

**Bear River Water Conservancy District  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday, May 23, 2012 7:00 p.m.  
Bear River Water Conservancy District Conference Room  
102 West Forest Street, Brigham City, Utah 84302**

**Minutes**

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

Staff: General Manager Voneene Jorgensen, Systems Operator Bob Phippen and Administrative Assistant Judy Hartvigsen

Visitors: Bill Bigelow of Hansen Allen and Luce

**Invocation:** Board Member Charles Holmgren

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

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

**Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held April 25, 2012**

The minutes of the meeting held April 25, 2012 were included with the packet that was mailed to the Board Members. There were no changes to the minutes.

A motion was made by Board Member LuAnn Adams to approve the minutes as written for the meeting held April 25, 2012. The motion was seconded by Board Member Richard Day. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Baugh, Holmgren, Day, Vincent, Adams, Forsgren, Rose and Fridal voted in favor of the motion.

### **Beaver Dam Water System Improvement Project Project Update – Bill Bigelow and Bob Phippen**

The progress of the Beaver Dam Water System project was documented with photos taken by Systems Operator, Bob Phippen. Mr. Phippen described and explained the project is moving along with the installation of the main pipeline continuing along Beaver Dam Road. They have encountered many phone lines to work around and have had to use a change order to move the line to avoid a previously installed fiber optic cable. The pavement had to be cut out in the road and will be replaced. The photos showed laying of the pipeline, necessary removal of vegetation, completion of the pump station, installation of power service and the back-filling of the reservoir. Mr. Phippen explained the process of cleaning the tank, chlorination and filling with water from the developed springs. The reservoir is now full. It had only a few small wet spots and no leaks.

Board Member Brent Baugh was excused during the slide presentation.

General Manager Jorgensen stated there has been very little controversy from the users of the new system. She has told them they will not be charged any overage for the first two months to give them time to see what their water usage patterns are and become accustomed to it because they have not had meters before.

General Manager Jorgensen explained the District is being audited by the Utah Retirement Systems. They are doing an audit of all the entities in the County at this time. A meeting with the representative was held today and she reported the District is doing a good job with compliance. There have been some changes in the laws that must be addressed. The board members were provided with a form stating they are ineligible for benefits. They all completed and signed the forms and they will be sent to URS.

### **Trustee Reports – Board Members**

**LuAnn Adams:** reported on a tour of western Box Elder County she attended with representatives from the Bureau of Land Management: Juan Palma, Quincy Bahr who is writing the plan for the sage grouse and the new field director. The plan includes the reduction grazing allotments. Todd Black and Troy Forest have studied the sage grouse for at least ten years and have records on them. They took the BLM representatives on the tour and spoke to them. By the end of the tour, the BLM understood that if you reduce the grazing allotments, you will kill the economy in the area. There are places in the state where they do some mitigation so they are going to try to increase the sage grouse habitat in our county. Commissioner Adams believes money will funnel into the county as a result of the sage grouse plan but they could eliminate some of the grazing. They are going to be taking a lot of trees down. The area of Rosette was meadows in the beginning so with removing the p.j encroachment, we are hoping to see a lot more water. The state agencies are on board with this and she was told the county could get oil and gas money. Our county will try to make the best of a bad situation.

**Brent Rose:** stated he was on the tour and expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Adams for her support in trying to protect those living in western Box Elder County.

**Charles Holmgren:** reported the Bear River Canal Company is currently using a little storage water in the canal. The natural flow is dropping fast so they are being charged for some Bear Lake water. They were struggling to get water to the ends of the canals until the recent rain storm. He attended the planning and zoning meeting last Thursday. The meeting involved the rezoning of a portion of Section 23 for the Cogburn project. It was stated at the meeting that the company is Western Pride Foods. They want to re-zone 20 acres in the Corinne area for industrial use. There were a lot of questions and concerns voiced at the meeting. They addressed all three sites that include the roosting and feeding area for the chickens, the processing plant, and Section 23 which will be for a grain elevator and a loop track to provide trains that will satisfy the demand. One issue was traffic on Highway 13. Charles and his brother were there and they have lived on the main street in Bear River for 60+ years. Before the freeway, we knew what it was like to have traffic. The truck traffic now is nothing compared to what it was. There was some concern about odor and they promised not to have odor and be clean. Board Member Holmgren explained the location of the project. Section 23 is just the grain elevator. The sixty buildings will be out by Tremonton's green waste facility and that is where all the water is needed.

**Richard Day:** reported on the meeting held with the District Officers and the South Willard Water Company Board. He thanked the District for their support. He felt the meeting was very positive and gave the SWWC Board a better understanding of the District. The contract has been amended by the General Manager with the changes requested by the South Willard Water Company. The SWWC Board met last week and they were ok with the contract. The SWWC Board can understand the need for water from the District. There is a meeting scheduled on June 7<sup>th</sup> with the South Willard Water Company Stockholders and then they will move forward.

