

GRAND COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

GRAND COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICE WATER DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING-----July 28, 1981

Meeting was called to order by Chairman K.E. McDougald at 7:00 am with the Following Grand County Water Conservancy District Members present: Bob Norman, Ev Schumaker, Sam Taylor, Bill Hines, D.L. Taylor, Curt Young.

Special Services District Members present: Ken McDougald, Dan Holyoak, Ev Schumaker and George White.

Also present at the meeting: Executive Director Dave Bretzke, Ass't Sec. Debbie Brown, Jim Walker, J.V. Westwood, Mark Pake, Gary Wilson, Dale Pierson, Richard and Norma Nunn, Kay Young, Marilyn Bicking and LaMond Gardner.

Minutes of the June 15, and June 22 meetings were ready by Debbie Brown, Minutes of the July 1, and July 20 meetings were read by Dave Bretzke. D.L. Taylor motioned to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Ev Schumaker. MOTION CARRIED.

K.E. McDougald welcomed all those present and asked Mark Page to interpret the water rights as outlined in the brief summary of the water rights which is on record in the office of the State Engineer on Mill Creek.

Mark Page: If the first 12 water rights were approved the total would be 60.94 sec. ft. However, since there is not that much water, the water rights are determined by the flow of the water and also the priority of the rights. (Mark reviewed the water rights - see attached copy).

McDougald: Under contract with the Moab Irrigation Co., we have to pump water to make up for the water we owe them if there isn't enough water in Mill Creek. We are following along as we have done in the past as far as allowing you to have water if it's available. In reviewing the correspondence, the water turn-offs were in mid-July according to Marge Schaffer.

R. Nunn: In 1973 there was no water turned off, or in 1978, 79 or 80, because of a court case against Moab Irrigation Co. with Wilson Mesa.

N. Nunn: The water should be turned off in their priority rather than all at once.

D.L. Taylor: Letters were sent one day apart.

R. Nunn: Kay Young is taking 5 sec. ft. of water. Some of the people in the valley should be cut off before Young is cut off.

N. Nunn: Before the dam was finished, the water users supported the dam.

McDougald: We haven't had time to see the results of the dam yet. We think we will be able to offer more water with a full Reservoir. We now have more water available instead of the water going into the Colorado River. The District does not want to cause any hardship on anyone. Your water rights (R. Nunn) is the 3rd one and your notification should have been received after everyone else's

N. Nunn: It doesn't seem like you have been aware of the water situation until this year.

McDougald: Yes, we have been aware of it because most of us have lived in Moab for quite some time.

ATTENDANCE

APPROVAL OF MIN.

REVIEW OF WATER RIGHTS

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- Mark Page: If we were to compare our situation with the year 1891, the acreage in Moab would not be the same, however, the rights would still be the same. The Mesa users have the same number of acres as listed in the rights.
- J. Walker: The Moab Irrigation still have about the same number of acres.
- D.Holyoak: There are not 1119 acres in the Moab Valley right now.
- Mark Page: The amount of acreage might be close to the 1119 acres under Moab Irrigation Co. rights.
- D.L.Taylor: There should be enough water to go around. There is not as much farming as there has been in the past.
- R. Nunn: I have about 139 acres in irrigation. I have a total no. of 500 acres. Kay Young has 200 acres under irrigation now. If the Board discovered the water to be low, could everyone be cut off all at once?
- Mark Page: It could be done all at once if there was a drastic cut in flow. However, it is best to send out letters on a priority basis. The date doesn't make any difference if there is a drastic change in the flow.
- J. Walker: Since you have been checking the flow only once a week then this could happen.
- D.L.Taylor: There are only three people involved on the Mesa for the high water users.
- R.Nunn: We're planning on putting in a 15" PVC line and would be delighted to pay for additional water.
- McDougald: Would you give us more information about your line.
- R. Nunn: I plan on installing 12,000 ft. of 15" PVC line. We will start next week at Hay Stack Mtn and install 1,500 ft. of PVC. It will cost \$100,000 to install 12,000 ft. We will be able to adjust our water usage. We are receiving no assistance with this project now. We plan on by-passing Warner. We now lose 20 sec. ft. of the water. Installing 1500 ft. will make the difference. 74% of the water is being lost from Warner to Wilcox Flat.
- Schumaker: Is the Forest Service willing to allow you to do this?
- R. Nunn: An Environmental Impact Statement has to be made. The pipe has to follow the existing ditch but can't go underground unless there is an Environmental Impact Statement.
- N. Nunn: If all the water users get behind this, would the Forest Service be receptive?
- Schumaker: There is water running all over the mtn. and I am in support of your idea. If we could use Warner as a storage we would. Five years ago we tried to talk to the Forest Service, but they would not allow us to do anything with Warner at the time.
- R. Nunn: There would be a draw-back with the Forest Service. Bill Wright said we would have to keep the water level up in Warner. I have 75 acres of corn and can't get any water and I have \$5,000 invested in fertilizer.
- Kay Young: As far as Warner goes, the Forest Service should help enlarge the Lake. Warner does hinder the ditch. The Sportsman's Club was going to build a lake. Wilson Mesa Irrigation was going to allow them to build a road but the Forest Service wouldn't agree so they never did get the Lake built.

