

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR APACHE COUNTY

September 18, 2024

CLERK OF THE COURT
T. DeRaddo
Deputy

SPECIAL WATER MASTER
SHERRI ZENDRI

In Re: *Transamerica Title insurance Co.*
Contested Case No: CV6417-33-6784

In re the General Adjudication of
All Water Rights to Use Water in the
Little Colorado River System and Source

FILED: 9/23/2024

In re: Initial Status Conference
HSR: Silver Creek Hydrographic Survey

MINUTE ENTRY

Courtroom CCB - 301

11:01 a.m. This is the time set for an initial conference with the Court after a lengthy pause in adjudication, before Special Water Master, Sherri Zendri. This is a case to determine rights to use water on land that the Navajo County Assessor has identified as owned by (60) individuals and entities, and to determine if each landowner is interested in pursuing water rights claims.

In this case, the United States Forest Service (“Claimant”) filed Statement of Claimant (SOC) 39-89984 in 1985, which contains a claim for a stockpond located on it. ADWR investigated the claims made by claimant and prepared Watershed File Report WFR 33-56-077 published in the Final Silver Creek Watershed Hydrographic Survey Report in 1991. Objections concerning the basis of right were then filed. The purpose of this case is to consider the claim in SOC 39-89984 and to resolve objections to WFR No. 33-56-077.

WFR 33-56-077 lists Transamerica Title Company previously owned the parcel of land that most of the landowners are living on.

The following attorneys appear virtually/telephonically via Court Connect/Teams.

- Mark Stachon, landowner
- Skip Allen on behalf of Judith Nordberg, Trustee, landowner
- Joseph and Ellen Castaldo, landowner
- Sandra Hatcher, landowner
- Mitchell Araman, landowner
- Johanna Hammel (joined later)
- Brandon Delgado on behalf of the Hopi Tribe
- Candace French on behalf of the Navajo Nation
- Kathrn Ust on behalf of SRP
- Garrett Perkins on behalf of the LCR Coalition
- Karen Nielsen on behalf of ADWR
- Maggie Woodward on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice

Ms. Ust, on behalf of SRP, states that although SRP is listed as an objector in the case initiation order, SRP did not file any objections to the WFR under consideration. The Court acknowledges the error and agrees that SRP has not filed any objections regarding the WFR in consideration for this contested case.

Landowners, Mark Stachon, Mitchell Araman and Judith Nordberg, Trustee, Joseph and Ellen Castaldo, Sandra Hatcher, and Johanna Hamill each state that they are not interested in pursuing a water right.

Bruce and Julie Phillips, Trustees, inform the Court that they no longer own the land.

The Court will send out a separate notice to each landowner that requires any landowner who has not appeared today and is interested in pursuing water rights, to appear at the next Status Conference and come forward to inform the Court that they are going to pursue water rights.

11:16 a.m. Matter concludes.

NOTE: All court proceedings are recorded digitally and not by a court reporter. Should you want an unofficial copy of the proceedings, the parties or counsel may request a CD of the proceedings. **For copies of hearings or trial proceedings recorded previously, please call Electronic Records Services at 602-506-7100, or order online at ERS@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov.**

A copy of this minute entry will be sent to all people on the court-approved mailing list for this matter.

LATER:

IT IS ORDERED removing the following from the court approved mailing list (CAML) for this contested case as they have each state that they are not interested in pursuing a potential water right:

Mark Stachon
Mitchell W and Jean Araman
Judith Nordburg
Joseph and Ellen Castaldo, Sandra Hatcher
Calvin J and Johanna P Hammel
Bruce and Julie Phillips (no longer owners of the subject property)

All will receive courtesy copies of this minute entry.