

MINUTES OF  
ARKANSAS RIVER COMPACT ADMINISTRATION

SPECIAL MEETING

October 22, 1957

COURT HOUSE  
LAMAR, COLORADO

Attendance:

For Colorado:

David Jenkins, Las Animas  
Hacket Smartt, Lamar

For Kansas:

Logan M. Green, Vice Chairman, Garden City  
Carl E. Bentrup, Deerfield  
R. V. Smrha, Topeka, Kansas

For the United States:

Carl G. Paulsen, Washington, D. C.

Secretary:

Harry C. Nevius, Lamar, Colorado

Absent:

Ivan C. Crawford, Denver, Colorado

Others Attending:

Jack M. Terry	U.S.G.S.	Denver, Colo.
John T. Martin	Corps of Engineers	Albuquerque, N. Mex.
Ross W. Moor	U.S.G.S.	Lamar, Colo.
Lloyd A. Hershey	U.S.G.S.	Denver, Colo.
J. M. Barrett	Bur. of Reclamation	Pueblo, Colo.
Francis M. Bell	U.S.G.S.	Denver, Colo.
Guy M. Vincent	Water Comm. Ks.	Garden City, Ks.
R. J. McGrath	Water Comm. Dist.67	Lamar, Colo.
Ralph Adkins	CF&I	Pueblo, Colo.
Jas. E. Bone	U.S. Engineers, John Martin Dam	Caddoa, Colo.
Wm. Pattie	Amity Mutual Irr. Co.	Holly, Colo.
Wallace A. Doe	Twin Lakes R.S.C.Co.	Ordway, Colo.
Arthur C. Gordon	Ft. Lyon Canal Co.	Lamar, Colo.
Vance D. Herzog	Ft. Lyon Canal Co.	Las Animas, Colo.
Albert McCracken	Las Animas Cons.	Las Animas, Colo.

Others Attending (continued)

Alfred Nielsen	Holbrook Irrig. Co.	Cheraw, Colo.
E. A. Tharton	Pres. SECRA	Las Animas, Colo.
Robert R. Elliott	Colo. Game & Fish Dept.	Colo. Spgs., Colo.
G. E. Kimble	Representing Sportsmens Club of S. E. Colo.	Las Animas, Colo.
Jim Romer	Amity Canal Co.	Holly, Colo.
R. M. Gildersleeve	Colo. Water Cons. Board	Denver, Colo.
F. L. Boydston, Jr.	Colo. Water Cons. Board	Denver, Colo.

A special meeting of the Arkansas River Compact Administration was held in the Court House at Lamar, Colorado, October 22, 1957.

Chairman Paulsen called the meeting to order at 10:10 A. M.

The reading of the minutes of the July 23, 1957 meeting was dispensed with and corrections were noted. Mr. Green then moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion was duly seconded and passed.

Minutes of the July 25, 1957 telephone meeting were discussed and Mr. Green moved that these minutes be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded and approved.

Minutes of Telephone Meeting of July 25, 1957.

On July 23rd at the regular meeting of the Arkansas River Compact Administration in Lamar, Colorado, a motion to deny the request of water users in Colorado District 67 for additional releases of water was passed by the Administration, but immediately a discussion on the legal rights of the Administration to limit these additional releases if river flow was available resulted in a motion by Representative Smartt to reconsider, which was lost because of no second.

Mr. Crawford agreed to seek legal advice on the matter after returning to Denver. Upon this legal advice, and after consulting Record of Colorado-Kansas Arkansas River Compact Commission (15-72) Mr. Crawford, together with Representative Smartt, asked that a motion to rescind such action to limit releases be considered by telephone by the Administration.

In accordance therewith on July 25th such motion to rescind the action on denying additional releases was submitted to representatives as follows:

For Colorado:

Mr. Smartt-----Yes  
Mr. Crawford-----Yes  
Mr. Jenkins-----

For Kansas:

Mr. Green-----Yes  
Mr. Bentrup-----Yes  
Mr. Smrha-----Not  
available at that time.

There being a majority of representatives from each state voting in favor, the action on the motion to rescind was recorded in the affirmative.

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Logan M. Green  
Vice-Chairman

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Harry C. Nevius  
Secretary

The chairman then noted the agenda called for a report of the chairman, but since he was serving his first day in this post, there was obviously nothing for him to report.

Secretary Nevius read a letter from Colonel Cron and his answer to the Colonel concerning irrigation releases and overtime payment of reservoir operation personnel. These letters follow:

CORPS OF ENGINEERS, U. S. ARMY  
Office of the District Engineer  
ALBUQUERQUE DISTRICT  
P. O. Box 1538  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Refer to File No. SWKVK

16 August 1957

SUBJECT: Irrigation Releases - John Martin Dam, Colorado

TO: Mr. Harry C. Nevius, Secretary  
Arkansas River Compact Administration  
Lamar, Colorado

Dear Mr. Nevius:

Restrictions have been placed on the payment of over-time for all activities, not of an emergency nature, performed at operation and maintenance projects, such as John Martin Dam, Colorado. This has presented a small problem as to making "after hours" gate adjustments for irrigation releases.

The term "emergency" has been defined as work in connection with floods or in the emergency repair to utilities direction affecting operation of the dam. The closing of the gates as a result of floods is covered in the emergency category.

It will be appreciated if the requests from the Arkansas River Compact Administration for routine adjustments in the setting of the gates for irrigation releases can be made during the period 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Should it be found impractical to make your requests during these hours the adjustments will still be made at whatever time you make the request. As you know, personnel are on duty at John Martin Dam seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. After those hours, telephone calls can be made to the employees living on the project.

Your cooperation in anticipating your needs, insofar as practical, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily will be appreciated; however, your requests will be complied with at any time they are made.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Robert E. Cron, Jr.  
ROBERT E. CRON, Jr.  
Colonel, CE  
District Engineer

COPY

ARKANSAS RIVER COMPACT ADMINISTRATION

Lamar, Colorado

September 2, 1957

Refer to File SWKVK

Col. Robert E. Cron, Jr., C. E.  
District Engineer  
Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Colonel Cron:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of August 16th, 1957 regarding overtime at John Martin Dam.

We will be glad, in so far as possible to make regular requests for adjustments on the gates between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 3:00 P. M., however sometimes it is impossible to anticipate demands made by individual ditches so as to bring them within these time limits. The Compact Administration as you know governs the amount of their requests, on sum of demands made by individual ditches in both Kansas and Colorado. We will certainly try to regulate changes in the requests, to meet restrictions of overtime allowances.

We appreciate<sup>e</sup> very much the cooperation of the Corps of Engineers, especially local personnel, when requests are made. Usually local rains or flood conditions are responsible for sudden changes and we have felt that in the interest of water conservation that requests made under these conditions are justified.

Since John Martin Reservoir has abundant storage for this season the problem of fitting our requests to meet overtime restrictions should be fairly simple, but before next season the Operation's Committee of the Compact Administration might wish to study the problem with representatives of the Corps of Engineers.

Again we wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation we have had from the Corps of Engineers in the past in regulation of the gates on John Martin Dam.

Sincerely yours,

Harry C. Nevius,  
Secretary

cc:

Hackett Smartt, Lamar, Colorado  
Carl E. Bentrup, Deerfield, Kansas

A discussion was held of the reservoir operation, during which Mr. Bone was called upon to explain the time lag between opening the gates for a requested release and the flow reaching the gaging station. Mr. Bentrup's motion was seconded and approved that the operations committee should meet with the reservoir operators before the next irrigation season to discuss operational procedures. Further discussion of the subject resulted in the secretary being instructed to request the Colorado ditches to notify the reservoir operators between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 3:00 P.M. for changes in reservoir releases to conform with Colonel Cron's request. The secretary was instructed to send a copy of Colonel Cron's letter to Mr. Vincent with a request that he notify the Kansas ditches of its contents.

The budget was discussed and Mr. Smrha moved that the secretary be authorized to call upon the states for funds appropriated for the current year -- \$1800 from Colorado, and \$1200 from Kansas. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Nevius stated that the accounts of the Administration should be audited after this month, and after some discussion, Mr. Bentrup's motion was seconded and approved authorizing the secretary to employ Mr. Rollins, a certified public accountant, to audit the books for the "report" year November 1, 1956 through October 31, 1957.

A discussion was held concerning the agreement whereby the Compact Administration furnishes \$500 a year to the U. S. Geological Survey for cooperation in the maintenance and operation of the five compact gaging stations. Mr. Bell and Mr. Terry explained the funds and costs of operating the gages and intimated that U.S.G.S. funds might not be available for major repairs or replacement of equipment necessary in the near future. Mr. Smrha suggested that the Administration budget should be considered in the March meetings so that it could be submitted to the legislatures of Colorado and Kansas. Mr. Smrha moved that the engineering committee be instructed to confer with Mr. Terry and report in the March meeting on funds needed for gaging stations major repairs and expenses. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Nevius presented copies of the Administration Budget which follows:

BUDGET  
ARKANSAS RIVER COMPACT ADMINISTRATION  
For Fiscal Year July 1, 1958 to June 30, 1959

