

**MINUTES OF THE  
SEVIER RIVER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ANNUAL MEETING  
February 18, 1999  
Sevier County Courthouse, Commissioner's Chambers**

The annual meeting was called to order at 1:00 am with Clyde Bunker conducting. The invocation was given by Jerry Skeen. Clyde welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that secretary for the committee, Dean Anderson was not present and was excused. The reading of the minutes of last year were read by Clyde Bunker. There was one correction to the eighth paragraph of minutes to read "There is proposed legislation that will change 73-1-11 which deals on how water rights are transferred when property is divided". Divided was changed to sold. With that correction made to the minutes, a motion to accept the minutes was made by Jerry Skeen, seconded by Leland Riggs, motion passed.

Mr. Lee Sim of the Division of Water Rights then read the financial report for the past year. The balance of the distribution funds at the beginning of 1998 was: \$65,645.40, receipts at \$134,331.72, and expenditures at \$152,458.34 leaving a balance at the end of the year of \$47,518.78. There were eight delinquent accounts at the end of the year at \$1,136.62. Lee mentioned the reason expenditures exceeded receipts was because we did not budget for the river study that was conducted last year. A motion was then made by Phill Nelson to accept the financial report, seconded by Sheldon Proctor, the voting was unanimous.

Commissioners Ray Owens and Jim Walker then gave their reports. Ray indicated the reservoirs are full in anticipation of low snowpack on the drainage. This year as of this date the Upper Sevier River drainage snowpack is only 84% of normal as compared to 120% last year at this time. Ray mentioned he put 40 cfs into the creek channel at Tropic reservoir and it took 7 days for the stream to reach the end of John's Valley. Ray mentioned he needs a deputy commissioner for the Panguitch area and has received two applicants for the job – Dee Roundy and Merrill Prince.

Jim Walker said all reservoirs are full. In 1998 Sevier Bridge Reservoir filled three times and at present there is 200 cfs leaving the reservoir to Sevier Lake. There is approximately 500 cfs currently coming into the reservoir. All storage rights should be satisfied this year and the primary water rights will have sufficient water. He estimates the reservoir contents to be at 300,000 ac. ft.

A motion to accept the reports was made by Afton Blood, seconded by Phill Nielson, motion passed.

Lee Sim then covered the proposed budget for the year. The total budget was set at \$146,596.00 and the assessment at \$130,000.00. A motion was made by Phill Nielson to approve the budget as proposed, seconded by Jerry Skeen, the voting was unanimous.

Clyde Bunker then expressed concern about the excess flows going into Sevier Lake. He also asked if to help alleviate the runoff, some of the excess water could be held in a reservoir at Hatch Town. Should this reservoir be built? Local representation would be needed at this site. A real time system was discussed. Work is going forward with the upper system which is almost complete.

A plaque was prepared for Jay Proctor and will be presented to him for his 40 years of service with the committee.

Mr. Bunker encouraged all water users to be prudent in their water use this year and to read and study all water circulars they receive.

Lee Sim then discussed a proposal being made by the Division of Water Rights to have commissioners appointed for a period of four years instead of every year with the thought being that this will bring better stability to the commissioner's position. It takes several years for a commissioner to learn his or her responsibilities and knowledge of how the river is to be operated. Activities of the commissioner would still be reviewed each year and if the commissioner is performing satisfactorily, he would continue on for the next year. If the majority of the water users wish to have the commissioner replaced, then a new commissioner could be elected by majority vote.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Those attending the meeting:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Kirk Forbach	Division of Water Rights
Lee Sim	Division of Water Rights
John S. Larsen	Division of Water Rights
Jim Walker	Commissioner Lower Sever River
Ray Owens	Commissioner Upper Sever River
Wayne Ballad	Water User
Janis Sorenson	WestView Irrigation Co.
Richard Rojerson	Koosharem Irrigation Co.
Scott Utley	Venice
Doug Stanworth	Deseret Irrigation Co.
Jerry Skeem	Deseret Irrigation Co.
Leland Riggs	Hatch Irrigation Co.
Clyde Bunker	SRWU
Kurt Sorenson	Piute Reservoir
Afton Blood	Piute Reservoir
Phill Nelson	Central Utah Water Co.
Sheldon Proctor	Committee Member
Russell Christensen	Committee Member
Scott Mills	Joseph Irrigation Co.
Beth Wilson	Water User
Joy L. Merriman	Water User
Brett Cowley	Richfield Canal Co.
Garn Christensen	Richfield Canal Co.
Vern Cole	Rosebud