

Ephrata, Washington

April 6, 1946

Meeting called to order at 10:30 A.M. by C. F. Webster who discussed the purpose of the meeting and the need for a united effort by irrigation districts in the exchange of ideas and solution to problems of operating districts. The following were present:

J. A. Weber, Quincy-Columbia Basin Irrigation District, Quincy
Thomas B. Hill, Washington State Reclamation Association, Olympia
C. A. Tissell, Naches-Selah Irrigation District, Selah
H. deSchepper, South Columbia Basin Irrigation District, Pasco
Fred Beisner, Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District, Yakima
Clifford Kail, Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District, Yakima
John Dollenbacher, Naches-Selah Irrigation District, Selah
Leo E. Lowe, Western Washington Reclamation Institute, Seattle
G. L. Sterling, Kittitas Reclamation District, Ellensburg
M. H. Saunders, Bonneville Power Administration, Walla Walla
W. G. Wixson, Naches-Selah Irrigation District, Selah
C. O. Matson, Naches-Selah Irrigation District, Selah
Evan W. Hall, Agricultural Agent, C.M.ST.P.&P. Spokane
A. R. Chase, U.S.B.R. Ephrata
J. P. Simpson, State Representative, Ephrata
Gus Olander, East Columbia Irrigation District, Moses Lake
N. D. Thorp, Okanogan Irrigation District, Okanogan
T. N. Innis, Ephrata
William M. Clopp, Quincy-Columbia Irrigation District, Ephrata
C. A. Kennedy, Stratford
John Rummell, Yakima

The chairman asked each one present to state his ideas on the organization of a united district. Without exception each spoke in favor, expressing many valuable ideas.

The chairman read a letter from Homer F. Manley, Secretary of the Orchard Avenue Irrigation District No. 6, which expressed the opinion of the directors of the district as being in full accord with the intentions and purposes for mutual benefit, that such an organization should be established.

Moved by Sterling, seconded by deSchepper, that an Association of Irrigation Districts of Eastern Washington be organized. After considerable discussion and clarification of terms, the motion was put to a vote. (Only directors or officers of irrigation districts were permitted to vote.) A standing vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was had on procedure to follow. It was duly moved and seconded that an organization committee be selected, consisting of seven people, four of which must be farm operators and three district officials. The following were nominated from the floor:

H. deSchepper, Franklin County, farmer	J. A. Weber, Grant County, farmer
Clifford Kail, Yakima County, farmer	Jesse Widby, Chelan County, farmer
G. L. Sterling, Kittitas County, officer	F. C. Cunningham, Spokane County, officer
N. D. Thorp, Okanogan County, officer	

It was moved and seconded that nominations be closed and that the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for the above nominees. Carried.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at the Coffee Shop in the Bell Hotel to reconvene at 1:30 P.M.

Afternoon Session

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 promptly. General discussion was had on the responsibilities of the organization committee. Final instruction was given to the committee to draw a constitution and by-laws and suggested program of work and submit the same to a general meeting on May 18 at a place to be named by the committee. Meeting adjourned.

The organization committee met and elected the following officers: Chairman, G. L. Sterling; Vice-Chairman, H. deSchepper; and Secretary (ex-officio), C. F. Webster.

The secretary was instructed:

1. To notify absent members of the committee of their appointment.
2. To secure copies of constitution and by-laws of similar organizations and distribute them to committee members for study.
3. To try to arrange for a meeting Fred Cunningham's office in Spokane for Saturday afternoon, April 27.
4. To send minutes of organization meeting to all secretaries of irrigation districts of Eastern Washington, Stapleton, Hall, and Morrison.

John Rummell
Acting Secretary