

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF  
THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS**

THEODORE R. BOOTH  
Special Master  
VALERIE MCCOY  
Deputy Clerk  
Subcases: 67-15209, 67-15210, 67-15211, and 67-15212

09/02/2025  
2:00 p.m. (M)  
Court Minutes

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This was the time and place set for the Status Conference.

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Parties present:

Gary Gallant (C 15209, 15210, 15211, 15212)	--	Pro Se
USDI-BLM (O 15209)	--	Mark Widerschein
Idaho Dept. of Lands (O 15211, 15212)	--	Kayleen Richter, Tom Kearns

Also Present:  
IDWR

-- Lacey Ramell-O'Brien,  
Evan Roda, Craig Saxton, Suzy  
Cooley, Robert Howe

Cody Chandler (new permittee), Braden Jensen with Idaho Farm Bureau, Riata Meldrum,

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Counter	Description
02:06:55	Case called; parties identified. Court requests update from Ms. Rammell-O'Brien. Ms. Ramell-O'Brien provides update. Court asks if it would be better to split off 67-15209 and 67-15210 from 67-15211 and 67-15212. Ms. Ramell-O'Brien advises that she would defer to the parties.
02:11:29	Court discusses document received from Mr. Gallant in regard to relinquishing these listed water rights and what it entails. Court advises that the wording does make this document a bit harder to understand as it does not specifically state that the water rights are being transferred. Court requests clarification from Mr. Gallant. Mr. Gallant agrees that he is transferring the water rights to Mr. Chandler. Mr. Chandler agrees and states that they wanted to make sure they had something notarized and on file with the Court.

02:14:50 Court asks IDWR for clarification on whether the document received would be sufficient to allow the department to process a change of ownership. Ms. Ramell-O'Brien advises that there would need to be more time to confer with staff on whether this is a proper conveyance. The Court states that while it is odd to have a transfer or purchase of water rights without a transfer or purchase of property, it is something that can be worked through.

02:18:05 Ms. Ramell-O'Brien advises that there may be more documentation, but that time would still be needed. Court states that it would rather have the department sort this out and send through an NCAP as is the norm rather than the Court having to muddle through.

02:18:56 Mr. Chandler confirms that there is signed documentation from 2022 as well as a check. Mr. Chandler also states that it was their intent to have Gary (Mr. Gallant) withdraw and that would allow him to file on these water rights. The Court advises that that falls under a substitution of party and is handled a different way.

02:23:50 Court requests update from Mr. Widerschein. Mr. Widerschein states that it is their belief that Mr. Chandler should be filing his own claims on his own water right numbers. The Court agrees with Mr. Widerschein's explanation. Mr. Chandler asks for clarification. The Court clarifies.

02:35:36 Ms. Ramell-O'Brien also adds clarification. Mr. Widerschein also adds clarification.

02:55:08 Court requests update from Ms. Richter. Ms. Richter provides update. Ms. Richter states that she did not receive the correspondence from Mr. Gallant. Court clarifies mailing address for Idaho Dept. of Lands as certification shows that it was mailed to all parties. Ms. Richter states that the addresses are the same.

02:59:06 Court sets Status Conference for November 4, 2025, at 1:30p.m. (M) and advises that Mr. Gallant and Mr. Chandler need to determine if Mr. Chandler will be stepping in as a successor or not.

03:01:08 Adjourned.