



Iron County Water Stewards

Recognizing Spencer Jones

Spencer Jones, a member of the Central Iron County Water Conservancy District Board and the Enoch City Water Board, feels strongly about the importance of water in Iron County, and he has worked hard to ensure the area he has always called home will have adequate water for the future.

Jones was instrumental in helping obtain the West Desert water rights the District now owns, attending many meetings with various stakeholders, the state engineer's office, and the governor. He was intimately involved in the final mediation proceedings to successfully obtain the rights from Pine and Wah Wah valleys, northwest of Cedar City.

While it was a challenge to try to “facilitate everyone’s needs and wants,” and there were obstacles, everything has worked out for the benefit of our county, he said. So far the District is on track and on schedule to be able to import that water.

“Obtaining those rights was the biggest hurdle,” he said. “We now have those water rights on our inventory for the CICWCD, and now we’re working on going through the remainder of the process to bring that water from the West Desert.”

He has also been involved in a partnership with the District, the Enterprise and Iron Conservation District and the state to help farmers convert to more efficient low-elevation sprinkler nozzles on their pivots. He said that program has been a great success, with participating farmers saving upwards of 15 to 20 percent of the water they had been using.

The District’s aquifer recharge projects are another water conservation effort Jones is happy to be involved in. He said finding ways to capture and utilize water that would otherwise be lost to evaporation has been rewarding.

Jones owns several local businesses and is involved in the building industry and farming. Jones is a sixth-generation Iron County resident who has lived in Enoch his entire life. His family has farmed in the Enoch area since 1871.

“I’ve always had respect and appreciation for water ever since I was a young boy. Water is a critical part of our county,” he said. “We’ve all got to work together to make sure that we have adequate water in the county.”



He said as he has worked with the District and served on other boards, he has realized even more the importance of being wise stewards of water, and having a plan for the future to ensure the valley's water supply "for generations to come, so that our kids and grandkids have a place to live, just as my family in the past have had the opportunity to live here."

Rob Dotson, Enoch City Manager, said Jones has been a diligent Enoch City public servant for many years, including 11 years on the Enoch City Planning Commission and six years on the Enoch City Recreation Advisory Committee. He has served on the city's water board for the past nine years.

"His growing expertise and practical experience in land use planning, real estate, farming, water law and water use has been of great benefit to Enoch City and the surrounding community," Dotson said.

Jones has also served on the Cedar Valley Groundwater Management Plan Committee, Cedar City/Iron County Economic Development Board, the Iron County Home Builders Association, and the Iron County Habitat Conservation Task Force, which worked to develop a solution for the prairie dog challenges in Iron County.

The purpose of the Iron County Water Stewards program is to recognize community members for contributing to the effort to optimize every drop of water in Iron County. The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District (CICWCD) is actively engaged in education, conservation, reuse and import projects to meet the growing demands on local water supply.

For every effort you make to conserve, we consider you a water steward, too. To Get to Know Your H2O, visit <https://cicwcd.org/>.

GET TO KNOW YOUR



CENTRAL IRON COUNTY
WATER CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT