

STATE ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

Minutes - Board of Directors and Legislative Committee meeting, Thursday, June 9, 1955, at Ellensburg, Washington.

Present - A. D. MacKelvie, David P. Brown, R. W. Hendrick, Chris Larsen, Paul Lemargie, William McAnlis, Keith McDaniels, G. L. Sterling and C. M. Zediker, Directors and Legislative Committee members, F. A. Kern, N. D. Thorp, Mr. Wright of the Ellensburg Record, Mr. Williams of the Spokesman Review, and Ted Newstrum.

The minutes of the meeting of Thursday, April 14, 1955, were read and approved as read.

The Secretary reported the acceptance by Mr. Earl Gregory of Quincy, President of the Board of the Quincy-Columbia Basin Irrigation District, of the appointment as Director-at-Large of the Association for the remainder of the term of Paul Booker.

The Board was informed that an inquiry had been made as to whether the Association would endorse a group insurance plan for all the districts. It was the decision of the Board that this was a matter for each individual district to consider and that the districts should be contacted separately.

The Board was informed that under Chapter 353, Laws of 1955, concerning Local Improvement Districts in cities and towns, the lien created by the L.I.D. "shall be paramount and superior to any other lien or encumbrance theretofore or thereafter created except a lien for general taxes". This makes such a lien superior to that for irrigation district assessments against property within a city or town. It was suggested that this law should be amended at the next legislative session.

A new form of oath is now required under the Subversive Activities Act and should be signed by all irrigation district employees. The Secretary was instructed to secure this form and send copies to all the district secretaries.

The Board then discussed the proposed Water Resource Policy statement prepared by a committee of five department heads of the state, appointed by the Governor, and the matter of a statement by the Association and representation by the Association at a meeting to be held in Olympia on June 24th. After considerable discussion on the subjects of water use, water rights, the importance of irrigation in connection with the establishment of any state water policy, and the dangers inherent in the drafting and administering of a state water policy by the five code department heads, whose Directors constitute the Water Resource Policy Committee, the Board asked Mr. Lemargie to prepare a statement expressing the views of the Association. This statement should be submitted to the Board members for comment before the meeting. It was also suggested that we propose the formation of an advisory committee to assist the Governor's committee in preparing a state water policy.

The following resolution was then unanimously approved: That the President and Secretary of the Association and Mr. C. M. Zediker, represent the Association at the hearing on the proposed state water policy in Olympia on June 24th and present the statement of the Association at that time."

After some general discussion, the meeting adjourned.

Ted Newstrum, Secretary