

June 16, 1969

MEMO

TO: Earl Hanks and Joe Hickey

FROM: Donald C. Norseth and John Bene

RE: Hoop Lake

This is a summary of the discussion held in this office June 11, 1969, in which the operation of Hoop Lake and the retention of storage water from one year to the next was discussed very thoroughly.

In the State of Utah, we feel that stored water is the property of the company owning the facilities, and as such, is to be dispersed between the water users in accordance with the stock owned or the acreage allotments made by the company. We encourage retention of any surplus waters as hold-over storage. We always advocate the efficient use of water.

The discussion centered around what do other companies do in the case that stockholders wish to retain their water as hold-over in a reservoir.

Not all companies operate the same way. However, some operate as follows:

1. Some companies do not allow a hold-over of water, and as a result some individuals run their water out and allow it to be wasted.
2. Some companies allow hold-over if there is reservoir capacity but arrive at a figure wherein this water is assessed shrinkage losses due to evaporation, underground seepage, etc.
3. Other companies allow hold-over by stockholders if reservoir capacity is available. Most times it is allowed on a percentage basis. For example, if you hold over 100 acre-ft. to the irrigation season, you are allowed to call on the company for 70 acre-ft. of water, which means that you are charged 30% for the various known water losses.

However, in all cases, the company gets all the members together and the officers make sure that a sound understanding of the reservoir operation is had by all. The standard operating procedures are written into the by-laws, and the by-laws are available to anyone for examination.

Most general rules are:

1. Hold-over is not allowed if there is not reservoir capacity.
2. If the reservoir spills, all hold-over water becomes common water and is subject to use by all users of water in the reservoir.

In all cases, the policies that govern the distribution and storage of waters in any company must be written, and each member told verbally and in writing what policies are to be. Whenever any policy is adopted to allow carry-over privileges, measuring devices become a must. You cannot operate without measuring devices.

All by-laws can be amended by the membership anytime some features become unworkable or undesirable by a majority vote of the stockholders.

cc: Willard Stringer  
Robert Guy  
Reed Hanks  
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