

**Bear River Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting
Wednesday August 28, 2019 7:00 p.m.
102 W Forest Street
Brigham City, UT 84302**

Minutes

Present: Trustees: Roger Fridal, Charles Holmgren, Mark Larson, Russ Howe, Jay Carter, Jeff Scott, Neil Capener, David Forsgren, Jay Capener, Tyler Vincent

Absent: Richard Day

Staff: General Manager Carl Mackley, Systems Operator Robert Thayne, Administrative Assistant Jill Jeppsen

Welcome: Chairman Roger Fridal

Invocation: Neil Capener

Pledge of Allegiance: Russ Howe

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: Charles Holmgren, participates in cloud seeding operations

Adoption of the Agenda –Chairman Fridal

A motion was made by Financial Chairman Holmgren to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Board Member Carter. Chairman Roger Fridal, Vice Chairman Forsgren and Board Members Howe, N. Capener, and Larson voted in favor of the motion. Tyler Vincent, Jeff Scott and Jay Capener had not yet arrived.

Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held July 31, 2019.

The minutes of the Board Meeting held July 31, 2019 were included with the packet that was provided to the Board Members.

Board Member Larson made a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting held July 31, 2019. The motion was seconded by Board Member N. Capener. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion. Vice Chairman Forsgren abstained due to not being in attendance at the meeting.

Financial Business – Charles Holmgren

The financial statements for July 2019 were prepared and provided to the Board Members. Financial Chairman Holmgren has reviewed the reports, he pointed out the check register now reflects that the employees are paid by Direct Deposit. He asked for the Board to approve the financial reports.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Forsgren to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Larson. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

Project Updates –Robbie Thayne

We have added a PRV in the Tremonton booster station for Ukon, there is a data logger on that line to monitor the pressure. We will pull the results on Thursday or Friday this week. Our observation in the last year has been the pressure stays about 110 psi. There was a discussion regarding the pressures on the line.

The Bothwell generator has been installed. We are waiting for Generac to come and set it up and add the fuel. There was a discussion and questions regarding the generator buffer between when the power goes out and the generator starts. Also, how it ties into the SCADA system and transducer. All these will be addressed when the set-up is done by Generac. We may need to install a solar power source for the transducer, which controls the power to the SCADA system. The board members requested to be informed when Generac will be out there to set up the generator so they can attend.

The Lefler fire hydrant in South Willard needs to be moved. It is installed too close to the neighbor's driveway. We are planning to move it to the east about 40 feet.

We attended Rural Water training this week. Carl took classes to get his Water Operator Certification Andrew and Richard took classes for Backflow Administration Certification. This certification will allow them to tell what backflow device is required in different situations. Every system is required to have at least one backflow administrator. Customers are required to install backflow devices on their irrigation/sprinkling systems.

We received three fence bids for the north parking lot. They were all so different that General Manager Mackley made a spreadsheet and asked the vendors to bid based on the spreadsheet, we have received two of the bids back, we are waiting for the 3rd then we will award the bid.

Talking about bids led to a discussion on our well drilling bid process. We held a pre-bid conference where we had some of the best well drillers around in attendance. They were taken to the well site. As per our policy we must choose the lowest qualified bid. The discussion continued regarding the qualification of the bids and the well drillers. We are planning to drill 1100 feet, using a rotary drilling process. This will be a 6" well and will tell us what water is in what zones, and that the water quality is good. We will only pump it at about 200 gallons per minute. If we turn it into a production well it will be a 16" well. It will be a different hole right by the test well, due to a 6" shaft not being very straight. One of the important things we will find out is how stable the bedrock structure will be and should know how much we will have to case. It should be able to remain an open hole once we get in the bedrock. We are hoping to get 1000 gallons per minute out of the production well.

Trustee Reports

David Forsgren – No report

Charles Holmgren – Reported that there was a discussion at the Canal board meeting a week ago about developers coming in and burying ditches then homeowners cannot get their shares of canal water.

Jay Capener – Continued the discussion that Charles Holmgren brought up about the developers and asked Jeff Scott if he had any thoughts from a County perspective. He replied that the County Attorney has stated it really is a civil matter.

