Suggested Changes
to Irrigation Ordinance 2005-01
and Suggestions for Improving the
Irrigation Service were received
from the 2018 Public Review Process

1

### Extend/adjust irrigation season. [Section 3(a)]

(10 responses)

#### Challenges

- ♦ Ensure adequate water supply
- ♦ Ensure adequate time for offseason maintenance

#### Solutions

- Ordinance already allows Board to extend season
- ♦ Annual assessment of water supply risk
- ♦ Annual assessment of needed maintenance

## Spread billing over twelve months. [Section 4(b)] (7 responses)

#### Challenges

- ♦ Cash Flow Payment delayed for months
- ♦ Timing of new applications (Jan 1- March 1)

#### Solutions

- Multi-year service agreement
- Early invoice (May 1)
- Late invoice (October 31)

2

#### Increase Enforcement of Theft [Section 3(i)]

(7 responses)

#### Challenges

- Lack of reporting
- Lack of resources (i.e. time)
- Lack of enforcement mechanism

#### Solutions

- Increase penalties
- Improve ordinances
- Increase Staff time

### Increase District Liability for Outages [Section 1(b)(d), Section 3(e)(f)]

#### Challenges:

- Reduced revenue
- Likely result in shifting cost from a group of customers to all customers

#### **Solutions**

Revise Ordinance

3

## Prevent District from Selling Water Outside the District [Section 1(g)]

(6 responses)

#### Challenges:

- Self Imposed Limitation on Water Rights
- Legal Implications

#### Solutions:

 Currently not allowed without Board approval

## Allow Sharing of Irrigation Service [Section 3(i)]

#### **Challenges:**

- Disputes between property owners
- Property Transfers
- Right to Service

#### Solutions:

- Increased Enforcement
- Record owner agreements against property

4

## Clarify that Irrigation Service Runs with the Parcel [Section 2(b)

(3 responses)

Challenges:

Solutions:

None - Ordinance already addresses this.

Revise Ordinance to clarify.

### Allow one-half (1/2) Miner's Inch Service for Ditch Customers [Section 3(j)]

#### Challenges:

Solutions:

Increased clogging and maintenance

- Increased maintenance and resources
- May require more staff

5

## District Pay for Upgraded Metering Device [Section 3 (l and n)]

(2 responses)

Challenges:

**Solutions:** 

Shift costs from one customer to all

Revise Ordinance

customers

# Change "Must Be" to "May Be" Used Continuously (Section 3(c)]

(2 responses)

#### **Challenges:**

- Ditches run continuously
- Flow based on annual allocations

#### Solutions:

 Replace gravity irrigation system with pressure system similar to treated water

## District Must Notify of Outages [Section 3(c)] (1 response)

#### Challenges:

Emergencies

#### Solutions:

- Provide advance notice of planned outages
- Utilize phones for widespread notices
- Ordinance update not required

## Ban Pesticides/Herbicides by District or Property Owner [Section 1(j)]

(1 response)

#### **Challenges:**

- Keeping ditches clear
- Enforcement

#### Solutions:

- Increase policing of ditches
- Increase manual ditch clearing
- Evaluate alternative herbicides

7

### Other Suggested Changes to Ordinance

Suggestion	Solution
Clarify Public is Not Allowed on Ditch on Private Property	Update Ordinance
Clarify No Livestock Allowed	Update Ordinance
Clarify No Swimming or Bathing	Update Ordinance

## SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS TO IRRIGATION SERVICE

### **Suggested Improvements to Maintenance**

- Outsource maintenance
- ♦ Drone inspections
- ♦ Stop overflowing of the ditches
- ♦ Repair leaks
- ♦ Clean out ditches more regularly
- ♦ Use welded wire or rebar reinforcement in gunite

9

### **Suggested Improvements to Customer Service**

- ♦ Issue quarterly newsletter
- ♦ Improve customer service
- ♦ Increase efficiency
- ♦ Review other agency irrigation ordinances
- ♦ Post costs on website
- ♦ Lower rates



### SUGGESTED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- Pipe canals and ditches.
- ◆ Filter some portion of irrigation water system
- Install more hydroelectric power generation
- ◆ Construct ponds to control silt
- Shift unallocated water between ditches

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### **Suggested Changes Application Process**

- Send renewal notice to customers
- Pre-fill as much information as possible
- On-line applications
- Post priority list of applications on website
- Simplify

### **Budget Suggestion**

Use irrigation service dollars only to maintain canals, not treatment plants. Use treated water dollars for both.