

**Bear River Water Conservancy District  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday, July 30, 2014 6:00 p.m.  
Clint Burt's Residence  
5840 North 3600 West, Brigham City, Utah**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Trustees: Chairman Clinton Burt, Vice Chairman Dave Forsgren, Financial Chairman Charles Holmgren, Roger Fridal, Brent Baugh, Neil Capener, Tyler Vincent, Russ Howe, Jay Carter and Richard Day

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

Visitors: LaRall Thompson

Excused: Jeff Scott

**Invocation:** Financial Chairman Holmgren

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

A motion was made by Financial Chairman Holmgren to adopt the amended agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Forsgren. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Baugh, Day, Carter, Howe and Capener voted in favor of the motion.

**Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held June 25, 2014**

The minutes of the meeting held June 25, 2014 were included with the packet that was mailed to the Board Members.

A motion was made by Board Member Day to approve the minutes of the meeting held June 25, 2014. The motion was seconded by Board Member Baugh. Chairman Burt, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Baugh, Day, Carter, Howe and Capener voted in favor of the motion.

**Project Updates – Robert Phippen**

It has been a great project so far with very few complications. The walls have been completed on the south tank and the forms have been stripped and hauled off the site today. The shoring and the rebar for the top deck are on site and tomorrow they will begin assembling everything that needs to be in place to support the lid. After the tank is completed we will still

have at least four weeks before we will be able to turn any water into that tank. DWA, the sub-contractor for Rupp's, is constructing the pump stations and they will be pouring the floor of each pump station at about 10 a.m. tomorrow morning. The pumps for the two pump stations will not ship until August 20 and we will receive them on site on August 26. The driver for the project now is whether or not we get the pumps on time. We are hoping to get them in on time and have them wired and ready to put into service. The excavation has been completed on the north tank site and is ready for the contractor to begin work.

There is approximately 6.5 total miles of pipeline going into this project. As of today we have approximately 5 miles of that pipe in the ground. One crew has had fairly reasonable soil conditions to work with and the other crew has had nothing but rock so we have not let them backfill with the soil that are excavating. They have been hauling it off and bringing in soil from the gravel pit and backfilling with more suitable backfill. Both crews are making good progress and getting good footage in the ground every day. All hydrants and air-vacs are being put in as they go along. Last week Rupp's assigned one crew to go back and groom the roads, clean up excess debris and haul it off. Also, on the canal road we put 3 to 4 inches of road base along the pipeline corridor and put in a gate at the head of the road; Darren McFarland, Manager of the Bear River Canal Company, had asked us to do that. He came to inspect and he is happy with the gate.

There are three pieces of pipe that will be connected to the south tank tomorrow. At the north end of 3100 west they are about 200 feet from Burke Jensen's property so we are closing in on that last corner going back down to the highway.

General Manager Jorgensen mentioned that we will have excuse to Bill Bigelow from this Board Meeting; he is vacationing in the rain at Bear Lake this week with his family.

Board Member Vincent arrived at this time.

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

**Charles Holmgren** – There isn't much going on with the canal company. We still have a pretty high demand but we are running quite a bit of natural flow in the river system. I took a drive through Collinston to see the progress and thought things looked really nice. I talked to someone who works in Logan and lives in Collinston and he was very complimentary of Rupp's Trucking and how tidy their work is.

**Brent Baugh** - No report

**Richard Day** – We had a couple of fires in South Willard in the past month. They were both at the same place. The first fire started because the hay was baled too green. The second fire that started Sunday night took the whole barn down but the hay in the barn was from last year and it was dry. Weber County came in to help with the fire. They were trying to protect about six homes on the south side of the barn so it was quite intense for about 15 hours. The fire was finally put out last night.

Board Member Fridal arrived at this time.

**Dave Forsgren** – Honeyville is doing ok and we will make it through the year.

**Jay Carter** – We have no water in Park Valley. We had a fire in Park Valley also and we have had very little rain.

**Russ Howe** – No Report

**Neil Capener** – No Report

**Tyler Vincent** – Brigham City got some rain and our wells look good. I guess we are more fortunate than others.

**Roger Fridal** – We had .85 inches of rain in Tremonton.

**Clint Burt** – I have been up to project 3 or 4 times and they have done great job of cleaning up. They have had good weather so far so they haven't had to fight any mud. Bob Phippen added some information about keeping the project clean. For instance, with the storm last night and the pipes being laid out along the road; mud had washed through those pipes and put about an inch of mud into each one. Rupp's had gathered them up and took them to TJ's house and rinsed them out with his hose and cleaned them which was very impressive.

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

We would like to introduce and welcome our newest board member, Russell D. Howe. He will be representing the Bothwell, Thatcher, Howell area. Russ Howe was appointed to the Board at the County Commission meeting on July 16 and sworn in at the office of the County Clerk, Marla Young on July 29.

