

Minutes of the Henry's Fork Distribution System Annual Meeting March 11, 2010

The meeting convened at approximately 4:10 p.m. at the Schoolhouse in McKinnon, Wyoming.

Lee Sim called the meeting to order. Ben Anderson read the minutes of the 2009 annual meeting. Jon Wilde motioned to approve the minutes. Jon Eyre seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Todd Covolo gave his report of the 2009 irrigation season. He reported the following:

- 1) 2009 started out with well below average flow but later improved with about average runoff.
 - 2) Instructed water users on how they could help him operate the system more efficiently.
 - 3) Noted there were three enforcement letters issued by Utah Division of Water Rights during the year for maintenance issues.
 - 4) Noted that locking Headgates are needed on the Gregory Basin Ditch in order to operate it correctly.
 - 5) Presented the 2008 (previous year) flow data for review and comment.
 - 6) Noted the flows he reports manually are always after he makes any necessary Headgate adjustments.
 - 7) The Utah Division of Water Rights applied a linear interpolation to the 2009 commissioner's spot check readings to estimate daily and annual water deliveries at each Utah diversion regulated by the commissioner.
 - 8) Water users should first talk with Todd if they have questions or concerns regarding water deliveries and flow data.
 - 9) Baldy Springs Ditch users should consider becoming an irrigation company to help better manage their own deliveries within their ditch, which services both states. Discussion ensued on how to best enforce regulation along this ditch.
- Bill Gamble made the motion to approve the commissioner's 2009 Report. Jon Wilde seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lee Sim read a letter he sent to the Utah water users (that either was or should have been sent to the Utah water users) regarding the installation of telemetry in Utah by the State of Wyoming. He indicated his letter could be sent again if anyone didn't receive it.

There was discussion on the Wyoming telemetry equipment installed in Utah. Water users voiced concerns about the O&M costs of these stations being assessed to the water users. Jade Henderson, representing the Wyoming State Engineer's Office, indicated the Wyoming legislature funds the telemetry. He stated that because these are installed at existing measuring devices, none of the installation or operation and maintenance costs come from the water users. Discussion ensued on how telemetry usually decreases the time needed for maintaining the same level of service in regulating the water. There were concerns that the data may increase the time or the number of trips required by the

commissioner. Its purpose is to specifically decrease operation costs by reducing the time and travel expenses by monitoring those stations or flows that are the most meaningful to the commissioner and/or the most difficult for him to access.

The 2009 Financial report was presented. The 2009 operating expenses for the entire system were \$13,828.44. Utah's share is set at 30% of the total, which is \$4,148.53, which will be assessed to the Utah Water users by the Utah Division of Water Rights. This was down from \$5,779.10 assessed in 2008 due to less time required by the commissioner to operate the system during 2009.

Jade Henderson indicated that new telemetry sites are proposed and are based on operational recommendations. They plan to install telemetry at Interstate, Ike, Gamble, Bullock, Big, and maybe other diversions in the future. These stations typically cost anywhere from \$1000 -\$5000 each.

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Attendees:

State Water Officials in attendance included:

Jade Henderson, WY State Engineer's Office
Lee Sim, UT Division of Water Rights
Bob Leake, UT Division of Water Rights
Ben Anderson, UT Division of Water Rights
Andrew Dutson, UT Division of Water Rights
Todd Covolo, Water Commissioner
Meeting attendance roster lists water users in attendance