**Dave Forsgren:** No Report

**Tyler Vincent:** reported Brigham City had a representative from West Corinne Water Company come in to talk to Brigham City's water department. He has spoken with Tyler Pugsley of Brigham City who is doing a review of their water system and making recommendations for serving the Cogburn project. Ultimately, he believes the project will come to the conservancy district for help as well.

**Roger Fridal:** reported he talked with Spencer Holmgren who is on the board of the West Corinne Water Company. Tremonton City is not willing to sign over 400 gmp of water needed for the Cogburn project permanently. Tremonton would be willing to fill in the gap, if needed, temporarily. Tremonton's water lines are connected to West Corinne's system. He stated there is significant amount of water in the Bothwell pocket that could easily be wheeled through Tremonton's lines to West Corinne's line. He encouraged Mr. Holmgren stating, "Tremonton will help but they cannot be a permanent water supply for West Corinne Water Company."

General Manager Jorgensen told the board a letter from the District was written to representatives of the Cogburn project on May 2<sup>nd</sup> stating we have the water available from the Bothwell pocket and we would be happy to sell them the volume of water they need. We would need a take or pay contract for the whole project and it would require 8 miles of water line to be put in. She stated the District would be able to put the line in with the project's commitment for water. The Division of Water Resources would loan us the money to fund it.

She showed a map of the water systems in the Bothwell pocket and explained another option with two possibilities for the District to connect to West Corinne Water Company's system. There are these two options that are feasible and Cogburn will make the decision of who they want to work with. She has received a letter from Wendy Crowther, the attorney for West Corinne Water Company asking for water from the District taking it from the emergency connection on the Harper Water System. She has drafted a reply letter stating it is not a possibility to take water there because it is a surplus water agreement and the term and supply is limited to the customers in that area.

Bill Bigelow explained the location of the project on the map and General Manager Jorgensen explained where the water line would have to be installed. Mayor Fridal asked about wheeling water through Tremonton's system and connecting at Iowa String with West Corinne. He showed the location and size of these lines on the map and stated this would eliminate installing any new water lines. Board Member Vincent wanted to look at this and if it can be done through Tremonton, we should look at this as an option. Board Member Forsgren believed the company should have to provide for getting the water where they want it. Board Member Rose felt the Cogburn company should be liable for the infrastructure and it should be written in a contract. The Board was provided with a copy of the letter from West Corinne Water Company's attorney. General Manager Jorgensen read her reply letter to the Board stating the District is not able to supply their needs through the emergency connection on the Harper Ward System but has a reliable source in the Bothwell pocket that can supply water to them with the installation of a 1 mile service line. The Board discussed the options and wording of the letter in regards to participation with West Corinne Water Company.

**LaRall Thompson:** No Report

**Ross Rudd:** No Report

**Clint Burt:** No Report

### **General Manager's Report – Voneene Jorgensen**

General Manager Jorgensen expressed her sympathy for the passing of Mart Anderson who was the operator for the Riverside/North Garland Water Company. Flowers were sent from the District Board and staff to his viewing tonight.

She then updated the Board on change orders that may be forthcoming from the contractors on the Beaver Dam project. She stated it is possible the project could be over budget but the selling of additional connections could bring it to a breakeven point.

She reported the contract with Deweyville has been signed for purchasing surplus water for the Collinston project. Blaine Rupp is willing to work with the District in negotiations for property for the reservoir. Jack Evans will provide an easement to Blaine Rupp's property. Mr. Evans wanted to sell property for the reservoir but it is not at the right elevation.

She then updated the board on the Bothwell contract. Jay Christensen has told her the Bothwell Community Cemetery and Water Corporation Board is willing to have a take or pay contract. The District received the approval for the design of the new pump station from DDW today.

General Manager Jorgensen attended a meeting with Brigham City's Mayor Fife regarding new proposed RDAs. She stated the District has given \$130,000 in tax revenue the District would have received to support the current RDAs this year.

She then reported on the legislative issues, specifically Senate Bill 78 regarding elimination of the taxing authority for water conservancy districts. The board was provided with a copy of the substitute bill in their packet. Senator Valentine sponsored and favors all services being paid for by user fees.

The board received a spread sheet showing the break down and costs of the Weather Modification program for 2011-2012 that was completed on March 31<sup>st</sup>. There was a savings of \$4,500 from the amount that was budgeted. An invoice was sent to DDW for reimbursement of the state's share of the final cost.

### **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.

Vice Chairman Ross Rudd moved to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Roger Fridal. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and Board Members Day, Holmgren, Fridal, Vincent, Adams, Forsgren, and Rose voted in favor of the motion.

### **Unfinished Business – Chairman Clint Burt**

Board Member Brent Rose inquired about the progress of the improvements for the Park Valley School water system. General Manager Jorgensen explained she has emailed Roy McDaniel requesting any update from the LDS Church but he has not responded as of today. She is hoping it won't take very long. The new storage tanks should be installed this summer while school is out. She will continue to contact Mr. McDaniel.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

### **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Chairman Ross Rudd. The motion was seconded by Board Member Richard Day. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Rudd, Financial Chairman Thompson and board members Day, Holmgren, Fridal, Vincent, Forsgren, Rose, and Adams voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.