Minutes of the Water District 130 Annual Meeting
Tuesday, February 7, 2006
Fish and Game Regional Office
Jerome, Idaho

Chairman Rex Minchey opened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. and introduced members of the Water District 130 advisory committee that were present at the meeting.

The first order of business was the election of the Water District 130 Chairman. Rex opened nominations for Water District 130 meeting Chairman. **Dean Stevenson nominated Rex Minchey, Chairman. Seconded by Dan Temple.** With no further nominations before the group, Minchey was elected chairman on a voice vote.

The next order of business was the election of Water District 130 Secretary, **Dean Stevenson nominated Lynn Tominaga, who had previously served as secretary. Seconded by Rodney Bolich**. With no further nominations before the group, Tominaga was elected Secretary on a voice vote.

Tominaga read the minutes of the February 1, 2005 Water District annual meeting. (See attached minutes). **Phyllis Beard moved to accept last year minutes as read. Seconded by Dean Stevenson. Passed voice vote.**

Rex introduced Idaho Department of Water Resources staff: Cindy Yenter (Watermaster), Tim Luke (IDWR, Boise), Corbin Knowles (Deputy Watermaster), and Troy Winward (IDWR, Engineer, Twin Falls).

Sub district reports:
Rodney Bolich, North Snake Groundwater District had no report.

Dean Stevenson, Magic Valley Groundwater District had no report.

Larry Cope, Surface Water Users had no report.

Dan Temple, A& BD Irrigation District, said that as a result of another estimated 2.5 ft. of decline in aquifer, the district spent money to deepen wells to meet pumping demands.

Watermaster Report
Cindy Yenter presented the 2005 Watermaster report covering the following topics:

2005 Summary of Activities

- Surface Water Distribution
- Ground Water Distribution
- Mitigation Plans

WD 130 Report Statistics

1800 reporting diversions

Four active reporting subdistricts

- *North Snake Ground Water District*
- *Magic Valley Ground Water District*
- *A&B Irrigation District*
- *City of Rupert*

2,651,585 acre-feet average annual diversions (2000-2004)

- *709,000 AF to consumptive uses*
- *1.94 million AF to nonconsumptive uses*

Surface Water Distribution

- Alpheus Creek/Blue Lakes
  Early regulation; restoration of curtailed rights occurred slightly earlier in fall 2005
- Niagara Springs
  Below base flows most of the summer but flows were up by October
- Clear Lakes
  Regulation resumed in March 2005 at the shared diversion; flows are still low but stable this winter

Ground Water Distribution

Three water calls in spring 2005 affected ground water users in WD130:

- *Surface Water Coalition, January 14, 2005*
- *Blue Lakes Trout, March 22, 2005*
- *Clear Springs Foods, May 2, 2005*

IDWR Orders in response to the calls required curtailment of ground water unless mitigation plans were approved

Mitigation Plans

Mitigation Plans proposed actions taken *in lieu of curtailment* during 2005 and beyond:

- *For surface water coalition call, plan involved the purchase of water in the upper Snake River system*
- *For BLT and CSF calls in the thousand springs reaches, plan involved voluntary reductions in gw irrigated acres, plus conversion of acres to surface water irrigation, and the delivery of rental water in the NSCC system*

Pending Changes for Water District 130

- Corbin Knowles is relocating to Boise and will no longer serve as deputy, but will provide technical assistance from Water Distribution Section
- New Ground Water District proposed for the Carey Valley
- Proposed expansion of WD130 to include surface water rights in B37. Diversions are located mostly in the River Road area south of Bliss

Goals for 2006

- Continue to increase accuracy of measurement and reporting
  Required data logger installations will begin this year
  Some flow meter replacement/relocation required
  Re-evaluate measurement options for irrigation wells - pcc method may no longer be valid for some systems (particularly conversion systems)
- Create a comprehensive evaluation of water use analysis for all diversions
- Increase field presence and compliance activity
- Complete review and verification of 2006 mitigation plans by July 1
- Increase number of measurement audits conducted
- Eliminate the measurement backlogs
  NSG
  Non-subdistrict diversions

2006 Proposed Budget Presentation
Recommendations for 2006:

- Watermaster should continue to be funded at 100%
- Part-time / seasonal Watermaster Assistant dedicated to measurement and reporting
- Retention of clerical position
- Carry-over of 2005 savings to 2006

Budget categories:

- *Administrative Costs – applicable to all users*
- *Measurement/Reporting Costs – applicable to only those water users not reporting to a subdistrict*

2006 Budget Highlights

- *Increase in salary and insurance costs*
- *Increases in both budget categories will be offset by carryover money*

Water District 130 2006 Assessments

- Administrative costs will be split in the following manner:
  50% to consumptive uses
  50% to non-consumptive uses
  For each reported diversion, an average of actual diversions during 2000-2004 will be used to calculate a pro-rata charge of administrative costs

- By resolution, water users with pro-rata charges totaling less than $25, will be charged at the minimum rate of $25.

