

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
WEBER RIVER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
JANUARY 21, 2015, 1:00 P.M.
LAYTON, UTAH**

The annual meeting of the Weber River Distribution System convened at Weber Basin Water Conservancy District headquarters, 2837 East Highway 193, Layton, Utah, at 1:00 p.m., on Wednesday, January 21, 2015.

Present:

Ben Anderson, State Division of Water Rights
Ross Hansen, State Division of Water Rights
Kent Jones, State Division of Water Rights
Rachel Loftus, State Division of Water Rights
Jared Manning, State Division of Water Rights

Cole Panter, Weber River Distribution System

Mark Anderson, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Connely Baldwin, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Jay Christensen, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Theo Cox, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Tage Flint, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Larry McFarland, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Stephen Osguthorpe, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Scott Paxman, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Kent Peterson, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Ivan Ray, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Dee Waldron, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Dennis Wright, Weber River Water Rights Committee
Sherrie Mobley, Weber River Water Rights Committee

Jeff Budge, Provo River Water Users Association
Keith Denos, Provo River Water Users Association
Justin Record, Bureau of Reclamation

**I
WELCOME NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Osguthorpe of the Weber River Water Rights Committee. Chairman Osguthorpe welcomed Jeff Bryant, our new representative for District #10. He asked Jeff to tell a little about himself. Jeff proceeded to update the committee stating he has served on the Provo River Water Users Association's and the Provo Reservoir Water Users Company's boards for many years and is also on the Weber River Water Users Association's board.

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Page 2 - Weber River Dist. Sys. Annual Meeting - January 21, 2015

Jeff finished by saying he is the Water Supply Manager at Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District where he has been employed for over 30 years. All welcomed Jeff to the Committee.

**II
HEARING THE 2014 MINUTES**

The minutes of January 22, 2014 were read by Sherrie Mobley. There was one change to a name that was incorrect.

Motion was made by Dennis Wright, seconded by Theo Cox and passed, approving minutes of the annual meeting of the Weber River Distribution System held January 22, 2014, with the noted correction.

**III
HEARING THE 2014 COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

Chairman Osguthorpe requested Cole Panter, Weber River Commissioner, present the annual report to the members of the Committee. Commissioner Panter began by presenting the 2014 water supply summary. He said the 2014 water supply was generous compared to the past few years. Beginning April 1st, the Weber River Basin was at 100% of median for snow water equivalent (SWE). Precipitation and temperatures throughout the irrigation season averaged to be above normal. Temperatures were consistently at or above normal throughout the irrigation season. The average precipitation for the irrigation season was approximately 20% above normal, with some extremely dry months and extremely wet months later in the irrigation season.

Commissioner Panter then provided a summary of the 2014 distributions by priority and duty class changes. Other details discussed included a reservoir summary, Weber-Provo Canal delivery summary and canal and ditch usage. He completed his report by providing a 2015 outlook and the NRCS current SWE and SWE projection. Commissioner Panter said it is estimated 2015 will be a normal or above snow water year.

Motion was made by Dee Waldron, seconded by Kent Peterson and passed, accepting the 2014 Commissioner's Report as presented.

**IV
REVIEWING ANY CONCERNS OR COMMENTS RELATED TO THE
COMMISSIONER'S WORK FOR 2014**

Chairman Osguthorpe reported the next item of business is to hear concerns or comments related to the commissioner's work for 2014. Scott Paxman replied he feels Commissioner Panter is doing a very good job. He has worked very hard to learn the system and meets with staff at Weber Basin and other entities routinely to further his knowledge. Chairman Osguthorpe extended his appreciation to Commissioner Panter for his willingness to learn a complicated system.

Commissioner Panter said he is enjoying the job as commissioner and is currently working hard to get a lot of data inputted.

V
REPORT FROM THE DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

Jared Manning reported he would begin by reviewing various legislation, after which Ben Anderson will discuss some things and conclude with comments from Kent Jones. Jared reported last year legislation was passed regarding canal safety (HB370). He said this bill requires their office to inventory canals with 5 cfs or more. Various information is compiled from this inventory including alignment, contact information, maximum flows, adoption of canal safety management plans, etc. He reported Rachel Loftus has been hired to help them meet these canal safety requirements. The legislation also provided funding to assist canal owners in completing management plans, and funds are still available.

Jared continued by discussing HB25 which relates to the Jensen vs. Jones case and would allow the state engineer to address non-use and provide due process for those involved. Tage Flint reported various entities, including the large water districts, League of Cities and Towns, and the Farm Bureau, have been meeting in hopes of coming to some consensus with this legislation.

Jared also discussed SB35 which is known as the Big Ditch legislation and HB43 which changes the dynamic between stockholders and irrigation companies. Jared provided information on new legislation that is upcoming.

Ben Anderson then presented a Snotel map, stating our total precipitation is below average at around 70%. Discussion followed.

Kent Jones expressed his appreciation to the committee members for the addition of a new position that represents the water users from the Weber-Provo Diversion. Dennis Wright expressed his feeling that the Weber River Water Rights Committee should also be represented on the Provo River distribution system. Kent Jones expressed his appreciation for the comments and said this can be discussed if it's a concern. Discussion continued on this topic.

VI
HEARING THE 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT

Ben Anderson presented the 2014 financial report and discussed it in detail. He then answered all questions from the committee members.

After discussion ceased, motion was made by Mark Anderson, seconded by Dee Waldron and passed, adopting the 2014 Financial Report as presented.

**VII
REVIEWING DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT ACCOUNTS**

Ben Anderson presented the delinquent assessments. He stated the delinquencies total \$2,277.53. The group then reviewed the delinquencies in detail.

**VIII
PREPARING A BUDGET OF SALARIES
AND OTHER NECESSARY EXPENSES**

Chairman Osguthorpe asked Sherrie Mobley to present the Proposed Budget for 2015. Sherrie explained the proposed budget for 2015 includes the following:

1. A 1.8% cost of living adjustment for the deputy commissioners.
2. Each of the six deputy commissioners receives a 3% performance raise.
3. Budget \$8,744 for the existing gaging stations.
4. Budget \$5,400 for our portion of the WaterSmart Grant: Weber River Flow Measurement Project.
5. Decrease the Office Equipment & Expenses from \$2,300 to \$500.
6. Take out the \$4,000 for In-House Gaging Stations since the previous year's budget for this item has not been expended.
7. Increase the Auto Expense by 2.68% since the IRS mileage increased from \$0.56 to \$0.575.

In addition to the budget items above, she said the committee budget stayed the same as last year at \$23,300. After discussion ceased, motion was made by Connely Baldwin, seconded by Jay Christensen and passed, accepting the \$226,270 Budget for 2015 as presented.

**IX
SETTING THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ASSESSMENT**

Motion was made by Mark Anderson, seconded by Larry McFarland and passed, setting the distribution system assessment at an amount equal to the total budget.

**X
SELECTING NEW DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM CHAIRMAN
AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS IF NECESSARY**

Chairman Osguthorpe reported at an earlier meeting, all committee members whose terms expired in 2015 were appointed to another three year term and Jeff Bryant was appointed to fill the vacancy for District 10.

Page 5 - Weber River Dist. Sys. Annual Meeting - January 21, 2015

He said the 2015 officers are Stephen Osguthorpe – Chairman, Theo Cox – Vice Chairman, and Sherrie Mobley – Secretary. The executive committee includes all members of the committee.

**XI
ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the same was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

/s/ Sherrie Mobley, Secretary