

March 16, 1994

Minutes of the annual meeting with the state engineer, Spanish Fork joint river committee, Strawberry water users irrigation committee, and others.

The minutes of the 1993 meeting were read. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Alan Galt and seconded by Glen Hawkins. Motion passed.

The 1993 financial statement was reviewed by the group. Reed Christmas moved to accept the report, and Ray Whiting seconded the motion.

The 1994 budget was then reviewed. The water commissioners salary was increased from \$24,000 to \$24,600. The deputy commissions travel expense was increased from \$5,610 to \$5,710. An additional expense item for a cellular telephone was added for \$360. The insurance item was increased from \$6,000 to \$6,400. Gary Brown moved to set the budget at \$48,000. The motion was seconded by Alan Galt. Motion passed.

The water commissioner, John Mendenhall reported that in 1993 the river ran high. It peaked at 1250 cfs and remained relatively high through the summer. In September it was still over 100 cfs. He reported that the system used about the same amount of water as the year before, but the water came from different sources. He reported that the current snowpack was at 70% of average and that the river was flowing at 175 cfs today. There was concern that there would be no high water run off this year, and that possibly the river would run no higher this season than it is today. John indicated that evidence suggested that if the snowpack is below 50% no run-off occurs in Utah. Also, it was thought that the snow received in January comes down to us during the summer months. He reported that the CUWCD was currently releasing 15 cfs for fish flows. There are 26 water accounts. Account number 22 is the Strawberry Water Users Account, and some of the water in that account is owned by the river companies. Also, it was mentioned that Robert Redford had traded property in Diamond Fork to the U S Forest Service. The property has 85 shares of river water and 40 shares of Strawberry water on it. The forest service wants to use this water to establish a wetland. Glen Hawkins moved and Claude Rowley seconded the motion to accept the report. Motion passed.

Gary Brown made a motion to hire John Mendenhall for water commissioner and Ron Davis as the deputy commissioner. Reed Christmas seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lee Sims asked John Mendenhall if the USGS stream gauges were still being used. John indicated they were, but not

for water distribution. Lee explained that the state pays one half the cost, but that the USGS was increasing its charges by about 7% each year. The state may have to ask for some monetary help. John said there was one gauge at Castella, one at the Thistle dam outlet, and one to be in Red hollow near Monks hollow. Lee said that the trust funds were now held in Zions bank. The state auditor had told them that these monies must be held in the state treasury. Water resources was going to move these funds to the state treasury at the end of the year on January 1. The directors on the mailing list were reviewed. Richard Roach and Ernest Hanks were taken off. Glen Hawkins, Gary Brown, Bartell Mortensen, Ray Whiting, and J Merrill Hallam were added. Lee Sims talked to John Mendenhall about automatic gauges and the opportunity to sell the old Stevens gauges at Strawberry. The SWUA and USGS own these devices together. It was decided to sell them. Lee noted that last year he had sent notices to the Clinton irrigation district to install water measuring devices before the water season. Ron Davis said that many changes had occurred in the canyon and that the people there had asked about house streams and stock streams in the canyon.

Adjourned at 12:10pm.