

**Bear River Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 30, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.
Bear River Water Conservancy District Board 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, Neil Capener, 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: Connely Baldwin – PacifiCorp
Bill Bigelow – Hansen, Allen & Luce
Scott Sandall – Utah Legislature

Invocation: Board Member Jay Capener

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Financial Chairman Charles Holmgren

Adoption of the Agenda – Chairman Fridal

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

Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held July 26, 2017

The minutes of the meeting held July 26, 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 July 26, 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, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

PacifiCorp Presentation – Connely Baldwin

Connely Baldwin is a hydrologist for PacifiCorp which is the primary water manager for Bear Lake and the Bear River irrigation delivery system. PacifiCorp wants to promote new ideas for alternate solutions for the Bear River Water Development. PacifiCorp is a power company and can see the value in the water from Bear Lake. PacifiCorp management would like to partner with entities that would spawn some ideas on how management can improve.

With the Bear River Development Act, there would be an ultimate build out of 220,000 AF with 60,000 AF allocated to BRWCD. Currently the plan is to build multiple new reservoirs that are pump-filled off-site reservoirs. The proposed on-channel reservoirs have been met with resistance. The plan would result in additional consumptive use from the Bear River

Some of PacifiCorp's goals are to promote water conservation, more reliable water supplies in Bear Lake and the Bear River for all users; soil and energy conservation and to resolve conflicts. PacifiCorp is the sole owner of Bear Lake storage rights, provide irrigation by contract and operate Bear Lake for irrigation and flood control.

PacifiCorp's four concepts under evaluation where the Bear River/Bear Lake system may be able to help support the future demand and delay the need for building new reservoirs through:

1. – Bear Lake Increased Storage

Flood control when the lake is full, maintain 5 feet of flood control storage.

2. – Soda Plant Emergency Power Backup Supply

Soda Springs has a power plant 2600 cfs for emergency power

3. – Cutler Increased Storage

Increase the heights of the floodgates at cutler and store 3 more feet of water. Can store that in Bear Lake in exchange. Could deliver up to 15,000 AF per year

4. – Irrigation Conservation Measures

There are 150,000 acres in Utah and Idaho that PacifiCorp delivers water to at 4-acre feet per acre which is 600,000-acre feet per year used for irrigation below Bear Lake. If 30% could be conserved, that would be 180,000-acres feet of water per year that would be saved.

The regional benefits would support economic development, existing irrigation uses, maintain Bear Lake water levels, help maintain the Great Salt Lake water levels and serve new water users.

The Bear River Compact limits deliveries from Bear Lake to irrigation deliveries only when Bear Lake level is below 5914.61' which is roughly 50% full. If new water users happen to be municipal or industrial users then that would be a constraint. 2017 saw a 11.7' increase in the lake level which is an all-time record high.

Trustee Reports – Board Members

Jay Carter – Things are pretty good. We need some rain in Park Valley, we have had plenty of fires already. We had three during the County Fair. There is not much to report it has been a good summer. I almost got a 4-wheel drive tractor stuck in the mud while trying to pull out a pivot that was stuck in the mud.

Jeff Scott – There have been 80–100 fires in the county. There have been between 65,000–70,000 acres burned so far this year. Most of the fires have been caused by dry lighting but some have been caused by individuals and will be costly for them.

Russ Howe – I saw the Howell, Bothwell and Thatcher guys at the fair. They are all doing good. We are keeping water in the tanks and haven't had any more leaks.

Richard Day – The Chevron station construction is going well. Dan Dimick, who owns Hot Springs Trailer Court died on August 8th. It will be interesting to see what will happen to the Hot Springs Trailer Court. Secondary water has been running and we have had very few issues at all.

Neil Capener – I don't know if anyone heard but Ross Rudd passed away last night.

Mark Larson – Ukon is doing well and we are holding up better than last year. He asked if there was anything we could be doing to help with the Hot Springs Trailer Court in South Willard. Cassee Harper mentioned that his daughter had called the day before and she told her the District was willing to do their bacteriological testing until they got things straightened out. She also got on the Division of Drinking Water website with her and went through their monitoring schedule. It looked like all major testing had been done and they didn't need to worry about anything other than monthly bacteriological testing until 2019-2020.

Tyler Vincent – It has been very hot this past month or so and Brigham City power bills were very high. Many Brigham City residents were not happy about it. Someone called Gephardt and the Facebook comments were brutal. Other than that, things are going good in Brigham City. The water bottling plant claims they will be up and running in September. The Box Elder County Fair was fun. We've got a lot of things going and will be glad when November is here. We had the ribbon cutting on the Holiday Inn Express.

Jay Capener – I don't have a lot to report. The canal company has had better water delivery year this year than last year.

Charles Holmgren – To piggyback on Jay's report, we just got notice yesterday that the Canal Company has been awarded a Water Smart Grant of \$300,000 but it doesn't have board approval yet. The Division of Water Resources is giving us a grant for \$10,000 for a seepage loss study.

I met with Steve Bell at P&G and he is charged with doing the engineering work for the Canal Realignment Project at P&G. He is preparing a display for cultural resource issues with the Corp of Engineers to do the history and aerial photograph and would like to present a copy to the Bear River Water Conservancy District and to the Bear River Canal company. He was also telling me about how P&G has been working with local congressional folks to try to preserve NAFTA. The local plant is viable partly because of the NAFTA agreement with Canada and Mexico. There is a lot of product that goes out of the Box Elder plant to Canada and they are concerned about how it could impact the local plant.

