

**MINUTES OF THE LOWER SAN PITCH RIVER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM  
ANNUAL WATER USERS MEETING**

January 14, 1998  
Sanpete County Courthouse  
County Commission Chambers

ATTENDING

Lowell R. Anderson  
Halbert K. Jensen  
Jay T. Olsen  
Mardell Jensen  
Juel B. Rasmussen  
Jason Buck  
David Cox  
Eugene Jensen  
John S. Larsen  
Lee Sim  
Kirk Forbush  
Terry Monroe  
Gene Yardley

REPRESENTING

River Commissioner  
Water User  
Ephraim Olsen Bagnell Ditch  
Gunnison Irrigation  
Manti Sanpitch Drainage  
Water User  
Sanpitch River Drainage Dist.  
Gunnison Irrigation Co.  
Division of Water Rights  
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Division of Water Rights  
Gunnison Irrigation Co.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by chairman David Cox who was conducting the meeting. The minutes of the previous year's meeting were read by John Larsen. No corrections were needed to the minutes, so a motion was made to accept them by Eugene Jensen, seconded by Richard Nielson, all approved.

Lee Sim read the financial statement for 1997. The amount expended for each line item of the budget was reviewed. Juel Rasmussen made a motion to accept the financial statement as read. Mardell Jensen seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous.

Lowell Anderson then gave his commissioner's report. Lowell stated that the water year is different every year in amount and duration of the runoff. 1997 was a very good year, better than 1996 or 1995. All streams in the system had good runoff with some flooding occurring during the snowmelt. Gunnison Reservoir filled early but due to the lack of summer precipitation, releases were requested by the water users. At the end of the irrigation season there was still water in the reservoir to be stored for the 1998 season. Lowell said that much of his time is spent maintaining the gaging stations to keep them working correctly. He lost three staff gages this past year due to spring flooding. Vandalism by gun fire continues to be a problem with the gaging stations. He contacted Frandsen-Noble Engineering concerning the installation of a station at Twelve Mile Creek, but due to the high water flows this installation was not done.

Eugene Jensen then complimented the commissioner for the good work he has done on the system and motioned to accept his report, seconded by Juel Rasmussen, all approved.

A motion was then made by Juel Rasmussen to nominate Lowell Anderson for commissioner for 1998, seconded by Jay Olsen, all approved

Lee Sim then discussed the budget and assessment for the upcoming year. The budget for the year was set at \$13,027.00 and the assessment at \$9,100.00. A motion was made by Eugene Jensen, seconded by Jay Olsen to accept the budget and assessment as discussed. The voting was unanimous.

Kirk Forbush discussed groundwater policy for this area. It is closed to new applications. Inquiry was made concerning change applications on shares of irrigation company stock and how this water is to be accounted for. Kirk mentioned once a change is approved for the drilling of a well, the irrigation company is to allow the amount of water represented by the share to flow on down the river because that portion of water right is now delivered from the well approved by the change. The share and change application remain in the name of the irrigation company.

A review of the board of directors was then made by the water users. A motion was then made by Jay Olsen, seconded by Joel Rasmussen to the keep the board the same as last year. The motion was unanimous.

Mr. Sim then discussed proposed legislation (House Bill 302) by the Division of Water Rights concerning the conveyance of the water rights with respect to ownership. This legislation if passed would help clarify how ownership is to transfer with the selling and buying of water rights.

There being no other items of business, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.