

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA  
MARICOPA COUNTY

02/20/2020

CLERK OF THE COURT

SPECIAL WATER MASTER  
SUSAN WARD HARRIS

Lorrie Stogsdill  
Deputy

In re: Bowers  
Contested Case No. W1-11-3318

FILED: February 26, 2020

In Re: The General Adjudication  
of all Rights to Use Water in the  
Gila River System and Source  
W-1, W-2, W-3 and W-4 (Consolidated)

In re: Status Conference

**MINUTE ENTRY**

Central Court Building – Courtroom 301

2:09 p.m. This is the time set for a Status Conference before Special Water Master Susan Ward Harris.

The following attorneys appear in person: Mark A McGinnis for the Salt River Project.

The following attorneys appear telephonically: Carla A. Consoli (observing only) for the Arizona Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, Kimberly Parks for ADWR, Joe P. Sparks for the San Carlos Apache Tribe, Richard Palmer for the Tonto Apache Tribe and Jay Tomkus for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe and Yavapai-Apache Nation. Russ Richardson appears on his own behalf.

A record of the proceedings is made digitally in lieu of a court reporter.

Mr. Richardson filed a Response with the Clerk of the Court with a copy to the Special Master that was properly captioned. He only provided a copy of the Response to Mr. Sparks. The Court advises Mr. Richardson that he needs to provide a copy of the Response to all parties on the mailing list. The Court will attach a copy of the mailing list to this minute entry.

The Court summarized the Response in which Mr. Richardson said he is claiming the right to irrigate the 6,500 square feet in question. He also sent a letter to the National Archives to search for supporting documentation. Mr. Richardson also requested documentation from ADWR but ADWR declined his request. Mr. Richardson asked for a Court Order directed to ADWR to provide any such documentation.

Mr. Richardson states that the Geldmacher claim may have documents that may support his claim as well. The Court advises he may go to the Clerk of the Court to review the documents in *In re Geldmacher*, Contested Case No. W1-11-3320 and see what has been filed in cases in areas surrounding his property that may be helpful.

The Court advises Mr. Richardson that he needs a document showing water being used on the 6,500 square feet before 1919 to support his claim. The Court advises Mr. Richardson that another case involving land in close proximity to his land is *In re Aravaipa Farm, LLC*, Contested Case No. W1-11-3321 and that Statement of Claim 36-37021 filed in that case and publically available on ADWR's website has historical documents about water use in the area that may assist him.

The Court will set another status conference in 90 days to review Mr. Richardson's progress.

The Court explains the filing procedure required to Mr. Richardson.

2:24 p.m. Matter concludes.

**LATER:**

**IT IS ORDERED** setting a status conference on **May 19, 2020** at **1:15 p.m.** in the Superior Court of Arizona, Central Court Building, Courtroom 301, 201 West Jefferson Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003-2202.

Instructions for telephonic participation:

Dial: 602-506-9695 (local)

1-855-506-9695 (toll free long distance)

Dial Collaboration (conference) Code 357264#

All papers filed in this case with the Clerk of the Court with a copy to the Special Master must also be distributed to all persons on the court approved mailing list which is as follows:

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2:24 p.m. Matter concludes.

A copy of this minute entry is provided to all parties on the Court approved mailing list.