

MINUTES OF FIRST MEETING OF  
THE COMMITTEE FOR FORMATION OF THE PROPOSED  
PLEASANT VALLEY BASIN WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

December 9, 1960

2:00 p.m.

Office of M. J. & R. S. Allen  
Coalinga, California

The following were present:

M. J. Allen  
R. S. Allen  
George Uhl  
Ray Keller  
J. C. Conn  
Walter Grey

Walter Cornish  
Waldo W. Weeth  
Wallace Weeth  
M. E. Dollahite  
Leroy Burnett  
Walter Burnett

Joe Lovelace  
Tom Lovelace  
Conrad Vierhus  
Stuart W. Morshead  
Dick Griffin

The meeting was opened by Mr. M. J. Allen, the convener, with general remarks tracing the development of interest by several farmers in Pleasant Valley Basin in the possibility of establishing some kind of water district to apply with either the State of California or the Department of Interior, or both of them, for supplemental water. He stated that the matter had been discussed by himself and a growing number of other basin operators over the period of some year and a half to two years, and that now with passage of the California Water Bonds and the apparent establishment of the Westplains Water District it seemed timely for all interested members of the basin to meet and discuss, at least preliminarily, various considerations involved in creating a water district.

Mr. Allen explained that, at least at this point, both the State of California and the Department of Interior were possible sources for water to be pumped into Pleasant Valley Basin, and that it seemed wise to apply to both sources should a district be created.

It was also generally conceded that the type of district unanimously desired was a Water Storage District.

The question of including or excluding the City of Coalinga in the proposed Water Storage District was next considered, and it was the sense of all present that the city should be excluded. In part this decision was based upon the realization that the city had gone ahead already to prepare its plans for applying for water independently of the farmers, and had expressed the opinion that should the farmers form a district then the city and the district could perhaps apply jointly to either the State or Department of Interior for water.

A further general discussion followed in which present advantages and disadvantages of forming a district were discussed as well as a discussion, in somewhat more detail, of the sources to which the district might apply for water.

As the general discussion drew to a close it became apparent that those present at the meeting generally favored carrying forward the preliminary steps necessary to commence formation of a district.

It was, however, made clear by each member present that the terms and conditions of formation of a district should not be such that anyone within the district was compelled to sign any contract for water simply because the majority of the district desired to do so, but rather that each individual be free to contract or not to contract as he wished after seeing the terms of a proposed contract and the price which he would have to pay for water.

Tentative boundaries were established for the district on a U. S. G. S. Topographic Map, and it became apparent that the district would encompass approximately sixty-five sections located inside Pleasant Valley Basin and running from north of Coalinga to the general vicinity of Avenal.

With the general approval of those present a committee of seven members was created to carry forward the work of investigating formation of a district. The committee is to consist of seven members and is to appoint one from among themselves as chairman with a simple majority ruling. Committeemen appointed at the meeting were Conrad Vierhus, Walter Grey or Walter Cornish, Ray Keller, Wallace Weeth, Joe Lovelace and Stuart Morshead. One position was left vacant on purpose so that the committee itself could fill that last vacancy from among other farmers in Pleasant Valley Basin who were not able to attend, but who might be interested in the district.

The general group then moved to empower the committee to appoint an attorney for the purpose of making a further study and advising the committee with respect to formation of the district. The motion was duly seconded and unanimously approved by all those present.

Committee member Wallace Weeth agreed to act as clearing house for names and recommendations relative to selection of the attorney mentioned in the above motion.

January 5 was set as a tentative date for the next meeting of all people interested in forming a district, at which time the committee and its attorney could report on their progress, and it was hoped a representative of the State Water Resources Board might be presented to describe more fully the procedures involved in forming a district, and what the possibilities were for supplemental water.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart W. Morshead  
Recorder pro tem

PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF  
" Pleasant Valley "  
WATER STORAGE DISTRICT

The boundaries of the proposed Pleasant Valley Water Storage district are situated within Fresno County, State of California, and are described as follows:

BEGINNING at the Northeast corner of Section 20, Township 20 South, Range 16 East, M.D.B.&M., and thence southerly along the East section line to the East quarter corner; thence westerly to the West quarter corner of said Section 20; thence continuing westerly to the West quarter corner of Section 19 of said Township and Range; thence continuing westerly to the center of Section 24, Township 20 South, Range 15 East; thence northerly to the North quarter corner of said Section 24; thence westerly to the Northwest corner of said Section 24; thence northerly to the East quarter corner of Section 14 of said Township and Range; thence easterly to the center of said Section 14; thence northerly to the North quarter corner of said Section 14 which is also common to the South quarter corner of the adjoining Section 11; thence northwesterly to the West quarter corner of said Section 11; thence northwesterly to the North quarter corner of Section 10 of said Township and Range; thence northwesterly to the West quarter corner of Section 3 of said Township and Range; thence northwesterly to the Northwest corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter ( $NE\frac{1}{4}NE\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section 4 of said Township and Range; thence westerly to the Northwest corner of said Section 4; thence southerly to the Northeast corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter ( $SE\frac{1}{4}SE\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section 5 of said Township and Range; thence westerly to the Northwest corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter ( $SW\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$ ) of said Section 5; thence southerly to the Northwest corner of Section 29 of said Township and Range; thence westerly to the North quarter corner of Section 30 of said Township and Range; thence southerly to the South quarter corner of Section 31 of said Township and Range; thence