Tyler Vincent – Is preparing for the budget tax increases on the agenda for the council meeting tomorrow. Brigham City is increasing taxes for the first time in 10 years, they found most cities go through truth in taxation every other year. Peach Days coming up next week. Things are good in the city.

Mark Larson – No report

Neil Capener – No report

Russ Howe – There was one leak on the water line due to pressure changes, this has been repaired. All new air vacs have been put on the system this summer.

Jay Carter –It is dry in Park Valley now and the fire danger is high; we could use a little rain. He reported begin able to see 8 fires from his home at one time. The following is an excerpt from the news story:

The night of August 4, a large thunderstorm moved through northwest Utah. Hundreds of lightning strikes resulted in an estimated 30 wildfire ignitions. Fire departments from throughout Box Elder County responded and put full effort into locating and suppressing the fires. Approximately 15 fire engines worked through the night to protect rangeland, homes and fences. By the morning of August 5, more than 12 of the fires were fully contained and kept to an acre or less. Twenty of the fires have been named and there are about ten that have not been staffed.

Jeff Scott – The Fair and Rodeo were great, the people that work to put it on do an amazing job. We do not charge admission and we only spend about \$25,000 a year for the events. \$1.35 million was raised this year at the junior livestock auction.

Roger Fridal –Tremonton has a City Council meeting tomorrow regarding the charges for secondary water. Meters have been added and citizens are upset about the amounts they are being charged. The rates are not less than culinary rates; both are on tiered rate structures. With the moisture we received we are taking about half the amount of water from last year from BRWCD. About a third of the town has been installed with a new water system that will be on-line next year. There is a base rate of \$10 per month for every home that has a meter for secondary water.

General Manager's Report – Carl Mackley

The legislature is trying to introduce a Watershed Council for the state. Which is an organization that can be set up in a watershed to solve problems. It gives voice to people that have different interests or concerns on water issues. They are trying to have the Executive Water Task Force adopt this legislation. It seems like it is hard for any water legislation to go through in February that doesn't get the blessing of this task force. It has been met with quite a bit of interest. General Manager Mackley has attended several of the Executive Water Task Force meetings and the main concern seems to be if this Watershed Council Act goes through it will be another layer of government red tape. It is supposed to be an advisory roll; but some of the language does not support that. General Manager Mackley encouraged the board members to learn more about and take an interest in the Watershed Council legislation. He continued that the Executive Water Task Force meetings are some of the most valuable meetings for water in the state. They wrote up the legislation for the Watershed Council Act and worked hard on it. Currently, it seems to be top down instead of grass roots up approach, which is a concern to many. There are already some watershed councils in other parts of the state but there is not one for the Bear River. Many of the environmental groups in the Bear River watershed should want watershed councils to exist because it would give them a platform on which to weigh in on Bear River issues, or Great Salt Lake issues, which are just getting bigger all the time.

The Bear River Development final report that they have been working on for ten (10) years, is expected to come out in September. Members of the Working Group received a 5-page summary that they are requesting feedback on in the next few days. It will be good to have the report out so we can talk about it and know how it could potentially impact Box Elder County.

The Flat Canyon well project (see above in Robbie Thayne's report). There was a discussion of the concerns of the neighbors near the well site.

South Willard – please read the report and ask questions later, if you have them.

Friday was the last working day for our summer intern Matt Meier. He is working on an Engineering Master's Degree and his undergraduate work was in Natural Resources.

GIS Grants should be coming out in September.

A copy of the proposed addition of a Uniform/Clothing Allowance policy to the Personnel Policies and Procedures was included in the packet that was provided to the Board Members.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Forsgren to Adopt the Uniform/Clothing Allowance addition to the Personnel Policies and Procedures as presented, to be effective January 1, 2020. The motion was seconded by Board Member Larson. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

The Board gave their recommendation to continue participation in the Weather Modification program for the 2019-2020 season. There was a short discussion about Idaho's cloud seeding program.

Public Comment – No comments

A motion was made by Board Member Scott to adjourn the meeting. All Board Members voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.