

**Bear River Water Conservancy District  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday, January 29, 2014 7:00 p.m.  
Bear River Water Conservancy District Conference Room  
102 West Forest Street, Brigham City, Utah**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Trustees: Chairman Clinton Burt, Vice Chairman Ross Rudd, Financial Chairman LaRall Thompson, Jay Carter, Charles Holmgren, Brent Baugh, Richard Day, Dave Forsgren, Roger Fridal and Tyler Vincent

Staff: General Manager Voneene Jorgensen, System Operator Bob Phippen, System Operator Robert Thayne and Administrative Assistant Cassee Harper

Visitors: Bill Bigelow – Hansen Allen and Luce  
Marla Young – Box Elder County Clerk

Excused: LuAnn Adams

**Invocation:** Board Member Charles Holmgren

**Adoption of the Agenda – Chairman Clint Burt**

A motion was made by Board Member Charles Holmgren to approve the agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Board Member Richard Day. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Baugh, Vincent, Fridal, Forsgren, Day, Holmgren and Carter voted in favor of the motion.

**Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held December 18, 2013**

The minutes of the meeting held December 18, 2013 were included with the packet that was mailed to the Board Members.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Rudd to approve the minutes for the meeting held December 18, 2013. The motion was seconded by Board Member Vincent. Chairman Burt, Vice

Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Carter, Holmgren, Day, Forsgren, Fridal, Vincent and Baugh voted in favor of the motion.

**Trustee Oaths – Marla Young, Box Elder County Clerk  
LaRall Thompson – Thatcher, Bothwell & Howell  
Tyler Vincent – Brigham City**

Box Elder County Clerk, Marla Young, administered the oath of office to re-appointed Board of Trustees Members LaRall Thompson and Tyler Vincent. They were re-appointed by the County Commission on December 4, 2013.

**Collinston Project Update – Bill Bigelow**

Bill Bigelow gave a brief status report on the Collinston Project and on the engineering design of the project. The Collinston Project was funded in July 2013. In October 2013 it was decided to add a second water storage tank on the north end of project and a second booster station. Because of this, there had to be some changes in the design. The engineering design is about 80-90% complete and two-thirds of the design budget has been spent. The design needs to be completed and the plans have to be submitted to the State of Utah so we can go out to bid as soon as possible; hopefully by March 15. An estimate for the total design budget is being completed and will likely come in at less than 10% of the total project budget, which is \$3.2 million. The engineering design budget is at \$266,000 and will take the project through bidding. The budget for services later during the construction period as far as inspection, material inspection and so forth, is being worked on and that amount will be in addition to the \$266,000.

**Engineering Contract -**

General Manager Jorgensen explained that because of the bonding process and the Committal of Funds we are required to get a formal contract for engineering and we need to approve the amount so that we can get the contract signed and submitted to the State of Utah.

Board Member Forsgren made a motion to approve payments to Hansen, Allen & Luce in the amount of \$266,000 for the design budget for the Collinston Project. The motion was seconded by Board Member Fridal. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Carter, Holmgren, Day, Forsgren, Fridal, Vincent and Baugh voted in favor of the motion.

**Trustee Reports – Board Members**

**Jay Carter** - He didn't have anything report other than he has some questions about cloud seeding out in the Park Valley area. General Manager Jorgensen said she will show him the map and will find out where and who is to run the generators in that area.

**Charles Holmgren** – He had a Lower Bear River Water Distribution meeting today. They re-appointed the Bear River Water Commissioner, Jim Watterson from Benson. Snowpack in the

area was at 73% We then had a storm a couple of weeks ago that increased the snowpack to 91% it then slid back down to 73% without any storms. So we are losing about 1% of snowpack a day. Pacificorp was anticipating that if things improve we will get an allocation at about 90% of what we got last year. Bear Lake is at 5,912.5 feet right now and that is about a 93% allocation for this year, last year we had 100% allocation. The Canal Board will hold elections at the end of the month; Jay Capener and Curtis Marble are up for re-election. Board Member Holmgren accompanied General Manager Jorgensen to the General Task Force meeting last week. There were a couple of legislative issues that are very concerning for the canal company. Chairman Burt was wondering when the last time the Bear Lake froze over was because when it freezes there isn't as much evaporation and he thinks it has been years since it has frozen over. Board Member Holmgren said it is not frozen over right now. There are 100cfs going into the lake today, but it is barely keeping up with the evaporation. Any fog over the lake means the water is evaporating.