- Water users reporting directly to WD130 will also be billed for measurement and reporting. The 2006 charge is anticipated to be approximately $50 per device.

- Subdistricts will receive an aggregate billing containing all pro-rata administrative charges for their reporting members or diversions – minimums will not apply

- Non-reporter administrative charges will continue to be billed directly by WD130 at the minimum rate of $25.

- Any water user reporting to a subdistrict *will not* receive a separate assessment.

- Water users not reporting to subdistricts will be assessed directly by WD130.

Cindy and members of the advisory committee raised an issue about the necessity of having changes to resolutions 30 days prior to the annual meeting and posted on the internet. Members of the advisory committee didn't believe there was a need to have the 30 day period because most of the changes were only minor and it placed a burden on the watermaster.

Dean Stevenson moved to change "30 days prior to" to "5 days prior to". Seconded by Dan Temple. Passed on voice vote.

Dan Temple moved to add the word "present" on line 23b. Seconded by Dean Stevenson. Passed on voice vote.

Dean Stevenson moved to adopt all the resolutions as amended. Seconded by Phyllis Beard. Passed on voice vote.

Rex Minchey recessed the meeting at 3:10 p.m. to allow for subdistrict caucus.

Rex reconvened the water district meeting at 3:20 p.m.

The slate of members for the advisory committee is as follows:

NSG	Lynn Carlquist, Rodney Bolich (alt)
MVG	Dean Stevenson, Orlo Maughan (alt)
A&B	Dan Temple, Dan Schaeffer (alt)
B37	Dick Elliot, Rich Dinges (alt)
C/I	Rex Minchey, Phyllis Beard
	Dave Moore, Karen Cummings, or City Representative (alts)
SW	Larry Cope, Gary Lemmon, Dwayne Knigge, Jon Bowling
	Randy McMillan, Linda Lemmon (alts)

Tim Luke, IDWR explained I.C. 42-620 and the appointment of an Eastern Snake Plain aquifer advisory committee to oversee and recommend programs to the director. The committee shall include representatives from water districts hydraulically connected to the ESPA (ESPA water districts, plus WD01 and WD36-A). Tim explained the history and recommendation from the 2004 interim Legislative Committee. The committee recommended funding of the IDWR groundwater model, monitoring of sentinel wells and springs, recalibration of surface water model and other programs that would be based on assessments to the water districts. Costs would be apportioned among the districts based on water use. Tim mentioned that the committee might provide an additional opportunity to further negotiations between surface and ground water users.

Tim talked about the expansion of WD 120 and the creation of WD 110, WD 140, and WD 100. These expansions and creations coincide with the director's reports being filed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication court. WD 120, WD 110, and WD 140 have had public information meetings and formal public hearings and the director will be issuing orders in the near future.

Presently, the ground water districts (GWD) or water districts (WD) must measure the PCC or water meter of wells every three years. IDWR will study PCC measurement data to address water users' questions about frequency of required measurements. and consider whether those requirements can be relaxed if no change has been made to the irrigation system. Some water users have questioned the need to continue the three year frequency, indicating that wells have been measured three times or more in the last ten years and there has been little or no change in the amount of water diverted. Users feel this change would reduce the costs of water measurement for GWDs or WDs but not significantly change the reported water diversion.

Tim Luke also mentioned that IDWR will be updating the measurement database (WMIS) this year to an Internet application whereby ground water districts or other reporting entities will enter measurement data directly to the IDWR database and diversions linked to water rights. IDWR will begin testing the application this month and will schedule meetings in March with staff from districts to solicit their input.

Dean Stevenson moved to adjourn the WD meeting at 3:40 p.m. Seconded by Phyllis Beard. Passed on a voice vote.

Lynn Tominaga, WD130 Secretary