

**Bishop Creek Water Association
Annual Meeting Summary
March 1st, 2016**

I. Opening and Introductions

The BCWA meeting was opened at 7:03 p.m. Trustees in attendance included: Gene Coufal, Jim Yannotta, Merry Armstrong, Henry Means and Rock Baker. Jim announced that Greg Loveland would serve as the DWP representative in the future. Watermaster Chas Coufal was in attendance as well.

II. January 25th, 2015 Meeting Summary

The summary of the January 25th, 2015 Annual Meeting was reviewed and unanimously approved. Gene announced that the approved meeting summaries will be posted on the BCWA website.

III. Financial Reports

The Financial Reports for January and February 2016 were reviewed and unanimously approved.

IV. Election of Officers

- a) President: Gene Coufal was elected as President of the BCWA
- b) Secretary: Greg Loveland was elected as Secretary
- c) Treasurer: Henry Means was elected as Treasurer

V. Appointment of Finance, and Water & Arbitration Committees

Henry Means was appointed as the Chair of the Finance Committee, and Rock Baker was appointed as the Chair of the Water & Arbitration Committee.

VI. Snowpack and Bishop Creek flow and storage report

Greg presented the current snowpack conditions and Bishop Creek flows. A discussion about the runoff in the Eastern Sierra followed.

VII. Water and Arbitration Committee Report

The committee met with members on Sunset and Highland Roads. The committee dealt with a plugged culvert on Audrey Lane. They are working to get water to the south side of Parkwest through the 4-X Ditch.

VIII. Watermaster Report

Chas reported on the culvert projects on McLaren area. Chas also made house calls to visit with residents to explore resolution of flow issues. The Manor Market area was discussed along with possible improvements. Residents were asked to keep ditches clean and to not tamper with gates. When improvements have been made to structures "BCWA" will be spray-painted on it to show that the Watermaster was responsible for flow changes. There was much discussion on the equitable distribution of water and one member presented pictures showing an alleged inequitable spread of water.

IX. Old Business

- a) Bylaws
 - i. Amendment to Section VIII, Section 2 passed by membership unanimously (attached)
 - ii. Revision Status – the By-Laws will be posted on the website and hard copies will be available through requests made to the BCWA secretary.
- b) Adoption of Watermaster Position description
 - A motion was unanimously passed by the board to adopt the description. (attached) It will be posted on the website.
- c) Ditch Repairs
 - i. Repairs on the Vista Ditch at the diversion from the North Fork of Bishop Creek have been completed.
 - ii. Inyo County is set to replace culverts in Ranch Rd. in the vicinity of Mt. Tom and N. Mountain View Road within the next 2 weeks.
 - Comment was made concerning the gates in the Manor Market area that are in need of repair. These gates will be added to the list of priority work to be completed.
- d) Finance Committee
 - i. Back Assessments – Gene and Craig Patton met with attorney Peter Tracy to discuss the ability of the association to collect back assessments. They will report back with the findings.
 - ii. Listing of Properties - The attorney advised against making public a list of properties in bad standing. The motion was tabled.
- e) Reinhackle Ditch at Mt. Tom Rd. Flow Issue – After some discussion, Gene recommended that the affected members meet to see if a resolution could be made. A meeting will be set between the affected parties.

X. New Business

- a) Revision to \$ amount in Article XII, Section 1, Paragraph 2 of Bylaws – Motion was made to increase the amount to \$3,000 and it was passed by the membership unanimously.
- b) Insurance – Rock discussed a joint power agreement in lieu of insurance. He explained the differences and noted that it is cheaper (\$1,200 / year) and it is issued by the same broker as the present policy. Rock will continue researching the options and report back.
- c) Other - A question was raised concerning agreement between SCE and DWP. Jim Yannotta explained the Chandler Decree and storage of water by SCE.

- Rick Pucci commented that there needs to be more education of the bylaws to the membership including depth of ponds.
- Sally Manning commented that she feels that a better map needs to be added to the bylaws.
- W. Matlick expressed concern of not getting water in the Rocking W area.

XI. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Bishop Creek Water Association will be on Tuesday, April 5th, 2016 at 7 pm at the high school library.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gregory A. Loveland
Secretary
Bishop Creek Water Association

ARTICLE VIII- MEMBERSHIP

Section 1

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Section 2

Any owner of real property whose property is traversed by, borders on, or has access to any stream, canal, or ditch carrying the water of Bishop Creek, and located within the boundaries as shown on Exhibit A, shall automatically be a member of this Association and shall be entitled to the benefits and burdened by the duties imposed herein. Any question of membership shall be referred to the Arbitration Committee. ~~and the findings and rulings of the Committee~~ *A decision of the Committee on Water and Arbitration may be appealed to the Board of Trustees. The decision of said committee, or Board of Trustees (if appealed),* shall be binding upon all parties.