General Manager Jorgensen announced that we closed on the bond on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Construction on the Collinston Project started in April and we finally closed on the bond in July. We are so glad to have that done. They were very particular on all the requirements for closing, especially on the title work needed for the title policy and easements. We made the first payment to Rupp's and also to FX Construction and the District will be getting a large reimbursement for all the expenses that have been previously spent on the project. She also wanted to confirm that the Collinston Project was not intended to encourage large development in the area, it is being constructed for the people living in the area and need it and to help Ukon Water Company come into compliance with drinking water standards.

We have had some worry in Beaver Dam; the springs are running low and the demand has been higher than the water supply from the spring flow. The reservoir level was down to approximately 2.5 feet, which is 25,000 gallons of water in the 200,000 gallon storage tank. We sent out letters asking resident to conserve, then a few days later we had to send a notice restricting any outdoor watering until further notice. We are hoping this restriction will bring the level of the reservoir back up.

We have paid the court \$4,400 for the north tank site and the landowner has cashed the check. We have not heard anything further from the family.

South Willard has started taking water. Dan Dimick called and has asked for water for Hot Springs Trailer Park. Bothwell and Ukon are also taking water. Riverside/North Garland has not asked for water yet, but will later.

A big concern to people in the water community is the National Forest Service Directive to create and implement a ground water management plan for the water that originates on Forest Service Land. This is concerning because the Forest Service wants to develop a management plan for ground water similar to the other resources they manage but the water belongs to the State. The Federal Government keeps over asserting their authority and requiring the water rights to be turned over to them as a condition of issuance or renewal of conditional use permits. This is happening with grazing and with the skiing industry. The Farm Bureau is very upset and has sent letters requesting that the Forest Service rescind the directive. I have asked the Utah Water Users Association to send a similar letter. The State Water Development Commission is also sending a letter requesting the same.

There is another initiative from the Federal Government that is trying to change and re-define the definition of the waters of the United States so that it includes canals and ditches. We need to find out more about this initiative and ask that it be opposed as well.

Board Member Forsgren had to leave at this time.

The last item to discuss is the Bear River Development and the Bear River Storage Project. I have asked Marisa Egbert from the Utah State Division of Water Resources and Bowen Collins & Associates to come give a presentation on the first phase of the study which has been completed. The second phase is progressing and they are studying about nine different reservoir sites. In Box Elder County, they are studying Whites Valley and another site in the Fielding area, not the Honeyville site but a site further north. They need to do some core drilling in those two sites and before the bad weather begins. Some other sites that are being considered more extensively are Cub River, Temple Fork, a site in Cache County just above Cutler and also a site just north of Willard Bay. Whites Valley would be good for us because of the hydro-electric power that could be generated. It would also recharge the Bothwell pocket and help improve the water quality. This project is moving forward and we will be helping the Division of Water Resources contact land owners to get permission to do core tests on their land.

Charles Holmgren and Bob Fotheringham have been attending the meetings with General Manager Jorgensen and she has really appreciated all the support from them as the three of them are the voices of Northern Utah. It is important that we continue to participate also. Jordan Valley has an allocation out of the Bear River Development for 50,000 A/F; Weber Basin has 50,000 A/F; Cache County has 60,000 A/F and the District has 60,000 A/F. Two storage reservoirs will be needed because there is not one site that is big enough to hold the 220,000 AF of storage needed. It has been an interesting process and we feel that they have considered the needs of Box Elder County and Cache County more extensively than ever before. Early in the process they were looking at water from the Bear River Canal Company to make up the calculated water shortages. We were adamant that our existing water was not part of the Bear River Development Project. We have to be actively involved with the process and support the construction of a storage reservoir in Box Elder County because if we don't the Wasatch Front will be happy to have it. Board Member Holmgren said they consider Box Elder and Cache Counties more because General Manager Jorgensen works so hard to get our counties recognized.

Cache County did an excellent Water Master Plan and General Manager Jorgensen feels it would benefit Box Elder County to do one also. It would help with economic development and also with the Bear River Development Project. She would like the Board's support in having a Water Master Plan and feels it would be beneficial to evaluate the water needs in the county, where the greatest needs are and how we are going meet the growing demand for water in regards to economic development. We need to have an education campaign to protect and keep our water in Box Elder County. If shareholders want to sell their water shares, we would like them to come to us and give us a first right of refusal to purchase shares so we can keep our water in our county. Salt Lake County Chamber of Commerce has formed a Water Development Committee because they have identified that water is the weakest link in the chain in development in Utah. If there is water available then there can be development and they would like to be able to take our water.

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

The financial statements for June 2014 were prepared and provided to the Board Members in the packet that was mailed to them. Financial Chairman Holmgren asked for the Board to review the financial statements and approve them.

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

There is a new Board and Staff information sheet and all your support is very much appreciated and she really appreciates her staff. LaRall Thompson said that he has really appreciated working with the District.

**Adjourn**

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.