

Leroux Creek Water Users Association

Annual Meeting Redlands Mesa Community House December 13, 2021 1:00pm

Meeting was called to order at 1:10pm, by Vice President Tom Alvey, in the absence of President Steve Ela.

Notice of the meeting was read by Tom Alvey

Roll Call

The Credentials Committee, Doug Emrick, Bob Remmerde and Dave Smith confirmed 1,407 Present and 1,876 Proxys. For a total of 3,283 shares represented. A quorum was established. 2,808 is needed for a quorum.

Minutes of the December 16, 2019 meeting was presented. Due to COVID-19, the 2020 meeting was cancelled.

Moved By: Bryan Klaseen (Locke Family Farms), to accept the December 16, 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes.

Seconded By: Gayle Ware

Motion Carried: with no opposing votes

Tom presented the financial report for 2021. A Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss sheet was handed out. In 2021 we budgeted \$35.00 pers share. We called \$25.00 in 2021. The Town of Hotchkiss and Rogers Mesa Domestic Water contributed \$10,000 each, for a total of \$20,000.00, for a new automatic headgate at the Carl Smith this year. The cost of the project was \$20,150.00. We also received our first grant payment of \$23,646.02 out of \$200,000.00 for the Gray, Goodenough and Willow pipe lining project. The only item that was over budget was office supplies. The purchase of an A-1 stock certificate was \$339.32.

Moved By: Jason Wrich (Proxy for Tammy Smith), to approve the 2021 financial report

Seconded By: Greg Krush

Motion Carried: with no opposing votes

A President Report for 2020 and 2021 was handed out. In the absence of Steve Ela, Tom Alvey presented the President Report. Highlights were: "Hiring of Steve Tuck as Reservoir Manager. Steve has cut brush and trees on dams, helped with repair work, noted further maintenance that needs to be completed, attended Reservoir inspections, looked at ways to improve our system and many other tasks. His tireless efforts have helped to catch up on deferred maintenance and has helped us to pass reservoir inspections"

In 2019 a new stem wall was installed at the Bailey and repairs were done at the Willow, thanks to Steve Tuck and Paul Schmucker.

The Gray, Goodenough and Willow outlets were lined this fall. We received a grant in the amount of \$200,000 from CWCB/Gunnison Round Table to complete the project. The cost to The LCWUA was a little over \$50,000.00. In 2021 a new automatic headgate was installed at the Carl Smith Reservoir. This has allowed Paul Schmucker to release water from his cell phone, instead of the taking the long trip to the reservoir. We have been able to save several acre feet of water.

There is still a backlog of stock certificates that are being worked on. We are down to just a few now. Steve Ela, Tom Alvey and Shellie Gies will continue to work on certificates this winter.

In 2020 we set the percentage of irrigation/domestic water at 65%. We had to drop that percentage towards the end of the 2020 season. In 2021 we set the the percentage at 60%. We were able to deliver water at the percentage this year. We had a little left over. We received a good amount of rain this summer.

Tom Alvey stated the Reservoirs were in better shape this year than they have ever been.

Greg Krush asked about the 88 ½ ft decree that was on the abandoned list this year. Paul Schmucker stated that it was not an issue and was not used. Krush also asked about what will happen to us if California were to put a call on

the river. It was explained by Tom Alvey and Paul Schmucker that most of our decrees are pre-1922. Pre-compact water will be the last to ever be called. Alvey is hopeful there will be negotiations that will take place, and our water will be secure. Arizona will have to take cuts first. It would be a couple of years before any calls would be set in place. Krush asked about hydros on the ditch. Tom stated there is a slight possibility this can happen. Mike Owens stated they have not worked properly in the past. Tom said hydros are improving and maybe down the road this will be possible.