Section 3

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BISHOP CREEK WATER ASSOCIATION

WATERMASTER POSITION

Job Description

The Watermaster is responsible for the equitable distribution of flow in the Bishop Creek ditch system. The Watermaster: 1) inspects the various ditches, and diversion facilities on the system; 2) makes flow adjustments; 3) cleans gates and diversion structures as necessary; and 4) accurately records gate settings, flowrates, or ditch water levels. The route is approximately 20 to 30 miles throughout the west/central Bishop area, and takes approximately 2 to 3 hours to run. In addition, the Watermaster is on call 24 hours a day for trouble shooting and emergencies.

Job Requirements

- Route should be run a minimum of 5 days per week (Sunday through Saturday), preferably in the morning. The two off days should be non consecutive. During periods of foul weather, changes in Bishop Creek flow by SCE at Power Plant 6, changes in water use patterns by members, or other changes that affect the system, the route should be run daily. Changes in this schedule require approval of the BCWA Board of Trustees.
- The Watermaster is expected to come to the monthly BCWA Board of Trustee meetings to report on the previous months activities.
- The Watermaster needs to keep a log book of phone calls, gate settings, flowrates, and/or ditch levels throughout the system.
- The Watermaster reports to the BCWA Trustees.
- The Watermaster must have a valid driver's license, a reliable vehicle, and vehicle insurance.
- The Watermaster must be in good health and physically capable of handling a shovel and rake for minor water ditch/diversion repairs and debris removal from channels
- The Watermaster is provided a cell phone for alerts, field notifications (too much or too little water, plugged culverts, flooding, etc.) and be responsive to association related phone calls.
- The Watermaster is responsible to communicate tactfully with BCWA members.
- The Watermaster needs to analyze the effects of flow changes on the complex Bishop Creek ditch system.

Salary and Benefits

- The Salary is initially set at \$_____ per month, half payments on the 1st and 15th of each month. Re-evaluations are made annually.
- A vehicle allowance of \$_____ is provided each month, half payments on the 1st and 15th of each month. Re-evaluations are made annually.

- Vacation Leave - An annual paid vacation allowance of two weeks (14 calendar days) will be provided for the first five years of employment. From the sixth through twelfth year of employment he shall receive 3 weeks' vacation. From the 13th year of employment he shall receive 4 weeks. His vacation time shall be credited to him each pay period, and will accumulate. It must be used within 3 years of being credited, except that he may not take vacation during the first six months of employment. The use of vacation leave shall be permitted as the work situation permits and must be approved by the BCWA Board President.
- Sick Leave – The Watermaster will be granted up to two weeks sick leave per year, to be used only for reasons of illness or injury, or for preventive medical measures which cannot be fitted into the work day. Sick leave shall be credited to him at each pay period, and will accumulate for sick leave purposes only, without limitation during employment.
- Leave Without Pay – If a situation arises in which the Watermaster needs more leave time than he has credited to him, he may be permitted to negotiate with the BCWA Board President to take leave time without pay. The reasons for taking such leave and the needs of the job must be taken into consideration in granting such leave. All accumulated vacation leave time, as well as sick leave time, if pertinent, must be used before leave without pay shall be granted. No additional vacation or sick leave will accumulate while the Watermaster is on leave without pay. The taking of leave without pay during the first 6 months of employment shall only be permitted in emergent situations.

**Bishop Creek Water Association Annual Meeting
March 1st, 2016**

Attendance Sheet

Name	Address
Mary Armstrong	399 Vista
Ray R. R.	3612 RANCH
Chas Coufal	Water Master
BILL ROUSH	GLENBROOK WY
UMARK FRUMKIN	310 N. Mountain Creek Rd.
Rex + Mary Allen	2520 Highland
WAYNE + MARY MATLICK	1397 ROWAN LN.
Geo Woods	MT TOM 405
Gene Coufal	2482 SUNRISE
Melinda Scott	2731 Glenbrook Way
M. Stoj	3035 MORNINGSIDE
Steve + Marlene	3601 Ranch Rd
Roberta McIntosh	3061 W. Lane St
Sara Manning	401 E. Yancy
Yvonne Katsarsch	2665 Highland
Kenna Spectre	2625 Highland
Jim Yarrotha	LADWP MANDICH
KEITH + PAULA BODTKE	2298 SUNRISE DR
GREG LOVECAN	LADWP MANDICH
Rick Pucci	2672 Irene Way

