

tion project, and other matters relating to the day-to-day operation of a large irrigation project.

As attorney for the Midvale Irrigation District, it will be my pleasure to discuss the proposed legislation, section by section, and relate to this committee the thinking of the Midvale Irrigation District on the various features of this bill. The commissioners of Midvale have considered the many complex problems existing on Midvale and the rest of the Riverton reclamation project for many years and they believe that this legislation offers a plausible and practicable solution to the ills confronting the entire project.

The commissioners believe that all of the land within the boundaries of the Riverton reclamation project is fit for sustained irrigated farming or for livestock grazing and all of the land is absolutely essential to make an economically feasible project. They believe that irrigated farming alone is not the answer. A livestock operation alone is not the solution. But the combination of these pursuits on adequate land units by experienced operators is the answer.

The Midvale Irrigation District offers through this legislation many years experience as a responsible irrigation district which has been in existence since June 1, 1921. The Midvale Irrigation District further offers experienced farmers who are experienced irrigators with proven ability and success and who are familiar with Wyoming's arid soils, high altitudes, short growing seasons and limited crop adaptability.

The Midvale portion of the project needs to be rehabilitated and completed because it has proven through the years to be an economically feasible farm area and fit for sustained irrigated farming. The remainder of the Riverton reclamation project is extremely important to a diversified farming area. We need third division for some irrigated farming and for pasture and grazing. We need the Cottonwood Bench area for hay and grazing and for future irrigated farming. We need the undeveloped Muddy Ridge areas for grazing now and for future agriculture development. The Midvale Board of Commissioners would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of this committee for scheduling this hearing on this legislation. They would also like the committee to know that they have traveled many miles and devoted many hours over several years in support of this legislation. They are totally in support of the bill and sincerely request this committee's sincere consideration of it.

These gentlemen would like the committee to know that they have traveled many hours and have devoted many hours over several years in supporting this legislation. They are totally in support of the bill and sincerely request this committee to give serious consideration to it. Now, if I may, I will just proceed into my own statement.

Senator ANDERSON. If you will, we will take a break now, and we will be back here at 2 o'clock this afternoon.

(Whereupon, at 12:50 p.m. the committee recessed to reconvene at 2 p.m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

Senator HANSEN. The hearing will please come to order. I think just as we recessed you were prepared to proceed with your personal statement; is that right, Mr. White?