

March 15, 1995

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

The minutes of the previous years meeting held on March 16, 1994 were read by the secretary and approved by the committee.

River commissioner John Mendenhall then reported. He said that the inflows to the reservoir were low last year and that the drawdown on the reservoir was significant. He expected better inflows this year. Snowpack at Strawberry was at 87% of average. Snowpack in Spanish Fork canyon was at 112%, but recent rains and warm temperatures were causing the river to flow higher than normal for this time of year. Last Sunday the river was flowing at 350 cfs. This high of a flow normally occurs in late April or early May. Today the river is running at 160 cfs rather than at a more normal 50-60 cfs for this time of year. John reported that the low snow was gone and that the mid-level snow was going fast. He expected lower longer flows this year. He said that May 20 is the normal date for high water in the river. John indicated that the canyon water users had good headgates, but needed better measuring devices. John said that SWUA were going to spend 10,000 dollars this year on monitoring and measuring devices. It was anticipated that the Highline canal and the Mapleton-Springville canal would have remote flow monitors on them this year. It was hoped that within 3 years all canal flows within the system could be monitored from the river commissioners office. After this, remote control headgates would begin to be installed. It was indicated that there were 3 stream gauges in Spanish Fork canyon. One of these gages at Thistle dam was inactive, because it was preferred to monitor Soldier creek and Thistle creek separately. It was stated that the CUWCD was releasing 15 cfs through the Strawberry tunnel for fish flows. Also, the Strawberry valley was being turned over the Dushesne water commissioner this year. Concern was expressed about measuring the water in and out of the new dam in Monks hollow. John commented that the CUP water used by the water users last year was critical to our needs. Because the reserve in the reservoir was so low, the SWUA was only going to deliver 84% per acre foot of water this year. Requests for CUP water this year were for 18,000 acre feet. John said that some Stevens recorders would be available for other use in the future. Alan Galt moved to accept the commissioners report. Glen Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Reed Christmas made a motion to recommend John Mendenhall for the water commissioner and Ron Davis as the deputy water

commissioner. Ray Whiting seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The committee then reviewed the 1994 financial report. There was a question about an extra \$76.80 that was paid to the deputy commissioner above the budgeted \$1,000 for his salary. It was acknowledged that this amount was mistakenly sent by the state to the deputy. There was also a question about why \$800 had been expended for the annual report when only \$400 had been budgeted. It was explained that this was a one time occurrence to catch up. Claude Rowley moved and Gary Brown seconded a motion to accept the financial report.

The 1995 budget was then discussed. Lee Sim suggested a 30% carryover amount on the budget. After working through the various budget items, Claude Rowley moved to set the budget at 54,000 dollars. The motion was seconded by Gary Brown and was passed by the committee.

It was indicated that J Merrill Hallam be taken off the mailing list and that Fred Vincent and Claude Rowley be put on.

Adjourned at 12:10 pm