

Minutes of the 1962 Annual Meeting
POT CREEK DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
February 6, 1962 Vernal, Utah

SUMMARY

The water users of the Pot Creek Distribution System met with representatives of the State Engineer of Utah and the State Engineer of Colorado at 6:25 p.m., Tuesday, February 6, 1962, in the Court Room of the Uintah County Courthouse, Vernal, Utah. Mr. David R. Rasmussen of Vernal, Utah was recommended to be water commissioner for 1962. A budget of \$800.00 was adopted and the water users voted to assess themselves \$800.00 with a \$10.00 minimum assessment for stockwatering rights. Colorado will pay 20% of the total assessment, or \$160.00, and the Utah water users will pay 80%, or \$640.00.

The following executive committee was re-appointed for the 1962 distribution year; William Allen, Chairman, Rulon Hacking, secretary, and Ray Siddoway, committee member.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The meeting was called to order by Clarence E. Erickson, Jr., distribution engineer of the Utah State Engineer's Office. He introduced his associates from the Utah office; Frank Reese, comptroller, T. Vinton Smith, accountant, and Robert F. Guy, area engineer of the Vernal office. Mr. Wesley E. Signs of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, was introduced to the group. He represented J.E. Whitten, State Engineer of Colorado and the Colorado rights. A list of the water users attending the meeting is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Erickson discussed the assessment formula that had ^{been} prepared for the Pot Creek Distribution System and explained in detail the method used to assess the water users for Utah's portion of the Pot Creek assessment. A copy of the formula and assessment policy was given to everyone at the meeting. The water outlook for the coming year was reported to be more favorable than the 1961 year, and a general discussion of the water supply forecast was given by Mr. Erickson from reports compiled by the Weather Bureau and Soil Conservation Service.

It was pointed out that this was the water users' meeting, and that the representatives of the state engineer were here to receive their recommendations concerning a commissioner, budget and assessment for 1962. A call of the meeting was read, this notice was sent to all the water users on the Pot Creek Distribution System.

The meeting was turned over to William Allen, chairman. Mr. Allen requested that Mr. Erickson act as temporary chairman for the rest of the annual meeting. T. Vinton Smith, accountant of the Utah State Engineer's Office was requested to act as temporary secretary and to take the minutes of the 1962 meeting.

Mr. Joseph Calder asked that the acre feet of water delivered to each account of the irrigators be put on the annual assessment notice. Mr. Erickson commented that on such a small system as Pot Creek this could be done, provided that the State Engineer's business office would go along with the request.

The minutes of the 1961 annual meeting were read by Mr. Erickson. A motion was made by William Allen and seconded by William Karren that the 1961 minutes be approved as read. Motion carried.

1961 FINANCIAL REPORT

Frank Reese, comptroller, Utah State Engineer's Office, gave the financial report for 1961. He stated that because of an apparent misunderstanding concerning the payment to the commissioner of the salary and travel, the vouchers submitted by the commissioner did not separate the two items and he paid income tax on his travel pay. He regrets that the vouchers were not corrected by his office and the error discovered earlier in the year.

Mr. Reese explained that the minimum premiums that the bonding companies would except in 1962 would be \$10.00, at \$3.50 per \$1,000.00 of coverage. He said that if the commissioner for Pot Creek and Brush Creek is the same person again, this cost of insuring the commissioner could be borne by the two systems on a 50-50 basis. Mr. Reese pointed out that since July 1, 1961 the river system commissioners and their deputies came under the mandatory state retirement at 4% of their gross salaries. The river system must match the 4% deducted from the commissioner's salary. Letters were sent to the executive committees of all the river systems, explaining the mandatory retirement participation program and they were asked in some cases for authorization to overexpend certain budget items to cover the new budget item which appears in the 1961 Financial Statements. Pot Creek did not have adequate bank reserves and so the money was loaned to the system to pay the matching state retirement. \$52.29 was advanced from the state engineer to the Pot Creek Distribution System, and this amount would have to be paid back in 1962.

Mr. Stringham asked what stockwatering rights were assessed in 1961. It was stated that there was a \$1.00 minimum for stockwatering rights for 1961. Mr. Stringham left shortly after the financial report was completed. The minimum assessment was later changed to \$10.00 by the water users in their adoption of a budget and assessment for 1962.

A motion was made by Zelph Calder and seconded by William Allen that the 1961 Financial Statement be approved as read. Motion carried.

Mr. Reese again explained the assessment method, and pointed out that 864.4 acre feet were delivered in 1960 and this was used as the basis for assessing the irrigators in 1961. The cost was 53 cents per acre foot. The 20 stockwatering rights paid \$1.00 each. The following actual and simulated water deliveries were recorded by the commissioner: William Allen, 531.0 ac.-ft.; Zelph Calder, 234.36 ac.-ft.; Leo Calder, 44.64 ac.-ft.; Wm. W. Siddoway, 54.40 ac.-ft.

Mr. Erickson pointed out that the water commissioner's records must be used in reporting to the court and for administrative purposes of the state engineer and the water users.

1961 COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Mr. David Rasmussen, Pot Creek Water Commissioner for 1961, presented his report in relatively rough draft form. He said that his final report had not yet been completed, and that it was just a matter of typing and compiling the final report. He said that there were more problems in 1961, some caused by the lack of proper recording and measuring devices. He noted that the weir below Matt Warner Reservoir, belonging to Zelph Calder, needs to be replaced. He used what measuring devices were available and whatever he could devise. Mr. Rasmussen said that his final report would carry a complete coverage of the method of handling the water in Matt Warner and Crouse Reservoirs and the water released to the Colorado rights. He stated that the USGS gage would show that 50% of the water delivered to Colorado rights reached the Colorado line.

