

**Bear River Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 7:00 p.m.
Bear River Water Conservancy District Conference Room
102 West Forest Street, Brigham City, Utah**

Minutes

Present: Trustees: David Forsgren, Charles Holmgren, Jay Capener, Mark Larson, Neil Capener, Richard Day and Jay Carter

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

Excused: Roger Fridal, Tyler Vincent, Jeff Scott and Russell Howe

Invocation: Mark Larson

Pledge of Allegiance: David Forsgren

Adoption of the Agenda – Vice Chairman Forsgren

A motion was made by Board Member Larson to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Approval of the Minutes for the Annual Board Meeting held March 28, 2018.

The minutes of the Annual Board Meeting held March 28, 2018 were included with the packet that was provided to the Board Members.

A motion was made by Financial Chairman Holmgren to approve the minutes with corrections for the meeting held March 28, 2018. The motion was seconded by Board Member Larson. Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Carter, Day, N. Capener, Larson and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Public Comment – There was no public comment.

Trustees Reports

Charles Holmgren – There has been some significant changes with the Bear River Water Users Association; Carly Burton has been terminated as the Executive Director and I resigned as President of that organization and they gave me an award.

The States of Idaho and Utah had a meeting on the water right filing on Bear Lake and planned a strategy with the two states regarding PacifiCorp. I did not attend the meeting with the State of Utah and one representative from the State of Idaho and PacifiCorp, they are starting to negotiate where everyone stands in relation to the water rights on Bear Lake at an elevation on the very top 5 feet or so of the lake. One thing of note, I was talking to Eric Millis and telling him what a fine job his brother Matt Millis, from Zion's Bank, had done with his presentation on the District's Financial Plan. He told me that Matt had gone to work for Boise City.

Jack Barnett, who had been the Engineer Manager for the Bear River Commission for 20+ years, passed away on April 13th, which is quite a loss to that organization. He had retired about 8 years ago. His son is the Engineer Manager now.

Jay Capener – The Canal Company is finishing some projects but the one of most interest is we are putting a measuring device in the west canal, so we know how much water we have going west and how much water we have going down the east canal.

Mark Larson – There are quite a few new connections not only on Ukon but on other systems like Marble Hills. With this weather, I bet the water usage will spike soon.

Neil Capener – No Report

Richard Day – They turned the secondary water in from Pineview last week and they were hustling around fixing broken pipes. I think all is going well. This is the second or third season for secondary water and people are starting to realize they need to use culinary water inside and secondary water outside. I think eventually they are going to take the line further north.

Jay Carter – In a meeting a while back, Corey Barton, the County Fire Marshall, said they are going to be inventorying water sites in Western Box Elder County, sprinkler main lines, ponds, etc., anything they can use for firefighting.

Dave Forsgren – Things are good in Honeyville. There is a lot of development going on in Honeyville and Harper Water. There is a subdivision by the city shop with 18 homes, they have the curb and gutter in and are starting to sell lots. I haven't been to city council lately, but people are happy with the new water line out west. I think we have water taken care of for a while.

General Manager's Report – Voneene Jorgensen

Water Rights Filings –

I think we have received all the protests that we are going to get regarding the District's water right filing. I have talked to a few of the people who filed the protests and they said they don't have any problems with the District, but they just needed to put their concerns on record. The water right filings will be beneficial for the District in the years to come. When we saw what was happening with the Master Plan and we saw the need for more water in the future in those areas we felt that we needed to act on those filings. We will be using those water rights in the future, it isn't anything we will be using right away.

The State Engineer had their staff meeting here at the office. They meet with their staff annually and they travel throughout the state and Box Elder County was the chosen tour for this year. They had a discussion on the new policy for the Bear River Basin and they then toured other places of interest including Proctor & Gamble.

Collinston Source Project –

We have had some real progress with the Collinston Source Project. We were able to install the monitoring well on the Stevenson's property right by Dewey Springs. It will measure the water depth of those springs so as the canal water comes in we can monitor that data. We were also able to put a water depth measuring device down Mr. Klinger's domestic well. We hope to drill the District's test well in October. We will be able to download data from those measuring devices and it will help us to know if there are any changes in the depth of the water once we drill the test well. We don't think we will impair or impact anyone when we drill and test well, but this monitoring will let us know if we do.

Bill Bigelow and I had a meeting with Charles Holmgren and Jay Capener from the Bear River Canal Company about the possibility of putting a pipeline easement along the canal road and, also, having access along the canal road to access the test well site. We will be meeting with Darren McFarland and then talking with the Canal Company Board about that. It is important that we have access without going through someone's personal property. Going along the canal road looks like the best route to access the proposed well site. The next step will be negotiating with the landowner about getting a temporary easement that may turn into a permanent easement for the test well if all goes well.

Cache Valley Property –

Regarding the Cache Valley Property, I have returned the counter offer we talked about and Mr. Postma has asked for information about the two wells. I talked to Steve Taylor today and he said Mr. Postma is reviewing the well information and he will continue to do his due diligence and get back with us.

Bear River Development –

The Bear River Development group met, and they have been trying to wrap up the study as far as writing the chapters and completing the study. There are 17 chapters and Chapter 5 has been a concern. The State of Utah has contracted with the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute for population projections. Box Elder's projections from the institute was quite a bit different than the District's Master Plan Project. A table in one of the chapters showed that Box Elder County won't need Bear River Development water well past 2060. Bill Bigelow, Lance Nielsen and I had a meeting with the Division of Water Resources and were able to understand how the State has to work with those projected population numbers and we had the opportunity to explain to them the analysis process we went through to get our projections. The State has only given Box Elder County half of their historical growth percentage and we feel they should at least give us our historical population growth. It is important that Charles and I have a voice in this project and are able to talk about things that are important to our county.

