

**Bear River Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 24, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.
Bear River Water Conservancy District Conference Room
102 West Forest Street, Brigham City, Utah**

Minutes

Present: Trustees: Chairman Roger Fridal, Vice Chairman David Forsgren, Financial Chairman Charles Holmgren, Jay Capener, Tyler Vincent, Mark Larson, Richard Day, Russell Howe, Jay Carter, and Jeff Scott

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

Visitors: Bill Bigelow – Hansen, Allen & Luce
Marla Young – Box Elder County Clerk
Jeff Dallin – Bear River City
Bruce Nelson – Honeyville

Excused: Neil Capener

Invocation: Richard Day

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Russ Howe

Adoption of the Agenda – Chairman Fridal

A motion was made by Board Member Vincent to adopt the agenda as presented. Board Member Howe seconded the motion. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Carter, Howe, Day, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held December 13, 2017

The minutes of the meeting held December 13, 2017 were included with the packet that was mailed to the Board Members.

A motion was made by Board Member Vincent to approve the minutes for the meeting held December 13, 2017, with changes. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Carter, Howe, Day, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

**Trustee Oaths – Marla Young, Box Elder County Clerk
Russell Howe – Bothwell-Thatcher-Howell
Tyler Vincent – Brigham City**

Box Elder County Clerk, Marla Young, administered the oath of office to re-appoint Board of Trustees Russell Howe to represent Bothwell-Thatcher-Howell area and Tyler Vincent to represent Brigham City. They were appointed by the County Commission on December 6, 2017.

Trustee Reports – Board Members

Jay Carter – No report

Russ Howe – No report

Richard Day – No report

Mark Larson – Growth is coming our way, it seems, people are interested in building in our area.

Tyler Vincent – I had the opportunity to spend some time at the Legislature today to see what bills are coming on line. It never ceases to amaze me how many bills they can come up with. It seems like they need to go over bills and see if they really pertain to us today. It was a good day and we went over things with the Utah League of Cities and Towns. We need to be aware of the bills coming up. I appreciate all the Water Conservancy District Board does. I am a little concerned about water, but I understand that things are still ok.

Board Member Scott arrived at this time.

Jay Capener – No report

Charles Holmgren – I went with the General Manager to the Executive Water Task Force a week ago and listened to the discussion on SB 96 that was presented this evening. That bill has been amended slightly since then. After talking to the Bear River Canal Company Board President, it has been decided the canal company won't support SB 96 as it is currently written but will not oppose it either, we feel the Canal Company will be protected as it is written.

Today, we as a committee, and water users met in Logan with the Lower Bear Distribution System. This is primarily an auditing of water use on the Lower Bear River from the Idaho state line to the Bird Refuge, nothing much of consequence happened today. Fred Selman was re-elected to his position on that committee. We were told today that Bear Lake is at 5,919.64' and they are drawing down Bear Lake even with the low snowpack numbers this year.

The Canal Company is going through a Water Management Plan with the Langdon Group, which is a subsidiary of JUB Engineering. We have received a couple grants to pay for part of the Water Management Plan and we may be eligible for some NRCS funding for specific canal improvements, but we must have a sponsorship. I recommended that the Water Conservancy District fulfill that sponsorship.

Dave Forsgren – There was an article in the Box Elder News Journal and the District was named. Honeyville is putting in a couple of miles of water pipe, it is about 85% complete. It will be a great improvement to the water system for the area west of the railroad tracks. It should be up and running in March; it has been 30 years in the planning, but it is finally getting done. Everything west of the tracks was a 6” line now it is a 6” and a 10” line and it makes a loop so we don’t have to shut off half the town if there is a water leak.

Jeff Scott – I was down at the Wasatch 2050 Vision Conference that Mayor McAdams and WFRC put on yesterday and the main topic was transportation. We could end up with an additional 3 to 3.5 million people in the State of Utah and Mayor Caldwell from Ogden brought up one item that no one else is taking about when planning for all these new people; with transportation and mixed-use development and high-density housing, how we are going to get water to them all. He didn’t come out and specifically name it, but he was talking about the Bear River Development Project, so it was good to hear one of our neighbors talking about the need for the project.

Roger Fridal – Tremonton is still working on our secondary water system. It will be ongoing for the next 3-4 years. Life is good in Tremonton.

General Manager’s Report – Voneene Jorgensen

You received a General Manager’s report in your packet. One of the things in the report was about our South Willard well that is having a problem. Robbie Thayne will discuss the problems and then Bill Bigelow will go over the recommendations.

South Willard Well – Robbie Thayne

We have started to notice extra sand when we pump the well. We think the gravel pack has settled and we think we have sand coming in from places in the well that weren’t developed. We had Petersen Bros Drilling come back in to help us figure out some solutions. Our two options were to pull the pump and start over with development again, but we determined that would be too expensive, so we went with the second option. We had Peterson Bros Drilling make an access hole and, because the gravel pack had settled, we needed to add 90 feet of gravel. After that we decided to surge the well with the District’s pump. We surged 40-60 feet each time. We did that for 6 hours each day for 3 days. At first, we were getting quite a bit of sand but after a while it started pumping the sand out and got much better. When we first re-developed the well we were getting about ½ ml of sand in the sand meter and it only took 10 minutes for the sand to clear up. After adding the gravel pack and surging the well we got it consistently to 1.5 ml of sand when it started up and the sand clears up in about 20 minutes, that is pumping at 280 gpm. The water is great. When pumping, it has over 100 feet draw down, but the static water level has risen about 30 feet, it is going back down now. We are going to let the tank drop to half full then pump the well and we are hoping that as we pump the well more the sanding problem will get better.