The commissioner recommended an earlier release from Matt Warner Res. to prior rights downstream to avoid the large channel losses that were encountered in 1961. He pointed out that much water could be salvaged by releases during the early season when the creek was wet and temperatures were lower.

Mr. Calder said that he had hired an engineer to make independent measurements, and he would like these special measurements made by Mr. Louie Galloway to be submitted with the commissioner's report. He stated a definite disagreement with the manner in which the water was handled in 1961 and to the water rights prior to those of his reservoir. Mr. Erickson stated that the state engineer would like to have a copy of Mr. Galloway's report. Mr. Calder said that a copy would be mailed to the Salt Lake office, and that he would appreciate having it entered in the 1961 Pot Creek record.

A discussion followed concerning the responsibility of reservoir management. Mr. Erickson said that the owner of the reservoir must provide the facilities to measure inflow, provide adequate outlet works and provide for measuring waters released from the reservoir. These are in addition to the normal reservoir survey and reservoir gage. These costs must be borne by the owner of the reservoir.

A question was raised by Clifton McCoy concerning the backing up of the reservoir water on land adjacent to his grazing pastures. His stock are unable to get through the mud to the water that is left in the Matt Warner Reservoir and he has to haul water to his stock. He said that the stockwatering rights should be protected along with the rights of the irrigators. After some discussion it was recommended that the earlier releases from the reservoir might prevent this mudding condition, caused by the sudden drawdown of the reservoir when releases are ordered.

The commissioner's report was approved as read.

1 9 6 2 B U D G E T

The following budget was adopted for 1962. The motion was made by Wm. Karren and seconded by Wm. Allen. Motion carried.

Contractual Services (\$25.00 per day).....	\$625.00
Annual Report.....	30.00
Bonds and Insurance.....	15.00
Reimbursement to Utah State Engineer for River System loan in 1961.	52.29
Miscellaneous expenses.....	77.71
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Total	\$800.00

1 9 6 2 A S S E S S M E N T

It was moved by William Karren and seconded by William Allen that the water users of Pot Creek assess themselves \$800.00 to cover distribution costs for 1962 and payment of 1961 outstanding debts, and that the minimum assessment for 1962 will be \$10.00. Motion carried. The state engineer was authorized to assess the Pot Creek users on the basis set out in the formula and the admendments and estension agreements of the Memorandum of Understanding (April 1, 1958) between the State Engineer of Utah and the State Engineer of Colorado. In 1962, Colorado will pay 20% of the assessment, and Utah water users will pay 80% of the assessment.

The 1962 assessment of \$800.00 is broken down as follows:

Colorado (20%).....	\$160.00
Utah Water Users (80%).....	640.00
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	\$800.00

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Utah Water Users (\$640.00)	
20 stockwatering rights.....	\$200.00
3 Irrigation rights.....	440.00

Irrigation rights are assessed on 1961 acre foot delivery.

Bill Allen	709.20	acre feet
Zelph Calder	241.60	" "
Leo Calder	82.00	
Wm. W. Siddoway	54.40	
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	1,087.20	acre feet.

Mr. Calder requested that the minutes of this meeting show that he wanted to discuss further Colorado's portion or proportion of the assessment with the State Engineer of Colorado.

1962 COMMISSIONER

It was moved by William Allen and seconded by Clifton McCoy that David Rasmussen be recommended to be the 1962 Pot Creek Water Commissioner. Motion carried.

Mr. Calder wanted the minutes to show that he objects to the commissioner begin recommended subject to his not being able to be at the reservoir on April 1 through June 1. Mr. Calder felt that the state engineer should do something about it, and that the commissioner should be available at all times.

Mr. Rasmussen said that he would be at the reservoir as much as possible during the 1962 season, as long as it was in line with proper distribution of the waters of Pot Creek. He pointed out that he had more requests for the commissioner reports and he would try to get them ready as soon as possible.

1962 Executive Committee;

It was moved by Wm. Karren and seconded by Clifton McCoy that the 1961 Executive committee be retained for 1962. Motion carried.

The following are members of the 1962 Executive Committee:

- William Allen, chairman
- Rulon Hacking, secretary
- Ray Siddoway, member.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Attending the 1962 Annual Pot Creek water users meeting were:

Clarence E. Erickson, Jr.	Distribution Engineer, Utah State Engineer's Office
Frank Reese	Comptroller, Utah State Engineer's Office
T. Vinton Smith	Accountant, Utah State Engineer's Office
Robert F. Guy	Area Engineer, Vernal, Utah State Engineer
Wesley E. Signs	District Engineer, Representing State of Colorado
Dave Rasmussen	1961 Water Commissioner
William Karren	Pot Creek - Colorado Rights
Ralph Siddoway	Pot Creek water user
Clifton McCoy	"
Pearl McCarrel	"
B. M. Stringham	"
Zelph Calder	"
Joseph Calder	"
Rulon S. Hacking	"
Ray Siddoway	"
William Allen	" , chairman

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Minutes submitted by T. Vinton Smith, and Clarence E. Erickson, Jr., Utah State Engineer's Office.