

**FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CHAVES COUNTY
STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

**Nos. 20294 and 22600
Consolidated 2017 JUN 12 AM 9:23**

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO, ex rel.
STATE ENGINEER
And PECOS VALLEY ARTESIAN
CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

**KATE ESPINOZA
DISTRICT COURT CLERK**

**Hon. James J. Wechsler
Presiding Judge**

Plaintiffs,

v.

**L.T. LEWIS et al., and
THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA**

D504-WA-6000000; D504-WB-1000001;
D504-WC-7000000; D504-WD-4000000;
D504-WE-5000001; D504-WF-8000001;
D504-WG-9000000; D504-WH-3000001;
D504-WI-00000000; D504-WJ-2000000;
D504-WK-11000001; D504-WN-14000001;
D504-WR-18000001; **D504-WS-19000001**

Defendants.

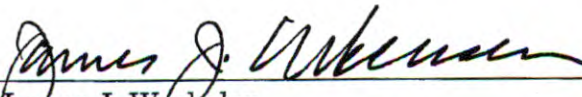
ORDER APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF WATER MASTER

PURSUANT TO paragraph 5 on page 4 of the Partial Final Judgment and Decree entered in this case on December 23, 1970, the State of New Mexico moved the Court to issue an order vacating the appointment of Mr. David L. Thomas as Water Master and approving the appointment of Mr. John Stewart as Water Master of the Roswell Artesian Basin. Pursuant to State Engineer Order No. 174, the State Engineer may declare sub-districts and appoint sub-district water masters. Due to the retirement of the previous Water Master Mr. Thomas, there is a need to for a water master to carry on his duties. The State Engineer has appointed Mr. John Stewart as the Water master of the Roswell Artesian Basin, and on his behalf the State moved the court to approve the appointment of Mr. Stewart pursuant to the Partial Final Judgment and Decree dated December 22, 1970, in the above

captioned matter. After consideration of the foregoing this Court FINDS AND CONCLUDES:

1. Mr. David L. Thomas, the former Water Master, has retired from his employment with the Office of the State Engineer;
2. A Water Master is needed to carry on the duties previously assigned to Mr. Thomas;
3. Mr. John Stewart has been appointed by the State Engineer and is qualified to serve as Water Master.
4. Pursuant to Rule 1-007.1, NMRA, the State sought the concurrence of counsel of record in this case by letter dated February 21, 2017 asking for concurrence or objections by March 23, 2017, or the State would take the position that the counsel of record and pro se parties who do not respond do not oppose or object to this motion.
5. None of the parties entitled to service responded in opposition to this motion.
6. This Court hereby approves of the appointment of Mr. John Stewart as the Water Master of the Roswell Artesian Basin.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


James J. Wechsler
Presiding Judge