation Co. should be allowed at least twice as much water as the Shelly report calls for; first, because this is ordinarily a very dry area and requires more water than it did the year the study was made. Second, because there was still a great amount of land under the system which would have to be put under irrigation as developments were made and third, because the Blue Mt. Irrigation Co. had the prior rights to this water. They developed the first culinary water system for Monticello. This water was used for livestock. Every family had several milk cows and horses that were watered from this system.

I am reminded of the agricultural system used in Russia. I understand and have read reports of their program. They have an agricultural committee that specified the day for plowing. This must be done on that day no matter what the conditions. There is also a planting date and a harvesting date. Even so, this program was set up after many years of study and by many men who have determined what is the best policy to follow. They are probably right about 99 times out of 100. We have here a situation with the Shelly Report where one man made a study on a very abnormal year, ONE YEAR, and one which would be applicable one year out of 100.

So it is with the Shelly report. It is impossible to use the water when it has come and gone before we are allowed to use it, or stretch one foot of water to five or ten feet when it is needed, even though the water is available but not allowable.

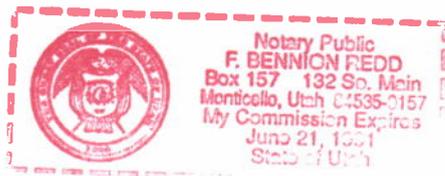
A billion dollars is being spent to bring water to the Wasatch front and Central Utah for irrigation purposes via the C.U.P. project. Water that was never intended to be used in these areas. Certainly no land owners filed on this water to be used in these areas and no beneficial use has ever been made of this water in these areas. But because they need it and have the votes, they can get it. But we are not even allowed to use what little bit of water that run off the Blue Mt. in the South Creek and North Creek drainage areas even though the water was filed on and beneficial use was made and proven for many years.

High water users who have very small filings are using much more water than those who have prior rights and much larger filings.

*Daryle M. Redd*  
4-17-90

State of Utah                    )  
  ) ss.  
County of San Juan            )

On this 17th day of April, 1990, personally appeared before me Daryle M. Redd, who upon oath acknowledged that he executed the foregoing statement, that he has read the same and knows the contents thereof, and the same is true of his own knowledge except as to those matter stated upon information and belief as as to those matters, he believes them to be true.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "F. Bennion Redd".

F. Bennion Redd  
Notary public, residing at  
Monticello, Utah