

March 6, 1997

Minutes of the annual meeting of the state engineer, Spanish Fork joint river committee, Strawberry water users irrigation committee, and others, held in the Strawberry water users office building in Payson, Utah.

The minutes of the annual meeting held in 1996 were read and approved by the committee.

The 1995 financial report was reviewed. John Mendenhall was asked about the low telephone expenses. He explained that the phone expenses were low because some costs were not on this year's budget. Also, some of the money in the office expense item was used to buy office equipment. An over expenditure of \$1,191 on the miscellaneous budget item was incurred because in previous years the water commissioners' education expenses were included in the miscellaneous line item, and this is the first budget with the education expenses with their own line item on the budget. Last year a budget item for equipment expense was used to purchase a computer, report binding machine, fax machine, and a water flow probe. One past due account for Craig Dansie was noted. It is probably two years behind, and may be delinquent because of an obsolete mailing address. Alan Galt moved to accept the financial report, and Gary Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The water commissioners report was then heard. John reported that the tunnel was opened on June 27 because of a late wet spring. Currently snowpack is at 118% in Spanish Fork canyon, 119% at Strawberry, and 94% in Payson canyon. John expects a normal to late tunnel opening this year. The Syar tunnel was scheduled to open on April 1, but is behind schedule. He mentioned concerns he has about the new untested tunnel being ready for service when needed. The new Syar tunnel is supposed to have a valve in a bulkhead that would be able to release 200 cfs into the old Strawberry tunnel. He reported that last year he toured the lower Spanish Fork river distribution system with representatives of the state engineer. John said that all of the canyon users except one have complied with requirements on their water systems. John stated that water charges must be declared by the individual water users to determine whether their usage is CUP or Strawberry water.

A motion was made by Ray Whiting to hire John Mendenhall as the water commissioner and Ron Davis as the deputy commissioner for the coming year. Glen Hawkins seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The 1996 budget was then worked on. Gary Brown moved to set the budget at \$54,000. Alan Galt seconded the motion and the motion passed.

92 minutes
were received
3/18/92
have 93 mins.
94 mins received at
annual mtg 3-95

The committee had previously asked secretary Dale Cornaby to prepare a statement to be read into the minutes concerning the death of Lynn Mendenhall. "With sorrow the committee would like to acknowledge the passing away of Lynn J Mendenhall on December 12, 1995. He was preceded in death by his loving wife Betty Lou on May 30, 1995. Lynn worked as the Spanish Fork water commissioner for 31 years. He began his tenure on January 25, 1960 and he retired on April 1, 1991. His experience and knowledge of this water system is unsurpassed by anyone now living. Before and after his retirement many people regularly consulted with him for advise and information. His pleasant affable manner and willingness to go the extra mile beyond his duty will be missed by all who worked with him. We express our sympathy to his loved ones."

The state engineers were asked about those who were using the water commissioners time and equipment for their own gain. Lee Sim suggested sending them to the state engineer's office to do it themselves.

Glen Hawkins asked the state engineers about the problems and laws concerning the exchange of surface irrigation rights for underground well water. He was told to call Jim Riley.

It was noted that Reed Christmas and Claude Rowley should be taken off the mailing list and Dale Rowley should be added.

adjourned 12:15 pm

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