

EXCERPT OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DAKOTAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC., BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MAY 15, 1967.

Resolved, That Directors Merkel and Hausauer attend the meeting to be held on May 20, 1967, at Redfield, South Dakota, and that the following resolution be adopted:

Whereas, Hearings are scheduled to be held by representatives of the United States Congress at Redfield, South Dakota, concerning the appropriation of funds to proceed with the development of the Oahe Irrigation District; and

Whereas, The Cooperative and its members deem it highly beneficial to the economy of the areas served by members of this Cooperative that such construction proceed at the earliest practical date; and

Whereas, Dakotas Electric Cooperative, Inc. and its members are desirous that members of Congress, as well as Federal agencies affected, be advised that such cooperatives are willing and anxious to cooperate in the early construction and development of the Oahe Irrigation District.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, That Dakotas Electric Cooperative, Inc., acting by and through its Board of Directors assembled in regular meeting at Bismarck, North Dakota, this 15th day of May, 1967, does urge the prompt appropriation of funds to proceed with the construction and operation of the Oahe Irrigation District in South Dakota at the earliest practicable date, and

Further resolved, That directors of this Board authorized to attend hearings to be held at Redfield, South Dakota, on May 20, 1967, be furnished copies of this resolution for use at said hearings.

Senator McGOVERN. Senator Burdick just suggested that if there are witnesses here who have a deadline and are anxious to be heard, we would be glad to give you some priority here.

I think we will make it all through the list here, but if there is someone up against a deadline, give us notice and we will give you that priority. If not, I am going to call on Robert Van Winkle, who is also a Brown County farmer. We heard from his father a little while ago. We will hear from the son now.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT VAN WINKLE, ABERDEEN, S. DAK.

MR. VAN WINKLE. Honorable Senators, my name is Robert Van Winkle. My grandfather, my father, and I operate a 1,800 acre dairy farm near Columbia, S. Dak. I am at the present time renting 160 acres. I have had college training in the field of dairy science and have returned to the farm where I plan to operate.

College trained boys who return to the farm are often called the "rare breed" for so few are willing to take the risk that farming provided and instead choose a more secure position in the business world. Far too many of our Nation's youths who have a farm background and an opportunity to farm on their own have made the decision to leave the farm and enter other fields. I was confronted with the same problem and considered all the angles before making this important decision. The main factor in my decision to return to the farm was the subject we are now exploring, irrigation. I feel through irrigation, the farmer would become much more stable. Most important he would be reasonably sure of feed for his livestock. His position would be much like that of a manufacturer of goods in that he would have a reasonable idea of how much he could produce and what resources that must be allocated to have that production for his specific needs. I feel irrigation is the answer to this problem and the