Charles Holmgren was approached by an individual from the Bothwell area who is interested in renting the farm that Chanshare is currently operating and this individual intends to go forward with trying to rent it. General Manager Jorgensen said the land comes up for lease in 2017 and that he comes in every year and wants to lease that land. Chanshare has taken really good care of our land and the rent is current.

**Richard Dave** – No Report

**David Forsgren** – No Report

**Roger Fridal** – There was a pressure issue on the BR Mountain last year with BRWCD water. Paul Fulgham met with the property owners about their plan to correct the problem and they should have that all settled within the week. With the new tank they will be able to maintain pressure at 45-50lbs which is significantly better than it was before.

**Tyler Vincent** – Brigham City is in great shape. Natural Foods is still looking at a couple sites in town. Natural Foods will be breaking ground sometime this summer and there will be a ground breaking for the new hotel in February.

**Brent Baugh** – wanted to share an e-mail from Clark Israelson from Mendon. He had been to a meeting where reports were given on snow pack and water levels. There are 5 recording stations along the Logan River that were reporting 61%, 64% and 66% of normal and 2 of the stations with virtually nothing reporting. The entire Bear River drainage is at 75%, this was on January 21. Water managers tell us we can slide by one year at 82% or above but less than that means we have limitations.

**LaRall Thompson** – No Report

**Ross Rudd** – They had been having a nice heavy rainstorm for several hours before he left for the meeting.

**Clint Burt** – Reported that on their flight between Denver and Salt Lake the day before, the mountains in Utah were bare and he was very shocked at how little snowpack there was.

**General Manager's Report – Voneene Jorgensen  
Weather Modification -**

We got our report from the North American Weather Consultants for cloud seeding. The report shows the snow/water equivalent for different sites in the Bear River Basin. Only two storms qualified for seeding in December but we still have a good chance of having a good water year.

**New Board Member** – Jeff Scott called today to say he is the new County Commissioner and will be the new representative for the District Board.

The 2014 Annual Budget has been sent into the State Auditor's office. We are starting the audit tomorrow. We've had two meetings with the State Water Strategy Advisory Team and both meetings were a little frustrating; there are 38 people on the board and there are so many different and varied opinions. It will be important to have everyone's views but it needs to be balanced. We had a very interesting task force meeting. The task force does not support HB49 sponsored by Kay McIff, the shareholder bill where the shareholder has control of the change application process. That bill would make it very difficult on canal companies and the task force feels that the change application process has worked well as-is. There are some canal safety bills we would like to come to fruition. We don't support the Canal Safety Act which basically follows the Dam Safety Act as it would be more expensive and a lot more difficult to enforce, especially for the State Engineer's office. There is more change on the procurement and we have until January 1, 2015 to do rule-making to make sure we have our policies in compliance. The "Water and the Law" information was given to the Board Members to read, it is a summary of the water issues. There is a meeting on Tuesday at noon at the Capitol where the Utah Association of Special Districts goes through new legislation to keep us aware of important issues.

We are reviewing our 40 Year Water Plan. This is something we have to do to keep our water rights and have them for reasonable future use. Hansen, Allen and Luce has been working with the draft and we need to incorporate the Bear River Development Act allocation into that as well.

**Conference Reservations** – Our annual conferences are coming up and we need to have all registrations in. Rural Water Association of Utah is focused on the operation of water systems and the Utah Water Users Workshop is more focused on water issues. Please get your registration papers to Cassee as soon as possible.

Every year after the St. George water conference in March we partner with Cache County to do a Northern Utah Water Conference. It will be held April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Space Lab in Logan on the USU Campus. We haven't received the agenda yet but they will be talking about draught conditions and what can be done to help. There are a lot of people from Cache County at the conference it would be good to have more people from Box Elder County attend.