Reservoir Managers Report was handed out and presented by Steve Tuck. Highlights were: The total fill amount was 4,119-acre feet. If all the reservoirs were full, we can store 4,844-acre feet. There was 530-acre feet left after the end of irrigation season. Jason Ward was only able to inspect the Carl Smith this year. He had to put off the rest until next year. The Carl Smith inspection came out good this year. The estimated amount of water that was saved this year because of the new automatic headgate at the Carl Smith was 200-to-300-acre feet. There are still issues with the new headgate that Tuck and Schmucker hope to fix next year. They agree the equipment is good but the program that runs it, needs work. The Miller, Wash Tub and Elk Wallows need to have work done next year. The pipelining project went well for the most part. Kendall's Excavating went above and beyond to get this project completed. They ended up having to transport equipment around for American West, who did not have appropriate equipment for the job.

Discussion of raising the Doughty spillway two feet was had. This would be one of the less expensive ways to increase storage capacity. The Forest Service has been contacted to look into this project. There was an inspection done to verify that Fens were not present in the areas that water would cover. Tuck also looked into an unused existing feeder ditch that runs into the Patterson Reservoirs. This would help to have more access to run-off water. He has spoken to the Forest Service about these as well, along with the private landowners. It looks promising that we would be able to improve the ditch and put it back to use.

The budget for 2022 and actual report for 2021 were handed out. The budget for 2022 that was presented was for \$30.00 per share.

Moved By: Bryan Klaseen (Locke Family Farms), to set the assessments for A1 and B1 at \$35.00, the B2 at \$0.50, to call as needed.

Seconded By: Jason Wrich (Tammy Smith)

Motion Carried: with no opposing votes

Election of Board Members 2020, Tom Alvey, Gayle Ware and Marvin Carr.

Moved By: Greg Krush, to allow the 2020 officers, Tom Alvey, Gayle Ware and Marvin Carr, to retain their Board position until the 2022 elections.

Seconded By: Gayle Ware

Tom asked for any other nominations: None were made

Motion Passed: with no opposing votes

Election of Board Members 2021, Wyatt Wilson, Debbie Gray, Doug Emrick and Steve Ela

Moved By: Bryan Klaseen (Locke Family Farms), to retain current Board Members, Wyatt Wilson, Debbie Gray, Doug Emrick and Steve Ela.

Seconded By: Mike Owens (Town of Hotchkiss)

Motion Carried: with no opposing votes

Lance Rundle said if we are considering buying any sort of pipe, we need to do it now. Pipe is getting harder to come by because they are not making irrigation pipe at this time. Fittings are extremely hard to find. The Shortage is at the factory level.

Paul Schmucker explained the stock water decrees. The two senior decrees for Leroux Creek were obtained during the Paonia Project. The next in line is Current Creek. The 1 & 2 decrees are 1.5-acre feet each, they belong to

Leroux Creek. The #3 decree is 1.5 acre-ft and it belongs to Current Creek. The #4 decree belongs to Highline for 2.5 acre-feet. The #5 decree belongs to Overland. The Leroux Creek Boards needs to get together and decide where to put the #1 and #2 decrees in the winter. Paul believes that was the largest shareholder in Leroux Creek, Redlands Mesa Water Users Shareholders should be entitled to part of the #1 and #2 Stock Water Decrees. Schmucker stated the road going into the Highline is getting more sloped all the time and we need to think about trying to fix it as best we can. The damage is due to the active slide that has been moving the last couple of years. Schmucker also said there are a couple of locations where the Highline Ditch is leaking. One is at the diversion from Leroux Creek. Right now, there is about 1.5 cfs the Highline is losing there. He suggested taking some of the boards out and pouring concrete to stop the leak. He said those boards have not been needed for several years. There was a sensor placed in the Town of Hotchkiss Pond this year. Shellie can look up the level of the pond and turn the water up or down, depending on the level. This has made it easier to keep the pond full and not overflowing. Schmucker said he started running night water on April 25, 2021 this year.

Tom adjourned the meeting at 2:45 pm

Submitted by Shellie Gies