

**Mr. Paul E. Brown  
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**Mr. Bob Morgan  
State Engineer  
1636 West North Temple  
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Let me thank you for putting together the meeting to discuss the "problems" along the Wasatch Front between 2100 South and 9400 South concerning water distribution, measurement and reporting and management. Myself, and the Big Ditch Irrigation Company which I am the President of, have had little to no problems over the past twenty years and by records of years prior to that have found nothing serious.

You requested that we, those in attendance at the meeting, respond to six simple questions so that you and your Staff had something to start with in addressing the concerns of certain people or water companies. After thinking about these questions, of which BDIC could respond, it will be simple and to the point:

1. BDIC only request from the State Engineers office would be to continue to work in the same direction that it has in the past, we, BDIC have no axe to grind and therefor we approve of the direction it has taken in the past. Just give direction to the new Creek Commissioner with your Divisions present philosophy.

2. Whoever is appointed must immediately spend some time on positive PR to the various irrigation and canal companies that take water from the four creeks. I truly believe that the "commissioner" must visit with and get everyone's trust. Then readings must be taken records must be keep and the various companies must get timely reports; not yearly or by decades, but at a specific time. This time period should be agreed on with be all concerned and must be completed as all agree. I personally see a April 1 and October 1 meeting to address the issues prior to the water year and one to conclude the water year, then a Annual Report to summarize and tie everything up.

3. Readings should be made by the Creek Commissioner and with anyone from the various companies that should to be there at the time. These readings should not be a "secret" as they have seemed to be or claimed to be in the past. I think that the Commissioner job should be made up mainly of record keeping, PR with the companies and reporting after he gets familiar with the various Agreements and Decrees that govern the water allocation.

4. Operation and delivery of what water at what level? The State should be responsible for the enforcement that the water is there for delivery whereas the Creek Commissioner should have the responsibility to make sure the amount of water that is provided by the Agreement or Decree or by the decisions of the State Engineers Office is present at the distribution point. The companies then have the responsibility to operate and deliver their proper flow and amount of water to their shareholders or users. I don't believe that the President of the BDIC should have to rely on anyone accept himself and the company officers to deliver water to their

water users or to operate Big Ditch Irrigation Company; just make sure that we have the proper allotment of water at our dispersal point, we will take it from that point and be responsible for its control and dispersal. We have since the 1850's and we will continue as the forefathers did since that time.

5. "Numbers" cause problems, confusion and inaccurate reporting and control. As long as one Creek Commissioner can effectively do the job and in the appropriate way, why have two or three people complicating matters. The number could be increased later if the job proved to be one that needed the extra Commissioner. One Commissioner should cost less than two that are doing the same basic job. For consistency one would be much better.

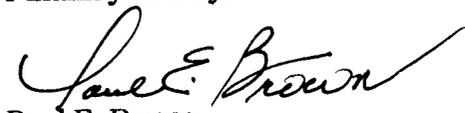
6. Finances is a topic that will bring debate and usually brings about the warming of feelings, but the financing of the Creek Commissioner (s) is a must and I feel that should be financed by the amount of water that is distributed by the various water companies; also any large "user" such as Salt Lake City, Sandy, etc. using of the water from these tributaries. Everyone who are users of the water should be financing a portion of the costs of the Creek Commissioner who is actually "managing/recording/insuring the water for all of those using the water.

I would like to place my name for consideration for the position of Creek/Water Commissioner at this time. I would perform the duties to the best of my ability for the companies taking water from the four creeks leading into the valley and go out of my way to see that everyone would be served with the same results that I have desired in the past seventeen years as the President of Big Ditch Irrigation Company.

A brief look at my background is:

Born and raised in the Salt Lake City Valley where my father worked for the SLC Water Department, even preceding that was the fact that my great grandfather was a Water Master in the Wood Cross/Bountiful area for over twenty-five years back in the late 1800 early 1900's. Enjoyed my education from the city schools and graduated from East High School (1952), served in the US Army from 1953-64 and graduated from the Univ. of Utah in 1961 (BS) with a Composite Degree in Biological Science, graduated from BYU in 1981 (MS) in Secondary School Administration. Retired from the Granite School District in 1994 after completing over thirty highly successful years of classroom teaching. President of Big Ditch Irrigation Company which is one of the oldest irrigation companies in the entire State of Utah (1850's) since 1980. Committee President for Mr. T. Holzworth, SLCounty Flood Control for the purpose of organizing the irrigation and water companies of SLCounty until he left his position with SLCounty when the Committee was dropped. Director on the Utah Water Users representing SLCounty since about 1985.

I thank you for your consideration in this matter.

  
Paul E. Brown

*The Big Ditch Irrigation Company*  
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