**Personnel Policy Manual** – We have provided a draft of the new Personnel Policy Manual. There was a recommendation for us to update our personnel policies from last year’s audit. We used the template from the Utah Association of Special Districts so we have covered all the necessary items and have included our policy as well. We have never had a salary and wage grade matrix in our personnel policy so we have included that in the new policy. They are blank right now because we need to do some work on those. Please review the policy and we will work on the wage and salary portion.

**Fire Protection in Bothwell – Robbie Thayne and Bob Phippen**

We had a very interesting phone call from Corey Barton, the County Fire Marshal. He called to see if there was any way we could get fire hydrants in the Bothwell pocket. When the system was designed in Bothwell it was only for wholesale water then through the years it evolved into retail also. At the time of design the requirements for fire hydrants was to be able provide 1500gpm for 2 hours. There was change in legislation in 2010. The County has changed the requirements to 500gpm for 30 min. The Unified Fire Code said that in rural situations where it is not reasonable to require 1500gmp for 2 hours, the County Fire Marshal can adjust those requirements. At one time there was a committee formed to discuss whether or not to make new homes in the county have sprinkling systems. Many of our water companies couldn’t provide those previous requirements for fire hydrants so the county moved to require that sprinkling systems be put in to new homes. Then in July 2010 they passed new legislation that says a county cannot require a sprinkling system be put in a new home in a rural area if a fire hydrant can provide 500gpm for 30 min.

Stan Summers had been contacted about fire protection in the Bothwell pocket. Some residents were concerned about fire protection since there was a house that burned in the area. BRWCD has six blow-offs in the Bothwell pocket. A blow-off can be used as a fire hydrant however it has to be turned on with a valve in the ground and it is a bit more difficult for the fire department to get water. A hydrant, on the other hand, always has water and can be accessed immediately. It is much less expensive to retrofit an existing blow-off to a fire hydrant than it is to add a hydrant to a waterline. Also, there will be a cost to a new waterline down to our property where there is no protection. If we put in hydrants in the area we need to protect our own property as well. We are looking at putting in 12 hydrants (retrofit 6 blow-offs and put in 6 hydrants) on our water lines to provide fire protection. The cost is approximately \$4,200 per hydrant installed and \$2,500 to retrofit an existing blow-off. After discussing several options, the board was receptive to pursuing the fire protection project and requested more information to be gathered regarding public interest and costs.

**Financial Business – LaRall Thompson  
Approval of Financial Statements**

The financial statements were prepared and provided to the Board Members in the packet that was mailed to them. Financial Chairman Thompson asked for the Board to review the statements and approve them.

A motion was made by Board Member Forsgren to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Rudd. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Carter, Holmgren, Day, Forsgren, Fridal, Vincent and Baugh voted in favor of the motion.

**Public Comment**

There were no public comments

**Closed Meeting**

**To discuss the sale, purchase or lease of real property**

Board Member Forsgren made a motion to close the regular meeting and open the closed session to discuss the sale, purchase or lease of real property. The motion was seconded by Board Member Holmgren. A roll call vote was taken.

Clint Burt – Aye	Ross Rudd – Aye
LaRall Thompson – Aye	Brent Baugh – Aye
Tyler Vincent – Aye	Roger Fridal – Aye
David Forsgren – Aye	Richard Day – Aye
Charles Holmgren – Aye	Jay Carter - Aye

Board Member Vincent moved to leave the closed session and return to the regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Rudd. A roll call vote was taken.

Clint Burt – Aye	Ross Rudd – Aye
LaRall Thompson – Aye	Brent Baugh – Aye
Tyler Vincent – Aye	Roger Fridal – Aye
David Forsgren – Aye	Richard Day – Aye
Charles Holmgren – Aye	Jay Carter - Aye

Board Member David Forsgren moved to go forward with the process of eminent domain to secure the location for the Second Water Storage Tank Site. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Rudd. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Carter, Holmgren, Day, Forsgren, Fridal, Vincent and Baugh voted in favor of the motion.

**Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Board Member Vincent. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Carter, Holmgren, Day, Forsgren, Fridal, Vincent and Baugh voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.