

MINUTES OF 2001 ANNUAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Sevier River Water Users Association held at the Sevier County Courthouse, Richfield, Utah, Thursday, February 1, 2001 at 1:00 p.m.

Due, legal and timely notice having been given as required by law and the Order of the Board.

There were present the following Officers and Directors:

PRESENT:

Kurt Sorenson, President-Sanpete County
Ivan Cowley, Vice President-Sevier County
Afton Blood, Director-Piute County
Phill Nielson, Director-Millard County
Sheldon Proctor, Director-Garfield County
Clyde Bunker, Director-Millard County
Russell Christensen, Director-Sevier County
Dean S. Anderson, Secretary

ABSENT:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Ray J. Owens, Upper Sevier River Commissioner
Jim Walker, Lower Sevier River Commissioner
Lee Sim, Division of Water Rights

The meeting was called to order by ^{KURT SORENSON}~~Ivan Cowley~~ who presided at the meeting. An opening prayer was given by Jerry Skeem.

The Secretary then read the minutes of the annual meeting of the Sevier River Water Users Association held on February 1, 2000. Upon a motion by Jerry Skeem and second by Brent Cowley, the minutes were approved as read.

President Sorenson turned the floor over to Lee Sim from the Division of Water Rights who gave a report of the 2000 expenditures and receipts. Expenses for the years was \$147,952.98. The budget for the upcoming 2001 year has been set at \$168,004.00, with the 2001 assessment at \$140,000.00. Mr. Sim noted that there was a total of \$6,582 in delinquent assessments. Ivan Cowley noted that a 4.5% raise had been given the two commissioners, with their travel being set at \$11,300 for Commissioner Walker and \$15,000 to Commissioner Owens. A motion was made by Wayne Ballard to approve the proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Jerry Skeem and passed unanimously.

Time was given to Commissioner Jim Walker who discussed the water supply for the lower river. Sevier Bridge Reservoir is at 70.6' with about 70,920 a.f. of new storage water through February 1. There is about 230 cfs of inflow. Sevier Bridge should make the 89,280 a.f. storage priority by April 1, meaning that no water will have to be released from Piute Reservoir to fill that first priority. Mr.

Walker expected the primary flows to be around 60% verses 64% in the previous year.

Time was given to Commissioner Ray Owens to report on the water supply for the upper river. The snow pack is better on the southern end over the norther end of the Sevier basin. Panguitch Lake is expected to fill. Otter Creek Reservoir is at 47% full with Piute Reservoir at 67% full. There is 30,351 a.f. of net new storage water. Mr. Owens estimated the new water make to April 1 at 56,201 a.f. He noted that the realtime system is working good.

Clyde Bunker reported on legal issues effecting irrigation companies. There is a bill that went into law last year that goes into effect on April 30. It deals with how companies can vote. He encouraged all to look at their By Laws and Article of Incorporation. Senate Bill 51 is a current bill dealing with each individual being able to file a change application rather than the company that owns the actual water right. Mr. Bunker noted that there has been a lot of discussion regarding partial forfeiture. He noted that there may a bill this year, and if not, there is current court case dealing with the issue.

Lee Sim noted that regulations had changed in dealing with the way river commissioners were employed. The terms had always been 12 months but now have been changed to be terms of four years. Jarvus Sorenson moved to recommend that the two commissioners be re-appointed for a terms of four years. The motion was seconded by Brent Cowley and passed unanimously.

President Sorenson held elections to fill the expired terms of Sheldon Proctor, Ivan Cowley and Clyde Bunker whose terms had expired. Jarvus Sorenson moved that all rules and regulations to the contrary be suspended, and that all three members of the board be put in by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Jerry Skeem and passed unanimously.

Garn Christensen urged too present to work together as one river system.

Robert Nielson asked about the lower river being against any new reservoirs. Clyde Bunker noted that other than a few surplus years, all of the water is totally consumed. The lower users didn't feel that the extra water come often enough to justify the environmental strings and problems that would come with a new reservoir. There was a lengthy discussion regarding surplus water and the validity of the information presented in a recent report by Franson-Noble & Associates verses a rebutal presented by the DMADC companies.

Brent Cowley moved that a letter representing each irrigation company present be sent to Senator Leonard Blackham showing non support for Senate Bill 51, with the letter be signed by the board members. The motion was seconded by Russell Christensen and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Chris Fullmer moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jarvus Sorenson and passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

Secretary

President