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- McDougald: We have a contract with the City and Moab Irrigation Co. that we have to fulfill. If they don't receive their required amount of water we have to pump water from our back-up wells.
- K. Young: In the past we have been cut off at 10 sec. ft. and there was a lot more water this year than last year running through the ditch when you cut me off.
- J. Walker: There has not been any measurements in the past on the flow of water. The letters from the Moab Irrigation didn't say 10 sec. ft. because we didn't know the measurements. The court decreed to us to have measuring devices but no one put any in. U.S.G.S. measures below the diversion.
- C. Young: Mr. McKonkie measured the water for years.
- J. Walker: Up until two years ago we didn't measure the water flow. We found a cement box Mr. McKonkie put in but no one knew how to use his measuring device.
- Geo. White: When the flow drops below 19.33 sec. ft. we have to pay the Moab Irrigation Co. for their water loss.
- Kay Young: I want you to change your minutes that you read. It stated that I was going to turn my water back on and I didn't say that and I didn't turn the water back on.
- D. Holyoak: Would you be willing to pay for additional water after the Mesa would normally be cut off? Would you be willing to re-cover the cost we have to pay for pumping water to the Moab Irrigation Co?
- R. Nunn: I can't speak for everyone but I am willing to do this. Corbin cannot run water for their gold operation unless they go through Wilson Mesa Co.
- D.L. Taylor: Curt Young did tell Corbin that he would have to contact the Mesa users.
- Kay Young: I don't need 5 sec. ft. I can get by with a little over 3 sec. ft. I would like to store the water and then buy it from you later in the season. I'm putting a pipeline in this year and if I can get water from you, the circular will be there.
- Curt Young: If there is a year like 1977 there won't be any water.
- N. Nunn: You mentioned your contract with Moab Irrigation Co. with respect to how many sec. ft. they are to get. What is the amount of sec. ft. they have settled for in the past?
- D.L. Taylor: Moab Irrigation is guaranteed so much.
- R. Nunn: On July 1st we had 72% precipitation, what was the flow at the dam?
- D. Pierson: On July 2nd it was 5.70 at the power dam and 5.0 at the dam. On July 20 it was 6.40 at the power dam and 6.0 at the dam.
- D.L. Taylor: The Reservoir has a trash screen and if it plugs up we don't get the benefit of a flood.
- R. Nunn: The Reservoir is an asset more than a liability.
- D.L. Taylor: We need to work together. The opinion of this Board is to assure that you have the same amount of water as you have had in the past. Legally and technically we don't have to allow you to have water when it drops below 20.35 cfs.
- R. Nunn: I keep accurate records of all the precipitation, if you are interested in reviewing these records you can.
- S. Taylor: We don't want to give any more of the water to Calif. than we have to.
- N. Nunn: As a Conservancy District are you able to get government funds and grants?
- D.L. Taylor: Theoretically yes, but it would cost us more money to get the money.

Schumaker: It would have cost us \$9,000,000 if we would have used federal government money.

C. Young: How long would it take if there is a possibility of us checking into getting an Environmental Impact Statement?

N. Nunn: We're looking at 2 years.

Sam Taylor: It only took the B.L.M. 3 1/2 months for the Recapture Dam Project, so it's possible for it to go through in less than 2 years time.

Curt Young: I make a motion that we check into the Environmental Impact Statement, seconded by D.L. Taylor, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION ACCEPTED TO CHECK INTO ENV. IMP. STMT.

Kay Young: The Construction Co. needs water for 4 or 5 days. They need a little over 1/2 sec. ft.

Curt Young: This is a matter of a co-operation deal.

D.L. Taylor: Mr. Nunn would then be able to turn his water on for his corn for the same length of time.

D. Pierson: If a water drop happens the flow will remain in Mill Creek, however, nothing will go through the tunnel.

R. Nunn: When someone stops our flow of water they trespass when they break our ditch up. The flow of water should be stopped at the point of diversion. I don't know if I'll need any water or not I just got back from vacation and I'll let you know this week after I check out my crops.

D.L. Taylor: I make a motion to allow the contractors to have water, not to exceed one week, Nunn will also be allowed to use water for one week also, seconded by Sam Taylor, MOTION CARRIED.

MESA WATER USERS ALLOWED TO USE WATER FOR 1 WK.

McDougald: We need more money for blanketing the area at the Lake; We have additional water lines on the Flat; We have material from the State Land Board that has not been paid for. We should ask for \$300,000 on the low interest money and pay it out over a period of time.

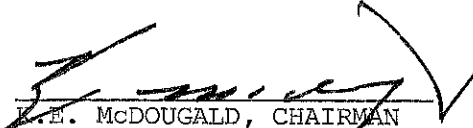
MOTION APPROVED TO APPLY FOR \$300,000 LOAN

Schumaker: I motion to apply for the \$300,000 loan at 3% interest, seconded by D.L. Taylor, MOTION CARRIED.

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

ATTEST:


DAVID J. BRETZKE, SECRETARY


K.E. McDOUGALD, CHAIRMAN