

**MINUTES OF THE LOWER SAN PITCH RIVER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**  
**January 13, 1999**  
**Commissioner's Chambers, San Pete County Courthouse**

The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. and was conducted by Dave Cox, chairman of the distribution system. The minutes were then read by John Larsen of the Division of Water Rights. No corrections were needed to the minutes so a motion was made by Eugene Jensen to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Hal Jensen. Motion carried.

Mr. Lee Sim then gave the financial report of the distribution system. The balance of the distribution funds as of January 1, 1998 was \$7,408.10. Total receipts were \$14,902.56, expenditures were \$11,634.37 leaving a ending balance of \$10,676.29. There were only two accounts delinquent at the end of the year for a total of \$772.56. Inquiry was made as to who owns account 2B which has been in the name of Edward Thomson. This water use on this account is down in the bottom lands. Mr. Sim said that the Division would pursue this account to resolve who owns the account and then get it paid. A motion was then made by Mardell Jensen, seconded by Juel Rasmussen to accept the financial report as given. The motion carried.

Chairman, Dave Cox then asked the commissioner, Lowell Anderson, to give his commissioner's report on the system. The commissioner passed out copies of the prepared report to the water users. The commissioner said the water year 1998 was the best runoff year since he has been commissioner. The runoff came off slowly and consistently so that there was sufficient supply the entire spring and summer. Heavy summer rains in June and July really helped the situation. He still is having problems with vandalism occurring at the measuring stations and diversions. Silting was a problem at most of the diversions during the season, particularly at the Mayfield Canal where silt deposits were so bad that good measurement readings could not be obtained. Some fairly extensive flooding did occur in the Spring City area due to heavy summer thunderstorm activity. A motion was then made by Juel Rasmussen to accept the commissioner's report as given, seconded by Jeff Lamb. The motion was approved by all.

Mr. Dave Cox then asked Mr. Sim of the Division of Water Rights to cover budget items for next year. Lee suggested the salary for the commissioner be increased to stay within the guidelines which make him eligible for retirement at \$8,500.00. This will give him a \$200.00 increase in salary. Travel was set at \$1,200.00, no bonding expense was needed because a bill introduced into the legislature last year passed eliminating the need for bonding. Contractual services were set at \$500.00, insurance at \$175.00, secretarial expense at \$50.00, telephone expense at \$50.00, annual report at \$100.00, equipment expense at \$500.00 and miscellaneous expense at \$125.00 for a total budget for 1999 at \$13,181.00 with the assessment set at \$7,000.00. With no further discussion of the budget and assessment, a motion was made by Jay Olsen and seconded by Eugene Jensen to accept the budget and assessment as presented, the voting was unanimous.

John Larsen then discussed a program in which the Bureau of Reclamation has grant money available for the development of water conservation activities that promote the preparation of written water management and conservation plans; demonstrate new or unfamiliar water management

technologies and practices; implement activities identified in written water management plans; and promote improved understanding of good water use practices and principles. He stated that last year \$600,000.00 was available in grants at maximum amounts of \$25,000.00. He passed out letters from Janice Richardson of the Bureau accompanied by application forms for those who were interested. These applications should be submitted by the end of September of this year to the Bureau of Reclamation.

Lee discussed a proposed bill that would change the term of the commissioners from one to four years because this would bring greater stability to the commissioner's position. The water users would still be able to review the commissioner's performance each year and if there was just cause, could remove him from the position if necessary. It takes many years for a commissioner new on the job to learn his duties and become familiar with the responsibilities on the river. This would change the philosophy from "do we reappoint the commissioner for another year" to "is there any reason why we should not have him continue his duties." The consensus of the water users was they are in favor of the proposal.

The systems directors were then discussed by Dave Cox. Dave mentioned there ought to be a replacement for <sup>L.C.E.</sup> Dwight Malmgren. A vote was placed before the group to have Sherwyn Sorenson to replace <sup>Lee</sup> Dwight Malmgren and the remainder of the committee to stay the same by Eugene Jensen, seconded by Jeff Lamb. The voting was unanimous.

With no further business to be conducted, a motion was made by Dave Cox to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Those attending the meeting were:

Lee Sim	Division of Water Rights
John S. Larsen	Division of Water Rights
Kirk Forbush	Division of Water Rights
Terry Monroe	Division of Water Rights
Dave Cox	Chairman
Lowell R. Anderson	Commissioner
Eugene Jensen	Gunnison Irrigation Company
Jeff Lamb	Water User
Mardell Jensen	Gunnison Irrigation Company
Jay Olsen	Water User
Juel Rasmussen	Water User
Halbert K. Jensen	Water User