

STATE ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

Minutes - Board of Directors and Legislative Committee meeting Monday, February 13, 1956, at Spokane, Washington.

Present - David P. Brown, R. W. Hendrick, Chris Larson, Paul Lemargie, William McAnlis, Keith McDaniels, Kermit M. Rudolf, G. L. Sterling, C. M. Zediker, Ted Newstrum and Reed Atkinson and John Getzinger.

There was discussion of Mr. Brown's suggestion that a committee, or some representatives from the Association, meet with various districts to encourage participation in the Association and attendance at Association meetings. It was decided that the President and Secretary and perhaps others should try to meet with district Boards of Directors and Secretaries for this purpose.

There was discussion regarding Senate Bill No. 294, on rights of way taken from irrigation district boundaries by the State Highway Dept. and on Senate Bill 336 which was an amendment to the County Franchise law. Both these bills were introduced at the request of the Association during the last session of the state legislature but were retained in committee. It was decided these should be reviewed and studied with a view of trying revised versions next session, and the Secretary was instructed to send copies to each Director and Legislative Committee member for their study and recommendations.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried that the Legislative Committee be expanded to five members, and the following were appointed to serve on this Committee: C. M. Zediker, Chairman, William McAnlis, Kermit M. Rudolf, A. D. MacKelvie, R. W. Hendrick, with Paul Lemargie as advisor.

There was then discussion of a possible amendment to the ground water code which would make it optional with the Superintendent of Hydraulics to establish a ground water area whenever it would seem to be proper, or make it mandatory that such area be established upon request, and thus enable the districts to claim their own water and collect revenue from its use made possible by artificial improvements which prevent its natural dissipation. No decision was made in this matter pending negotiations with the Division of Hydraulics regarding notations to be made on future ground water permits preserving artificially stored ground waters to the irrigation districts.

The subject of the proposed state water resource policy was then brought up and the Directors and Legislative Committee were warned of the possibility that the committee appointed by the Governor for the drafting of this policy might be working on the necessary legislation to effect the terms of the policy proposed by them. As far as was known, nothing had been done by the Committee since the meeting in Olympia on June 24, 1955 at which time it was agreed that an Advisory Committee should be formed. It was suggested that the irrigation districts should be alerted and a careful check kept so any proposed legislation should not be to the disadvantage of the districts. The suggestion was also made that this might be a matter for consideration by the Advisory Committee of the Yakima Project and that perhaps Mr. Lindgren could call a meeting of the members of that committee to discuss the subject. The Secretary was instructed to contact Mr. Lindgren regarding such a meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Ted Newstrum, Secretary