	1957 - 58	Expenditures	Tentative
	Budget	10-31-56 - 10-22-57	1958 - 59
	\$	\$	Budget
Personal Services			\$
Secretary Salary	1,200.00	1,075.75	1,200.00
Social Security	50.00	48.50	50.00
Gage Reports	500.00	500.00	500.00
Auditor Report	75.00	65.00	75.00
Capital Outlay	300.00		300.00
Maintenance and Operation			
Bond	25.00	25.00	25.00
Printing	600.00	516.00	600.00
Official Publication	100.00		100.00
Travel	150.00	73.04	150.00
Typing and Mailing	200.00	21.50	200.00
Investigation and Inspection	150.00		150.00
Telephone and Tele- graph	300.00	161.30	300.00
Office Supplies	150.00	40.64	150.00
Total	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 2,526.73	\$ 3,800.00
Estimated carry-over as of June 30, 1958			800.00
Balance to be appropriated by States			\$ 3,000.00
State proportions:			
60% Colorado	- - - - -	- - - - -	\$ 1,800.00
40% Kansas	- - - - -	- - - - -	1,200.00
			\$ 3,000.00

Mr. Green's motion was seconded and approved that the secretary be instructed to send copies of the budget to the states of Colorado and Kansas.

Mr. Bentrup's motion was seconded and passed to authorize the secretary to sign the agreement with the U. S. Geological Survey wherein the Administration will pay \$500 toward maintenance and operation of compact gaging stations for the fiscal year 1958-1959.

The Chairman reviewed the committees and observed that the operation committee, consisting of Mr. Smartt and Mr. Bentrup with Mr. Smartt as chairman, was selected at the July 1957 meeting and it now became necessary to select an engineering committee and a legal committee. Mr. Paulsen read the portion of the by-laws referring to standing committees.

Mr. Green moved that Mr. Smrha and Mr. Crawford be the engineering committee with Mr. Smrha as chairman. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Smartt moved that Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Green be the administrative and legal committee with Mr. Green as chairman. The motion was seconded and approved.

The treasurer's report was submitted by Mr. Nevius and Mr. Bentrup's motion to accept and record the report was seconded and passed.

Report of Treasurer, October 22, 1957

Balance on hand October 31, 1956 Auditor's Report \$ 971.73

Receipts

Call authorized October 26, 1956	\$3000.00	
Colorado 60% 12-19-56	1800.00	
Kansas 40% 1- 4-57	<u>1200.00</u>	3000.00
		<u>3971.73</u>

Disbursements by the Administration

195 - 199 inclusive	12-31-56)	Reported	
201 - 205	" 2-28-57)	3-29-57	1065.69
206 - 210	" 4-30-57)	Reported	
211 - 214	" 6-30-57)	7-23-57	<u>1024.25</u>
			<u>2089.94</u>
			1881.79

Voucher	Date		
215	9- 3-57	Nat.Surety Corp. Bond Treasurer	25.00
216		Mt. States T&T Co.,Service & Tolls	
		July	26.10
217		Secretary Salary (less 4.50 F.I.C.A.)	
		August	195.50
218		Treasurer of U. S. F.I.C.A.	9.00
219	9- 4-57	Mt. States T&T Co.,Service & Tolls	
		August	33.60
220	10-15-57	Mt. States T&T Co.,Service & Tolls	
		September	17.05
221		Secretary expense, mileage 35.44	
		stamps <u>11.50</u>	52.69
222		Secretary salary (less 2.25 F.I.C.A.)	
		September	97.75
223		Treasurer of U.S. F.I.C.A.	<u>4.50</u>

Balance on hand October 22, 1957 \$ 461.19  
1420.60

Chairman Paulsen called on Mr. Smartt for a report of the operations committee who read the following resume' of operations to October 22, 1957.

Report of Operations Committee  
October 22, 1957

Release of Winter stored water from John Martin Reservoir was started with Colorado calling for 450 cfs on April 13. Kansas did not call for water until April 17th when 300 cfs was released for State Line flow. On April 18th when only 7245 a.f. remained in storage it was necessary to notify the State Engineer that the water in the reservoir would soon be gone. The reservoir was declared empty at 8:30 P. M. on April 22nd.

Rains throughout the Arkansas Valley on May 15th and 16th caused flood conditions and storage was declared in the Reservoir early on the morning of May 16th. Runoff continued at a fast rate and by June 1st nearly 60,000 a.f. had accumulated in storage. By July 5th this had been increased by more than 100,000 a.f., and storage reached a peak in John Martin one month later, August 6th with 290,744 a.f. Heavy releases during this period for irrigation in District 67 and Kansas was cut many times when rains occurred on the lower river. Some sluicing of logs and debris which had accumulated in front of the dam was made over the spillways by the Corps of Engineers early in August, but in amounts called for and used by the Administration.

