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J. H. WALKER, COMMISSIONER
S. S. SAYERS, CHIEF CLERK

General Land Office

State of Texas

Austin

June 19, 1919

Captain R.S. Dod,
State Surveyor,
Alpine, Texas.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your plat and report of a resurvey of various blocks of land on the Pecos river above Sheffield in Pecos County, beg to say that on account of the voluminous amount of work lately in the drafting department it has been impossible to give this matter the attention it demands until now.

It appears that you have made a careful and exhaustive survey of that territory and have found several original corners on the Pecos river in block No. 1, I & G.N. Ry. Co., also the NE corner of Survey No. 43, Blk. A-2 to the West of Block 1. I note the excess between these original river corners, and that the position of the river bed as you now find it does not agree with the meanders or position of same as called for in the original field notes of surveys in block 1, which makes it difficult to correctly construct the surveys along the river at many places, and to overcome this difficulty you have constructed these river surveys by running their back lines. There would probably be no objection to this method if it did not give to these surveys an excess E. and W. that they are not properly entitled to, for instance: from your statement it seems that the river bed between the NE corner of No. 37 and NE corner of 43 was never at any point further West than where you now find it. This being true, then it would appear to be error to give the surveys between these two corners excess E. and W. over their field note calls from the river. It occurs to me that the proper construction of the surveys along the river at this particular place would be to commence at the identified NE corner of survey No. 37 and run out surveys numbers 535 and 536 in their order up the river according to their field notes and correct the John N. Swisher to conform to the North line of survey No. 536 thus established and the South line of survey No. 38, as fixed or identified by the rock mound found by you.

If you are sure of the correction of SE corner of said survey No. 38, as found by you, then surveys 38 to 43 should be given course and distance East and West, fixing their back lines according to the short line in field notes so as not to reduce their original acreage, and apportion the excess N. and S. equally, as indicated on your sketch. However, if there is any

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uncertainty as to the position or identity of the SE corner and South line of No. 38, then its South line should be fixed without excess N. and S. in said surveys South of the NE corner of No. 43, which would leave about the proper space or width of the J.N. Swisher survey between No. 38 and 536.

Owing to the uncertainty of the position of the channel or bed of river between the NE corner of No. 43 and NE corner of No. 55, as stated by you, and the probability or possibility that it was farther West at date of original location of this block than you now find it, I believe your construction of river surveys between these corners by their back lines is possibly the only solution, and same is acceptable with the exception of Survey No. 47, J.N. Swisher, just North of Survey No. 542, to which you have given all the excess N. and S. found between the NE corner No. 43 and NE corner No. 55. It is true that survey No. 47 was intended to take up the excess N. and S. in said block, and from that view your construction was based on a logical theory; but, by referring to the Act of 1889, page 104, brought forward in Art. 5296-7 & 8, R.S., 1911, we find that that Act appropriated all excess in surveys and blocks of surveys to the school surveys; therefore, Sec. 542 being a school survey, with no fixed or marked corners on the ground, I am inclined to the opinion that survey No. 47 should be held to its field note calls for 901 varas in width N. and S. and place the excess in school survey No. 542 according to said Act.

From the NE corner of survey No. 55 to NE corner No. 60, you show to have found 38 varas excess N. and S. to each survey and a total excess of 89 varas East and West. Your apportionment of excess N. and S. I think is proper, but your construction of surveys between these two original corners by running their back lines in reverse order from the NE corner No. 60 throws all this error of excess E. and W. in the South line of survey No. 543, the SE corner of which is identical with the NE corner of survey No. 55, identified by you. This error may be eliminated by beginning at the SE corner of No. 543 and running West 3857 varas for its SW corner, as called for in the field notes, and then fix the back line of the surveys upward from this point to the NW corner of survey No. 59, then construct survey No. 60 from its NE corner as you have it. This construction will give

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each survey some excess, but will more nearly agree with the original calls for the river as you now find it at this place.

I note some excess E. and W. in river surveys No's. 62 and 65, which seems to be due to the changes in river bed at this point. Otherwise, your construction of river surveys from the NE corner of survey No. 60 upward appears to be in accordance with your former report and letter from this office dated June 29, 1917.

Your construction of survey No. 3, Runnels County School Land, conflicts on the East with river surveys for which it calls, thereby making a shortage of about 156 acres. Said survey No. 3 should be made to conform to the lines of said river survey, giving it the same excess N. and S. down to the SW corner of survey No. 65. Then follow the calls in the field notes of No. 3 East 298 varas, South 162 varas, and West to a point due South of place of beginning; thence North to place of beginning, etc. This would place the South line of No. 3 further South than you have it and will probably give it some excess acreage and will reduce the vacancy South of same, but I believe this is the proper construction to give same.

The field notes of survey No. 1, block A-2, call to begin at a stone mound 4 miles West and 1 mile North of the NE corner of survey No. 73, I. & G.N. Ry. Co. on Pecos river. If this stone mound can not be identified at the point called for or at some other point, then the beginning corner should be fixed course and distance from the NE corner of said survey No. 73, as called for, which will close out the vacancy of 576 varas E. and W. shown on your plat along the back lines of river surveys 32 and 35. This excess may be adjusted or placed in survey No. 22, block A-2 and either No. 2 or No. 4, block 193, as the case may be, so as to cause the least disturbance with the improvements of the owners of the last named two surveys.

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J. H. WALKER, COMMISSIONER
S. S. SAYERS, CHIEF CLERK



Rob. Dod
June 19, 1919
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Handwritten notes on the left margin:
42
Office letter
Rob Dod
of BK 1 1 & 2
10/10/19

Handwritten note on the right margin:
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When the adjustments and corrections herein mentioned have been made, then corrected field notes of the scrap surveys made for Nolke, Holmes, Jessup & Yates should be furnished this office, made to conform to such changes and corrections.

Very truly yours,

Signed by: J.T. Robison

Commissioner.

Clark: KWM

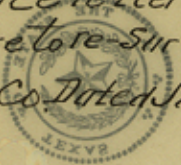
cc to: Judge Chas. E. Davidson,
Ozona, Texas.

Mr. L.L. Farr
San Angelo, Texas.

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6A.

Office letter to Capt R S Dod.
in refore Survey of BIK 1. 1 & GN
Ry Co. Dated June 19, 1919.



J. H. HALL, JR., COMMISSIONER

Rec'd Co

June 19, 1919
R. S. Dod

See original copy of
letter I.

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office, made to conform to such changes and corrections.
made for Noike, Holmes, Jessup & Yates should be furnished this
have been made, then corrected field notes of the scrip surveys
then the adjustments and corrections herein mentioned

Signed by: J. T. Robinson
Very truly yours,
Commissioner.

Clerk: KMM

cc, to: Judge Chas. E. Davidson,
Ozona, Texas.
Mr. L. L. Parr
San Angelo, Texas.

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L. 64

Original
Letter of Instructions to
R. S. Dod

Dated June 19, 1919

WM. H. McDONALD
COMMISSIONER
GENERAL LAND OFFICE
AUSTIN, TEXAS



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