

**Bear River Water Conservancy District  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday, July 26, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m.  
Chairman Roger Fridal's Residence  
58 North 570 East, Tremonton, Utah**

**Minutes**

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

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

Visitors: Bill Bigelow – Hansen, Allen & Luce

Excused: Board Member Jay Capener and System Operator Robert Thayne

**Adoption of the Agenda – Chairman Fridal**

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

**Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held June 28, 2017**

The minutes of the meeting held June 28, 2017 were included with the packet that was mailed to the Board Members.

A motion was made by Financial Chairman Holmgren to approve the minutes for the meeting held June 28, 2017. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener and Larson voted in favor of the motion.

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

**Jay Carter** – Life is good in Park Valley. My neighbor drilled an irrigation well and tested it at the first of the week. It is a 100 foot well and pumps 600 gpm. It is located SW of Park Valley. That is a lot of water for Park Valley.

**Neil Capener** – Life is good in Riverside. Getting tired of the good weather, it doesn't need to be quite as warm as it has been.

**Russ Howe** – Thatcher is doing good. We are keeping up with the water and keeping the tank full. Everybody is happy except the ones who are paying the bills. We raised water rates last winter, everybody voted for it and raised it more than was asked for and now it is starting to come around. When they get their overages, it kind of hurts but they will be all right.

**Mark Larson** – Ukon is doing fine. I haven't heard anything from the other independent water companies. The road repair by Cedar Hills looks good. I recently talked to Marble Hills Subdivision and they are looking to buy meters.

**Richard Day** – Was wondering if someone got in touch with the District asking about development in South Willard. The gentleman was looking for South Willard Water Company but wouldn't tell me what the development was all about. General Manager Jorgensen mentioned that Chet Hovey had called. The property they want to develop is almost to the Weber/Box Elder County border and he asked if we have water that far south. They want to put in some storage units and the Fire Marshall is requiring fire hydrants.

**Charles Holmgren** – There is not much going on between Corinne and Bear River City other than P&G continues to work on their expansion.

The Bear River Canal Company has a few areas of concern up the canyon, primarily on the East Canal, we have a few sloughing problems.

We got notice this week that PacifiCorp is backing away from their proposal to raise Cutler Dam and increase the reserve at Bear Lake to sell water to the public. They still want to move ahead with increasing water availability to the Bear River Water Users Association to use for irrigation water below Bear Lake. PacifiCorp has a meeting next week so we will see what their proposal is going to be. Last week the Bear River Commission did a tour in an area of the Central Division that runs from the Utah/Idaho State line up into the Cokeville, Wyoming/Geneva, Idaho area. We had a good time looking at water measurement devices. We had USGS there and they did a presentation. I found out why the valley where Geneva and Raymond is located has not developed much and why people have not settled there. The gentlemen doing the presentation said that is the coldest valley in the State of Idaho and that it is colder than Stanley. It is in a low spot and the cold air must pool there.

**Dave Forsgren** – I think we are good in Honeyville. We haven't started our big pump yet, we are still using spring water. In another six weeks, it may start tapering off. That is \$1200 - \$1400 a month that Honeyville doesn't have to pay for electricity.

**Jeff Scott** – We had our Great Salt Lake Advisory meeting a week or so ago. There was a report prepared by SWCA Environmental Consultants. It's called Water for the Great Salt Lake. Basically, what it is are ideas that anyone could submit. They didn't rank them, they didn't vet them, they just put them in there. Two of the ideas directly impact the District, one of them was to permanently abandon the Bear River Development Project and the other was to remove Cutler Dam. They also wanted to divert more water out of the Colorado River and they also talked about draining Lake Powell.

Maurice Carter from has water issues. If someone at the Bear River Canal Company would like to reach out to him. He is down by the duck club and if he isn't using the water there is no way to bypass his property and it is flooding his property.

**Roger Fridal** – Tremonton and Garland had an interesting weekend on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July. Tremonton had a significant water leak. Our storage tank only had 2 feet of water left in it, they had a code red that went out in Tremonton to have no one use water at all. It took a day and a half but this morning we had 7 feet of water in the tank.

Garland also had a big water line break and they had residents out of water for at least 12 hours. Ordinarily, they came and asked Tremonton for water and this is the only time we had to tell them no because of our water leak. Both leaks happened within a few hours and within 50 yards of each other. We had a water off day today in Tremonton, about 40 customers were turned off.

The residents are not excited about the new water rates. General Manager Jorgensen mentioned that this is the reason the District needs to get the well drilled in Deweyville/Collinston to be that back-up that everyone needs. Chairman Fridal said that Tremonton had a meeting with Will Atkin from the Division of Water Rights in Logan about what the future is of drilling wells in Box Elder County and it doesn't look good. So, when we have an existing permit we need to take advantage of it. The Bothwell Pocket is closed, you may be able to apply for a permit but odds are someone will protest it and make it a big deal and make it exceptionally complicated. We can't count on any new sources of water. We need to start looking for other sources of water. When we have an opportunity to drill a well, it is foolish not to do it. In case you haven't notice, we don't have any extra water in our valley.

**Tyler Vincent** – We are in full swing for the election. It is going to be an interesting four months but we will pull through.

Brigham City is doing good, we've had a lot of growth. We have several businesses looking to come to our town. The water plant is coming along well and should be in full swing in September. We should have the hotel open about that time as well.

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

Connely Baldwin from PacifiCorp called and asked to make a presentation to the board and told him he would be welcome to come to our Board Meeting in August.

I received emails from the same group that Commissioner Scott talked about. They are random emails asking for people's comments. It is just a bunch of people getting together to do this, it isn't coming from an appointed commission or anything like that that I am aware of.

I have the official document for the recommended State Water Strategy. It is all the work that we have done on the State Water Advisory Team and it started with Your Utah, Your Future in 2013 when 6 of us went around the state and talked to the public about water issues and what was important to them. This is the actual document and it was presented to the Governor. It has been a long time coming and it has been a lot of work and a lot of diverse people working together.

There was a bill passed last year that took everyone who what not a legislator off the State Water Development Commission. There was a caveat where the chairs could recommend others to be appointed to sit on that commission. I got a phone call this week saying that I have been reappointed to serve on that commission. There are four meetings this year that I will be attending. I was worried that there wouldn't be anybody representing the river basins on the commission.

I have a summary from the Weather Modification. There were seven seeding events and because of the high snow pack the program was suspended. It says that long term, the precipitation is usually a 12% increase in the eastern part of Box Elder County and northwest Box Elder County is 14% for the 24 seasons that it has been seeded. Northern Utah gets an average increase in run off of about 56,300 AF from cloud seeding and the cost is about \$1.55 per acre foot.

I have the Utah Water Users quarterly newsletter that I will hand out to each of you.

Board Member Larson asked if the District has heard anymore from the trailer court north of Fielding. General Manager Jorgensen said we have not but we are working with Mr. Jeff Lefler who wants water to his home in South Willard. His property is just south of Coleman Trailer Court and we are getting some title work done for the easement for the water line.

General Manager Jorgensen said that she and Bill Bigelow met with the Brigham City engineer, their Water Operator and Public Works Director. They talked about the Master Plan and Brigham City's water projections and got some good information. Brigham City's projections have changed some so now we will be able to move forward and be able to finish the Master Plan.

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

The financial statements for June 2017 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 Vincent to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Scott. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren.

Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson and Vincent voted in favor of the motion.

### **Public Comment**

There is no public comment.

### **Adjourn**

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.