Finally, I failed to follow up on the question from Commissioner Scott on Maurice Carter's issue in Corinne. I saw that it made the newspaper last week and his issues have to do with the hunting club and not the canal company so the county attorney's office is working on it.

Dave Forsgren – Honeyville has a contractor that is installing the water line this fall. It will be a six-month project to be completed at the end of April 2018. They are tearing down the bridge and building a new one across the freeway to make it bigger, higher and wider. We are also improving the Calls Fort road to handle the impact.

Roger Fridal – Tremonton and Garland haven't had any water issues since last month. Tremonton is developing a plan for a secondary water system. It is estimated it will save 4,000,000 gallons of water a day and it will be a \$15 million project. If we want development we need water. We can't drill wells and the District can only provide us with so much water so we must look at other sources. Garland still has their roads torn up but those will get better. They are still planning to open their sewer plant next summer. They are doing a big expansion of their park on the east end of Factory Road adding ball diamonds, etc.

General Manager's Report – Voneene Jorgensen

You have a copy of my report in your packet. In it there is a list of exciting meetings I've attended. We had a meeting with Willow Creek Water Company, they are on the Cache County/Box Elder border near Beaver Dam. There are 65 homes in that subdivision and have had arsenic problems in the past. They are blending their water with their two sources and they are interested to connecting to the Bear River Water Conservancy District line on the Dairy Road from the north tank. We would need to develop our water source in that area before they could do that but they would like to hook on to the District in the future.

I attended the Rural Water Association of Utah Fall Water Conference in Layton and did some training on management.

There is a copy of the Recommended State Water Strategy that was passed out to each of you. This has been a four-year process. I was part of the Gang of 6 and have played an active part in the whole process.

We received the letter for the Cloud Seeding Project for 2017-2018 and the cost is the same as last year. It is time to give the State our intent to participate again this year. For many years we have had a standing motion to participate if Cache County participated. The State has a cost

sharing program between 35-50%. We will get a contract with North American Weather Consultants and a contract with the State Division of Water Resources with a participation of 50%. \$51,100 is the total program cost and Box Elder County's portion is \$25,500. Last year we had to pay the state back \$22.01 because, for the first time ever, we had such a great water year the cloud seeding project was suspended early. Statistics show that we get about 56,00-acre feet in enhancement and the cost for that is about \$2 per acre foot. We need a motion to participate in the program this year and send a letter of intent to the State.

Board Member Vincent made a motion to participate in the Cloud Seeding Program for the 2017-2018 year and to send a letter of intent to the State of Utah. Board Member Scott seconded the motion. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion. Financial Chairman Holmgren did not vote due to a conflict of interest. The motion passed.

The Utah Association of Special Districts Annual Conference is at the Davis Center in Layton in November. They will provide the yearly training the board members need that is required by law for the Open and Public Meetings Act. The County sponsors a Special Districts Training, usually in October, at the County Building. Let us know if you would like to attend either of those.

GRAMA Policy Update –

We sent out the updated GRAMA Policy draft. Please look through it and let us know if there needs to be things added or changed. We will need to appoint an appeals committee. We will go over the policy and get it approved at our next board meeting.

Collinston Project Water Supply – Bill Bigelow

The Master Plan highlights how badly the District needs a source of water for the Collinston Project. The District has contracted with Deweyville to supply the water for 10 years. 5 of those 10 years have gone by so we don't have much time to get a new source developed. We have provided a list of planning steps for the Flat Canyon Well Drilling Project.

The first steps we need to take would be to do all our homework and to prepare maps and hydrogeologic information, do test well planning, aquifer testing and monitoring and a preliminary evaluation report. Then, last, we will meet with the Division of Drinking Water for funding for a test well. The area we are looking at is at the mouth of Flat Canyon on US Forest Service land. We may need to move it to private land and can move it 600 feet without changing the point of diversion. We will need to talk to property owners about easements and get those in if we end up having to move on to private land.

Board Member Larson made a motion to proceed with the steps as proposed to begin the Collinston Project Water Supply. Board Member Vincent seconded the motion. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

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

The financial statements for July 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 Carter. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Public Comment

Representative Sandal – Voneene and I talked briefly before the meeting about the Bear River Development Project. From my perspective at the State, I would like to capture the water that has been allocated to the Bear River Water Conservancy District to benefit Box Elder County. Obviously, we run in to groups like the Friends of the Great Salt Lake and the Utah River’s Council. They are very vocal but I don’t think they represent the people very well. Going forward, know that you have my support to find a way to capture Box Elder’s portion, and obviously the rest of the water that needs to go to the Wasatch Front, in the most reasonable way we can. We also need to work on conservation and other steps that can help stretch our water further down the road. Eventually we are going to need the water from the Bear River Development. We need to do the right thing and go forward on this project now, we can’t wait until we need it 2-3 generations down the road.

Closed Session – Pending Litigation

Vice Chairman Forsgren made a motion to go into a closed session. Board Member Vincent seconded the motion. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Vice Chairman Forsgren made a motion to go back into general session. Board Member Larson seconded the motion. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Board Member Larson made a motion to proceed with litigation to collect outstanding money owed to the District from Valley View Investments. Board Member Capener seconded the motion. Chairman Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren, Financial Chairman Holmgren and Board Members

Scott, Carter, Howe, Day, N. Capener, Larson, Vincent and J. Capener voted in favor of the motion.

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.