

MILL CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ANNUAL MEETING

MARCH 4, 1999

The annual meeting of the Mill Creek Distribution System was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on March 4, 1999 by Chairman Dale Pierson. Chairman Pierson indicated that when voting on matters of business in this meeting, each water user, or entity, would have one vote. Those who would be recognized are the Moab Irrigation Company, Grand County Water & Sewer Service Agency, Janie Walker, Farnsworths on South Mesa, Greg McKennis on Wilson Mesa, and Vicky Morrison on Horse Creek. Jimmy Farnsworth indicated that he had received permission to represent Greg McKennis by proxy vote. The Chairman indicated that this would be acceptable.

The first item of business on the agenda was a review of the minutes for the 1998 meeting. The minutes were read by Mark Page. There were no additions or corrections made. A motion was made by George Carter, and seconded by Janie Walker, to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed.

A discussion of the 1998 Financial Statement was led by Mr. Lee Sim. He indicated that as of January 1, 1998 there was \$5682.76 in the Trust Account. During 1998, receipts totaled \$4394.17, of which \$4119.53 was collected from regular assessments, \$30.84 in delinquent penalties, and \$243.80 in interest. Expenditures totaled \$4287.30. There is currently one delinquent account in the amount of \$169.43, part of which was paid at the meeting. The balance in the Trust Account as of December 31, 1998 was \$5789.63. It should be noted that the Commissioner still needs to be paid for his services during 1998, which will be \$4339.00, leaving a balance of \$1450.63. Mr. Sim indicated that the 1999 State Legislature amended the statute to require the transfer of the Commissioner's funds from Zions Bank to a Trust Fund with the State Treasurer's office. Following a brief discussion of the Financial Statement, a motion was made by George Carter, and seconded by Janie Walker, to accept the Financial Statement as read. The vote was unanimous.

The next item of business to be considered by the water users was the Commissioner's Report for 1998. Commissioner Robert Byrnes stated that 1998 was a very good water year. He noted that the South Mesa diversion had been repaired, and was working. Recommendations made by the Commissioner included repairs to the Wilson Mesa Ditch at Schuman Gulch. A great deal of water is lost through this area. The parshall flume in Wilcox Flat also needs to be leveled.

The Moab Irrigation Company, and Mr. Farnsworth feel that the North Mesa flume in Wilcox Flat should be moved closer to the diversion. Its current location was probably chosen so that they are not charged for the evaporation from Warner Lake, which is owned and operated by the Forest Service. No action was taken on this matter.

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Mr. Jimmy Farnsworth also questioned the validity of the Commissioner's records on the South Mesa Ditch. He asked Mr. Byrnes for a copy of his readings for 1998. He was also concerned about being shut off, or his flow being reduced each summer. It was decided that better communication between the water users and the Commissioner would resolve this situation. Chairman Pierson also felt that bi-monthly meetings should be held during the irrigation season, to review the water delivery records. The first meeting was scheduled for March 26, 1999.

The diversions to Moab Irrigation Company and Walkers continue to be difficult to get an accurate reading. The flumes are usually submerged because the various systems are piped now and are normally operated under pressure. This results in the submergence of the flumes. The meter on Pipeline #3 continues to run backwards at times, however it only occurred a few times this past year. This flow is redelivered through Pipeline #4. All of these problems need to be addressed.

Following the Commissioner's Report, a motion was made by Janie Walker, and seconded by George Carter, to accept the Commissioner's Report. Voting in support of the motion were Moab Irrigation Company, the District, and Janie Walker. Descending votes were cast by Farnsworths and McKennis. The motion passed.

The next item of business was the preparation of the budget for 1999. It was suggested that the Commissioner be given a 3% raise in 1999. Everyone agreed except Farnsworth and McKennis. After a brief discussion, Jimmy Farnsworth made a motion to set the budget as outlined below, and assess the budget. The motion was seconded by Ned Dalton. The motion passed unanimously. It should be noted that the assessments will be based on an average of the past five years of record because of the incomplete information that is currently available. The budget for 1999 is as follows:

Commissioner's Salary	\$3090.00
Social Security	237.00
Travel Expenses	1500.00
Insurance	70.00
Annual Report	100.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total	\$5047.00

Chairman Pierson directed the discussion towards the recommendation of a Commissioner for 1999. Mr. Carter made the motion that Robert Byrnes be retained for another year of service, and requested that the State Engineer approve his appointment. The motion was seconded by Ned Dalton. Sustaining votes were received from Moab Irrigation Company, the District, and Janie Walker. Descending votes were cast by Farnsworth and McKennis.

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The final item of business was the appointment of a Water User's Committee to transact any necessary business during 1999. A motion was made by Ned Dalton, and seconded by Jimmy Farnsworth, to reappoint the same committee that served in 1998. All present voted in the affirmative. The committee is as follows:

Dale Pierson	Chairman
George Carter	Moab Irrigation Company
Janie Walker	Self
Jimmy Farnsworth	Mesa Users

It was noted that the current Snotel information indicates a snow water equivalent of 51% at the LaSal Mountain site, compared to 96% in 1998. It is expected that 1999 will be a poor water year. The February 1 forecast flow on Mill Creek was 3240 acre-feet of water, which is 54% of normal.

The matter of placing flow meters on the valley diversions was discussed again. Right-of-ways still need to be obtained, and clarified before the work can take place. The District has the meters on hand. The water users were again encouraged to diligently proceed with the completion of this project. Some discussion ensued about the possibility of placing meters on the Mesa diversions, as well. This will be looked into for future consideration. Jimmy Farnsworth will visit with agencies to see what funding might be available. The water users should keep in touch with the Division in regards to these matters.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Those present at the meeting included the following:

Janie Walker	Self
James Farnsworth	South Mesa
George Carter	Moab Irrigation Company
Dale Pierson	Mill Creek Distribution System - Chairman
Ned Dalton	Grand County Water Conservancy District
James L. Walker	Moab Irrigation Company
Bob Byrnes	Mill Creek Commissioner
Lee Sim	Division of Water Rights - SLC
John Larsen	Division of Water Rights - SLC
Mark Page	Division of Water Rights - Price