It has been exciting to see the trenches in Whites Valley. They were looking for displacements and looking for any kind of faults that would show there has been movement. Dam Safety rules say that to build a dam you must show there has been no displacement in 35,000 years. The geologist said he is confident there was no evidence of faulting in this particular area. There was a PhD student from USU in the 1960's that thought he saw a fault and he drew it on the map and it has stayed on the map. Now they must go through all of these procedures to prove that there isn't a fault. Financial Chairman Holmgren mentioned how amazing the soil structure and the fine things they can identify there and the history of the valley 20,000-30,000 years ago. They can identify where Lake Bonneville was up into Whites Valley and the water was 120 feet deep. They can describe how the wave action was working in the rock area and how, to an untrained eye, it would look like a fault where the limestone has broken off, but it was the wave action that caused it. They take out microscopic bits of pollen and charcoal samples and sent them to USU to have them carbon dated to identify how far back the level was. They took those same samples and sent them to the University of Georgia to have them tested there also. Whitaker Construction did the excavation and backfill on those trenches.

General Manager Jorgensen mentioned how nice it was that Charles got a Life Service Award for his work with the Bear River Water Users. Carly Burton nominated that for him.

Tremonton City –

Bill Bigelow and I are still working with Tremonton City to get more water to them this summer. Bill had an idea of using the existing meter stations on 10000 North. There has been a bypass meter there, but it has never been used. It was put in to help when the Ukon line broke under the Bear River. We are meeting with Tremonton on Friday. Tremonton's water situation is critical in the summer.

Office Building Roof –

We received two quotes on building a new pitched roof on the District office building. We had a hard time getting quotes because everyone is so busy. Of the two quotes we received, one was from a roofing and siding contractor and the other one was from a general contractor with 25 years of experience, Top Notch Construction. Bob and I met with the owner of Top Notch Construction to go over the plans in detail. We were comfortable with moving forward knowing the consensus of the board was to go ahead with the construction of the project. In discussing this with the Chairman and Financial Chairman, I got the go ahead to have them order the trusses and make the down payment.

A motion was made by Board Member Larson to accept the bid with Top Notch Construction to replace the roof on the District office building for \$65,903.85. The motion was seconded by Board Member N. Capener. Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Carter, Day, N. Capener, Larson and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Newman Well Update – Robbie Thayne

Glenn's Electric has come out to help us with this project. They took the roof off the pumphouse with a crane and pulled 160 ft of column, oil tube and shaft. We found that about 110 feet of it was pretty dirty but not bad and the bearings weren't burnt. We decided to replace that 110 feet of oil tubing and shaft and bearings. The very top bearing just before it goes in the wellhead where the oil drips down in was destroyed. The wellhead shaft was worn and had some rub marks on it. The very next bearing down on the shaft was barely worn. The damage was fairly minimal comparatively speaking other than all the down time. Buster Marble is working with us and is able to get his watering done. What the next step is waiting for parts to replace that shaft, it might be about 2 weeks before we get it all put back together. Yesterday we pulled the motor off and took it to Glenn's Electric to be looked at to make sure there are no problems. The pump weighs 27,000 lbs so we needed to wait for the crane to be available to pull the pump. There is a little over 500 feet of pump and column in the well. We are using the backup well right now, it pumps 2,200 gpm which is good but can't keep up in the summertime. The Newman well pumps 3,200 gpm. It's an amazing well, the static water levels are at about 114 feet right now and when the well turns on it drops about 3 feet and you can pump 3,200 gpm as long as you want and when it is shut off it is back to static level after 20 minutes. We will move forward and get it fixed. Bob Phippen made an apology to the Board.

Board Member Larson made a motion proceed with the repair of the Newman well and to appropriate the funds to do so. Board Member Day seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Carter, Day, N. Capener, Larson and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Bothwell Fire – Robbie Thayne

There was a fire in Bothwell at the east end of Stevenson farms. Someone had started their barn and backyard junk on fire. Tremonton had a small tank on the back of their firetruck and they emptied that in just a few minutes, they were then able to hook onto the District's fire hydrant and saved the house. We got a call from the Fire Marshall thanking us for the hydrant. They were happy about having a fire hydrant out there. He also told me they used about 1,000 gpm to put that fire out.

Division of Water Resources Water Conservation Rebate Program –

The Division of Water Resources has money for water conservation programs. They have incentive programs and three of the big districts are participating on those programs. They are giving rebates to residents who purchase a water smart device for sprinkler or irrigation systems. They want the District to advertise the program in our county, the resident would purchase the water smart device and fill out a rebate form. We would make sure the device meets the criteria and then submit it to the Division of Water Resources for payment of the rebate of up to \$50 to be paid to the individual. The State has money to spend this year on conservation through June 30th. We can see about getting information from the other districts that they put out to the public to get the rebates. We are asking if this is something the Board would like to be involved in this year. After some discussion the Board concluded that they would need more information before they could make the decision to go ahead with the program noting small staff, time commitment, and short notice for advertising as items of concern.

Weather Modification –

On the last cloud seeding report, it shows, as of April 1, the snow water equivalent was at 82% and the water year precipitation was at 83%. One thing they said in the Bear River Commission meeting was they would no longer have the Snotel map on the report and in the paper because they don't have anyone to do the map. They have funds to hire replacements for people who retire or resign but because the federal government has put a moratorium on hiring in the USDA those employees are not being replaced.

**Financial Business – Charles Holmgren
Approval of Financial Statements**

The financial statements for March 2018 were prepared and provided to the Board Members. Financial Chairman Holmgren asked for the Board to review the financial statements and approve them.

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

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.