



Water Rights Committee Report
Karl Davis, Committee Chairman
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Written and submitted by: Karl Davis

Date: October 16, 2021

Charter: To protect the water rights that are decreed to Big Elk Meadows.

Committee Members: Karl Davis as Chairman, Members as Victoria Darling, Roy McCutchen, Bill Tolle, Paul Flanagan, Alan Hatfield, and Selina Davis

Irrigation season, October update

New Contracts. Riverglen has provided us with a new 10-year contract which will begin on January 1, 2022. The contract needs to be signed and returned with a one-time \$500 dollar fee. Osborne Caywood also provided a new contract. Their contract has no expiration. It adjusts every 5 years using a price inflation index.

Meetings with Ray Merry, BEMA Member. I've had four meetings with Ray Merry. The two topics were about the **anaerobic condition** (Anoxic water) that develops in our lakes in the summer and the **artesian spring** that runs down the common area between Aspen and Cedar. Ray believes the artesian spring will prove be our best water source. It will require a deeper well and casing near the surface, but it is its own source for water while the others rely on lake water to recharge.

2022 Diligence filing for our Exchanges. The first draft of our submittal for the 2022 Diligence filing was sent to the Water Rights Committee and other interested parties from our membership. When we have completed the final draft, it will be sent to our Attorney, John Dingess of HROD Law, for him to prepare for our filing with the state and the subsequent court case.

Lower Flume Project. Our lower flume and its surrounding dirt walls cannot handle the tremendous amount of water that flows to it during the Spring runoff. The water carries off the dirt meant to hold back the water and water runs around the flume all summer. Operations is getting bids for the project.

Colorado Rural Water Association. We had a meeting in BEM to kick-off the development effort to create a Source Water Protection Plan. Water Rights were well represented in the meeting. The next meeting is October. 25th at 1:30 PM in the office.