South Willard Well – Bill Bigelow

It has been mentioned that there is a problem with pumping sand at the start-up of the well in South Willard. We have decided to let the tank drop a little bit further then start up the well, and

let it pump until it's clean, then let it run for a day and a half or until the reservoir is full. The water hasn't been this high for many years and when we deepened the well and developed it, the top 50 feet did not get developed and hasn't had any gravel pack because the water level was much lower. I think the more we use it and replenish the gravel pack the better the well will perform. I am not discouraged even though there is sand present.

Tremonton Booster Pump – Robbie Thayne

We tried to turn the pumps on at the booster station located on 12000 north in Tremonton but they had gotten hit by lightning and pumps were frozen up. We installed a new pump and tested it today for flow and it works very well. We are adding a few things to SCADA, so we can deliver water to Riverside in measurements of gallons per minute instead of pressure. Today we opened a fire hydrant and ramped up the booster pump as high as it could go, and we can deliver water to Ukon or Riverside at 415 gpm with that little booster pump. At 415 gpm the pressure is about 140 psi on that pipe. We called Tremonton and Ukon to let them know what we were doing today. Mark Larson was also there while we tested the booster pump. Board Member Larson said the thing he was impressed with was how smooth the change when increasing and lowering the pressure.

Rate Structures – General Manager Jorgensen mentioned that she and Bill Bigelow are working with Matt Millis from Zion's Bank on the District's Financial Management Plan. The Plan will give us a financial overview of the District and each water system. The Plan evaluates revenue and expenses for each system and will guide us in setting appropriate rate structure and how much property tax will need to be designated to each one of the projects. The Plan will give us a guideline as to when projects designated in the Master Plan can be constructed.

Legislature – The Utah Association of Special Districts has a legislative committee meeting every Tuesday at noon and we review the bills that have come out. I phoned in to a meeting last Friday where they discussed all the bills that had come forward at that date. There are over 110 Senate Bills and over 45 House Bills and those are only the ones that are being tracked by UASD because they affect water and local districts. Some of these bills have been recommended by the Executive Water Task Force and those bills are being supported by the UASD. There is a report that is generated each week that has updates on each bill that is being followed and the position of the UASD. They also include a summary of each bill. This report is efficient and well done and if anyone would like to follow these I can give you the login for the UASD, so you can look at them every week.

You have been given you a copy of Senate Bill 96. This is one where developers are asking that when land is purchased and there is a ditch or canal that goes across the property, in the past it has been very difficult or even forbidden to move or divert a ditch or a canal, but his bill will allow the company to be able to move the water conveyance at the cost of the property owner. This is one that the Executive Water Task Force was not happy with, but the development community is pushing it through. There is another bill to modify the calculation of certified property tax rates by adjusting eligible new growth to account for collection rates. Also, SB 28 will require local governments and limited purpose entities to register with the Lieutenant Governor and, if you don't comply, it requires the auditor to prohibit access to certain money and it also increases the State Auditor's enforcement authority. The other bill, SB 29, is one that would require registering with the County.

Year End Financials – The Audit will begin in a couple of weeks and the Profit and Loss Statement will be adjusted when the audit is done. We have completed W-2's and quarterly reports and the year end reconciliations.

Weather Modification – You have the weather modification report for the cloud seeding project. There were 4 seeded storm events in December. They installed 30 weather seeding sites, 21 in Eastern Box Elder and Cache County and 9 in NW Box Elder County. The report shows a map of where these sites are. We have signed the contract with the State of Utah and they will pay 50% of the contracted price of the cloud seeding program.

Division of Water Rights Meeting – The Division of Water Rights held a public meeting in our building. The USGS completed a ground water study for the Bear River Basin and the Malad area and they gave a great summary of it at the meeting. The reason for this study was to determine if there was any water available for new appropriations in the Bear River Drainage area. The result of the study shows there is an additional 10,000 AF of potential ground water that can be appropriated, however, they will continue to do their due diligence to make sure there aren't any wells or sources that would be impaired. They do have some concerns in the Plymouth area and the Deweyville area. Some areas will remain closed to drilling, such as South Willard and Bothwell.

Collinston Water Source – Bill Bigelow and General Manager Jorgensen have met with some property owners in the Deweyville area which will enable the District to move forward in monitoring the level of the Dewey Springs so when the District drills their well in that area we will know if those springs are being impacted. There is no historical data on the springs. Dr. Oaks has done studies in the area and we don't think the District will impair the springs since the District wells will be drilled into deep bedrock. We have been meeting with landowners and the people are willing to visit with us. We would like to move forward in developing a source in the Deweyville area.

Financial Business – Charles Holmgren Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements for December 2017 were prepared and provided to the Board Members. Financial Chairman Holmgren asked the Board to review the financial statements and approve them.

A motion was made by Board Member Vincent to approve the financial statements as presented. Board Member Larson seconded the motion. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Board Member Scott. The motion was seconded by Board Member Larson. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.