TWIN LAKES WATER DISTRICT#95C

ANNUAL MEETING, May 20, 2021 6pm

**Preliminary Minutes**

TWIN LAKES ELEMENTARY, 5326 W Rice Rd.

TWIN LAKES ID 83858

**The meeting was called to order** by Chair Don Ellis at 6pm.. Don made introductions of the Watermaster, Advisory Committee members, officers, IDWR staff, and the Flood Contol Commissioner present. The alternate way of voting was not requested, so we automatically will vote ONE VOTE PER WATER RIGHT HOLDER. Sign-in, handouts, and watermaster business cards are on the table.

**Elections**

The current officers agreed to serve one more year, if re-elected. No further nominations were made from the floor. The following were re-elected by a unanimous ballot: Don Ellis-Chair, Terry Kiefer -Vice-Chair, and Susie Ellis – Secretary. (Moved by Terry LaLiberte, seconded by Rick Van Zandt.

**Secretary Report**

The minutes **of the 2019- 20** were unanimously approved as amended(by Paul Finman and seconded by Joan Schwein).

**Treasurer’s report**

Rick VanZandt, Treasurer, made the Treasurer’s report. It was unanimously approved as presented.

**Compensation**

Watermaster Steve Neff presented his ideas for compensation for watermaster, assistants, and treasurer. He proposed that they be paid hourly. Watermaster and treasurer at $30. an hour. (Last year we approved $40. an hour for watermaster and up to $3000. for treasurer). Assistant Watermasters will remain at $20 an hour. Steve’s recommendations passed unanimously after being moved by Joan Schwein and seconded by Terry LaLiberte.

**Watermaster’s Report**

Steve Neff made the Annual Watermaster's Report. ( See attached one-page document).Paul Finman asked if copies of Steve’s report were available. Steve said he had already posted his report on the Water District’s website. Watermaster’s data is housed on this website: **twinwaterdistrict.org**. The budget, treasurer’s report, and minutes are located there also. When the baton was passed to Steve from the Flood Control District in the spring of 2020, the lake level was 10.6. Less water run-off/a drier year is expected for 2021. Remember that the downstream stock right is 365 days a year. Paul Finman said that his field did not flood this spring, as it usually does. He asked,” Does this mean we will have water issues later this year?” Steve answered that it will likely be a tougher year in delivering water. The dam was down to 1”, the lowest Steve can remember. He has been able to deliver water so far. Fixing the man-made creek section would help; Steve continues to work with IDWR on this. The landowner’s permission is also needed. Paul then asked if the downstream cattle would not get enough water and asked about a specific downstream well. Steve said that surface water/wells were outside his venue. That Paul’s questions should be addressed to IDWR Doug Jones. Paul continued, but was ruled out-of-order because this was not a water district issue – and also not on the agenda. Doug Jones suggested that Paul meet with him after the meeting to address his concerns. The Annual Watermastr’s Report was accepted, as presented by Steve.

**PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR 2021-22** See attached summary of these projects. His top priority is to ascertain who is, and is not, pulling water from the lake. Their will be signage put up to remind property owners to let Steve know if they are drawing water and their contact information. This will be quite helpful if we have a shortage of water later this year. This is also a IDWR priority. Steve said that a simple weir at the dam is also a priority anD will give us more accurate water data than the Stephen’s system at LOW WATER LEVELS. Other possible projects are to cover the equipment boxes at the dam- to protect the equipment from the weather. Possibly some additions to the camera system. These proposed projects can be paid for without raising the $15.-$16. tax assessment per year, per water right. These projects were approved with the proposed budget in the next section.

**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021–22** was presented by Steve. Income is expected to be $6100. The year’s expenses will total $13,004. Our income plus about $7000. from our reserves will cover this and leave us $18,524 in reserve. Debra Andrews moved, and Rick Van Zandt seconded, that we approve the proposed projects/capital expenses and the proposed budget. This was passed unanimously.

**NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS** – **PART 2** The current 3 at-large water advisory members – Jason Lucas, Doug Jayne, and Renee Miller- will run for re-election. Treasurer Rick Van Zandt said he is not running for re- election. Renee Miller agreed to run for the treasurer’s position. No further nominations were made from the floor. They were elected by a unanimous ballot. (The chair and vice-chair are standing members of the water advisory committee, as set by the ongoing resolutions passed at the 2017 Annual Meeting).

**REPORTS/Other**

* + **Adjudication – IDWR Doug Jones** stated that the adjudication is still moving along. Doug said that it looks like a drier year; water conservation is important. We may have to cut off irrigation from the lake. He and Steve are working on how to best communicate with water users. Paul Finman again asked about GordonSylte’s well application to supplement his water rights. Is well water measured? Doug said no and that IDWR has no plans to measure well water usage. However, the Director of IDWR can order measuring of those who irrigate 5+ acres. Paul was again told that the proper venue for these questions was not the water district meeting, but IDWR. Paul continued talking and made defaming comments about several water right holders present and the IDWR staff present. Don gaveled Paul out of order- and told him several options for recourse, if he so chose.
  + **FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT-** Commissioner Gordon Sylte chose not to comment. Steve Neff made a brief FCD summary.

**NEXT MEETING**- will be in May 2022.**ADJOURNMENT –** The meeting was adjourned at 7:03pm.

Respectively submitted,

Susie Ellis, Secretary