

Moab Irrigation Company
Annual Officer's Report for 2021
February 7, 2022

2021 was another year that started with a low mountain snowpack at about 30% of normal. Future water restrictions and short turns were discussed, however for the most part they were not needed.

The MIC Annual meeting was held via zoom this year due to venue restrictions and in spite of using a new online voting system, fell short of a quorum.

As such, no bylaw changes were made and George Dalton was retained on the board as his seat was up for vote. This year the seat held by Mike Duncan reaches term and he has accepted nomination for another term on the board.

The Utah State Department of Natural Resources contacted the MIC and discussed water usage in our area and the fact that both Moab City and Grand County hold water rights in the Colorado River that they are not currently using. They think a secondary distribution system in Moab to be used for non-culinary purposes would be a good idea using water from the river. Ideas were discussed such as pumping river water up to a large tank and then gravity feeding it down to town. As MIC already has something of a distribution system in place, it would make sense to involve our systems if such an idea were to come to fruition. They plan on bringing these ideas to the City and County for future discussion. Currently there is no actual plan and this is just a possible idea they are floating.

A few administrative changes were made this year. The fee to transfer share certificates increased from \$20 to \$30 per certificate partially to offset certified mailings of certificates.

Back in 1992 it was decided to compensate board members for time spent discharging their duties at the rate of \$10 per hour. That rate has been updated to \$20 per hour starting in 2022.

One of the issues that the company is facing in the lower part of the distribution system is that we are having fewer people using the water in the Moab City area and we could potentially lose water rights if we cannot demonstrate beneficial use of the water right. The company has a limited number of shares available and if a new shareholder purchases a share from the company for use in the lower distribution area, the company will pay the first \$500 of the connection costs.

The individual water assessment rates were increased this year by 1\$ per share and \$5 administrative fee to \$23 per share with an administrative fee of \$123.

This year, during the water season, beavers were once again quite active. Especially at the D1 and D2 headgates. Sam has been kept busy almost daily maintaining and balancing water flow and has done an admirable job of it. Due to his conscientious work as Watermaster, the board approved a raise in his pay with him taking on the responsibility of marking company lines for Blue Stakes Requests which would offset most of the cost of the increase.

This summer during the efforts to fight the Pack Creek Fire, water belonging to the MIC was taken from various lakes and streams to aid in the firefighting efforts. In all about 3 AF of water was used in those efforts. More was taken from Ken's lake and in order to replenish that, the lake received permission to temporarily reduce the flow remaining in Mill Creek from 3 CFS down to about 2 CFS.

The Forest Service also contacted the MIC and obtained permission to use some water from Horse Creek to do road reconstruction and maintenance on Geyser Pass Road. The contractor temporarily installed a retention dam so they could pump into a 16,000-gallon tank for construction use. After the project, the dam was removed. The project was coordinated with the users of that water.

A significant flood down Pack Creek on August 1 filled the company storage shed with about a foot of mud and water and scattered our supply of irrigation pipe. The shed was cleaned out, the pipe gathered, and all moved to higher ground. We are happy to report that nothing was damaged in the process.

It has been proposed and an agreement is being put into place that will allow excess water from Ditch 1 that would normally run back into Mill Creek when not being used, to flow into a decorative water way in Rotary Park and down to Mill Creek. This should not affect any of our users and will provide a nice aesthetic in the park from time to time.

All in all, 23 repair projects were completed in 2021 ranging from small breaks, and minor repairs to digging up a part of Ditch 3 to remove a root plug that was significantly restricting water flow.