On August 7th Kansas asked for 250 cfs of river flow. This was supplied by releases from Caddoa and from rain water in District 67, but on August 12th no water was available to supply this additional demand. Conditions on the river were very dry and demand heavy for irrigation in Colorado. Colorado asked for 100 cfs of river flow on this date which was reduced August 15th by 50 cfs, and August 16th by 50 cfs. Early in September local rains reduced the demand and releases were gradually reduced until September 14th it was down to 160 cfs, which was later reduced to 110 cfs on September 18th.

Very little water was called for during the latter part of September but on October 1, the release was 800 cfs, 350 cfs of which was for State Line flow. On the morning of October 8th flood water was present in Clay Creek and later that day in Caddoa and Mud Creek. The gates on Caddoa Dam were closed at 3:00 P.M. this day. Since that time releases of 300 cfs on October 9th was made to supply ditches close to the dam which was gradually reduced to 180 cfs on October 14th. Since October 10th no water has been released for State Line.

Storage in the reservoir at 8:00 A. M., October 22, 1957 was 221,215 a.f.

E1. 3837.25

Mr. Green had nothing to report for the legal committee.

Mr. Smrha had nothing to report for the engineering committee.

The annual report was discussed and various portions assigned to Administration members for collection of data. A dummy copy of the report and a printers estimate of cost is to be assembled by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and presented for consideration at the December meeting.

Mr. Smrha moved that the resolution on General Kramer be added as an appendix to the annual report. The motion was seconded and passed.

A motion to adjourn until 1:30 P. M. was made by Mr. Smartt and duly seconded and approved.

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#### Afternoon Session

The meeting reconvened at 1:35 P. M.

The chairman called for any unfinished business and none was presented.

Under a call for new business, Mr. Bentrup moved that Mr. Green be designated to draw up a resolution recognizing the fine work of the four members of the Administration who immediately preceded the incumbent members. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. John Martin informed the Administration that the Corps of Engineers had taken advantage of the full reservoir and made a resurvey of the new capacity of the reservoir. He said that so far no funds were available for completing the analysis of the field work. A discussion ensued on ways and means of expediting the analysis. Mr. Martin estimated about \$6800 would be required to finish the work.

Mr. Oakley Wade, representing various sportsmen's interests in southeastern Colorado, requested that the Administration take under consideration retention of water in John Martin reservoir for recreation, fishing and wildlife habitat benefits. He stated that in his opinion the compact would permit such retention of water and pledged the support of sportsmen's clubs and other local interests in establishing a permanent reservoir pool.

Mr. Wade then introduced Mr. Robert Elliott of the Colorado Game and Fish Department who stated that a fluctuating reservoir was not conducive to maintaining the best of fisheries, but if a permanent pool was established at the reservoir, fishing could become beneficial and the Colorado Game and Fish Department would stock and maintain or manage the fisheries at the reservoir. A very rough estimate had been made at one time of about 20,000 acre feet as the minimum requirement for a fish pool. Such a permanent pool would also be a desirable waterfowl hunting area. He also stated that Carey Dam on Muddy Creek is being rebuilt and that there is a possibility that when it is completed that perhaps some of the evaporation losses from a permanent pool at John Martin could be compensated for by releases from Carey Dam. Studies will be made by fisheries experts to determine desirable depths requirement for maintenance of fish life prior to any possible formal request for a permanent pool.

Mr. Wade then introduced Mr. G. E. Kimble who spoke in favor of retention of water permanently in John Martin reservoir for hunting, fishing and recreation. He read three letters selected to present different interests that are in favor of such a permanent pool.

Extensive discussion of the subject of creation of a permanent pool at the reservoir resulted in a motion by Mr. Green that consideration of the subject be tabled until such time as more details are available. The motion was seconded and approved. Further discussion was held on what details would be necessary before the Administration could take action.

Mr. Gildersleeve, of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, was asked to comment on the proposed fisheries reservoir on Alkali Creek which had been referred to the engineering committee for study. He replied that since the engineering committee was just formed at this meeting it, of course, had no report ready, but that he would review the findings with Mr. Smrha so that he and Mr. Crawford could get together and formulate a report. At Mr. Smrha's request, Mr. Gildersleeve reviewed the findings relative to the proposed reservoir before the whole Administration. Details concerning the location, area, capacity and type of dam were meager and unreliable.

Mr. Smrha said the engineering committee could give the Administration a report on the proposed reservoir at the next meeting.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 P. M.