easterly along the South boundary of Section 31 to a point which coincides with the Northwest corner of Section 5, Township 21 South, Range 15 East; thence southerly to the Southwest corner of said Section 5; thence continuing South to the West quarter corner of Section 8 of said Township and Range; thence northerly and easterly to the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter ( $NE\frac{1}{4}NE\frac{1}{4}$ ) of said Section 8; thence southerly and easterly across Section 9 of said Township and Range to the East quarter corner thereof; thence South to the Southeast corner of said Section 9; thence East to the South quarter corner of Section 11 of said Township and Range; thence South to the center of Section 14 of said Township and Range; thence East to the East quarter corner of Section 13 of said Township and Range; thence South to the Southeast corner of said Section 13; thence East to the Southeast corner of Section 18, Township 21 South, Range 16 East; thence South to the East quarter corner of Section 19 of said Township and Range; thence East to the center of Section 20 of said Township and Range; thence South to the South quarter corner of said Section 20; thence East to the Southeast corner of said Section 20; thence southerly and easterly to the Southeast corner of Section 28 of said Township and Range; thence continuing southeasterly to the Southeast corner of Section 34 of said Township and Range; thence southeasterly to the South quarter corner of Section 2, Township 22 South, Range 16 East; thence South to the center line of Section 11 of said Township and Range; thence East to the East quarter corner of said Section 11; thence South to the Southeast corner of Section 14 of said Township and Range; thence East to the Fresno-Kings County boundary line; thence northeasterly along said County line to the East boundary of Section 7, Township 22 South, Range 17 East; thence North along said East boundary to the Northeast corner of said Section 7; thence northerly and westerly through Section 6 to the Northwest corner of said Section 6; thence continuing northerly and westerly through Section 36, Township 21 South, Range 16 East to the Northwest corner of said Section 36; thence northerly to the Northwest corner

of Section 24 of said Township and Range; thence Northeasterly through Section 13 to the West quarter corner of Section 18, Township 21 South, Range 17 East; thence North to the Northwest corner of said Section 18; thence East to the Northeast corner of Section 17 of said Township and Range; thence North to the East quarter corner of Section 8 of said Township and Range; thence West to the center of said Section 8; thence North to the North quarter corner of said Section 8; thence West to the South quarter corner of Section 1, Township 21 South, Range 16 East; thence North to the center of said Section 1; thence West to the West quarter corner of said Section 1; thence North to the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter ( $NE\frac{1}{4}NE\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section 2 of said Township and Range; thence West to the Southwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter ( $NW\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}$ ) of said Section 2; thence northerly and westerly to the Southeast corner of Section 33, Township 20 South, Range 16 East; thence West to the Southwest corner of said Section 33; thence North to the Northwest corner of said Section 33; thence East to the South quarter corner of Section 28 of said Township and Range; thence North to the center of said Section 28; thence East to the East quarter corner of said Section 28; thence North to the Northeast corner of said Section 28; thence West to the South quarter corner of Section 21 of said Township and Range; thence North to the North quarter corner of said Section 21; thence West to the Northeast corner of Section 20 and the point of beginning.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM the following described parcel of land: Beginning at the Northeast corner of Section 29, Township 20 South, Range 15 East; thence West to the Northeast corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter ( $NW\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}$ ) of said Section 29; thence South to the Southeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter ( $SW\frac{1}{4}NW\frac{1}{4}$ ) of said Section 29; thence East to the center of Section 29; thence South to the North quarter corner of Section 32 of said Township

and Range; thence West to the Northwest corner of said Section 32; thence South to the Southwest corner of said Section 32; thence continuing South to the center of Section 5, Township 21 South, Range 15 East; which is also the Southwest corner of the Coalinga City boundary; thence East along the South line of said Coalinga City boundary line to the Southeast corner of said boundary line; thence North along the Coalinga City boundary line to the center of Section 33, Township 20 South, Range 15 East; thence East to the East quarter corner of said Section 33; thence North to the Northeast corner of said Section 33; thence West to the Northwest corner of said Section 33; thence North to the Northeast corner of Section 29 of said Township and Range and to the point of beginning.