

**Bear River Water Conservancy District  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday December 15, 2021 6:00 p.m.  
Bear River Water Conservancy District Conference Room  
102 West Forest Street, Brigham City, Utah**

**Minutes**

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

Absent: Tyler Vincent

Staff: General Manager Carl Mackley, Assistant General Manager Andrew Beecher, Administrative Assistant Jill Jeppsen, Systems Operations Manager, Rob Thayne

Other: As listed on the Visitor's Attendance Sheet

**Welcome:** Vice Chairman Dave Forsgren

Invocation: Jay Carter

Pledge of Allegiance: Richard Day

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest:** None

**Adoption of the Agenda** – Vice Chairman Dave Forsgren

A motion was made by Board Member Larson to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

**Approval of the Minutes for the Board Meeting held November 17, 2021**

The minutes of the Board Meeting held November 17, 2021 were included with the packet that was provided to the Board Members.

Financial Chairman Holmgren made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 17, 2021. The motion was seconded by Board Member Carter. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

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

The financial statements for November 2021 were prepared and provided to the Board Members. Financial Chairman Holmgren has reviewed the reports and asked for the Board to approve them.

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

**Public Hearing to receive comments regarding the Tentative Budget.**

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Board Member Day to adopt the 2022 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Larson. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

**Public Hearing to receive comments regarding adoption of the updated Conservation Plan.**

The changes that have been made from the original Draft version were pointed out to the Board Members.

Brian Bowen made the comment it was hard to review the Plan since it was not posted on the website. It was noted that the Public Meeting announcement stated the Plan was available at the District for review. The final version will be posted on BRWCD.com and a link will be emailed to those in attendance, as requested.

A motion was made by Board Member J. Capener to adopt the updated Conservation Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

Vice Chairman Dave Forsgren presented a plaque to Russ Howe in recognition of his service on the Board from July 2014 to December 2021. He expressed his appreciation for his service.

Tyler Vincent has also completed his term on the Board. He served from January 2012 until December 2021. He was not in attendance.

The County Commission has approved the appointment of Joe Summers to replace outgoing Russ Howe to represent the Bothwell, Thatcher/Penrose and Howell areas beginning January 2022. DJ Bott has been appointed to replace Tyler Vincent to represent Brigham City.

**Rob Thayne – System Operations**

A recap where we are in South Willard; we have pulled everything we can out of the well, the pump is still there and a 6” piece of the column is still there. The column comes from where the pump is stuck to about halfway up the well. They have perforated the inside of that column and have installed a 4” submersible pump to do the pump test. This is the same size pump we will put in when we are finished with the test pumping. The pump went in to 435 feet, which is in the area they perforated. They pumped for about an hour, the water was starting to clear up then the pump quit. We couldn’t figure out why. We had an electrician come and look at it. The panel is good, the drive is good, the motor on the pump is good. The pump itself appears to be the problem. The driller will have to pull the pump and repair or replace it. During the hour that they were pumping, they pumped 187 gallons per minute, it drew down about 62 feet, which is typical for the well at that rate. We were not close to what we could have pumped. The well went down 62 feet then it came up a little and stayed there. If we start pumping 250 gpm it will probably draw down about 90 feet. We don’t know what the sand production is, or what happened to the gravel pack in the screen. When we get the pump to work, we will do a step test. We

will start at 150 gpm then raise it to 200 gpm then raise it again to 250 gpm. We will pump it until it stabilizes at each rate, about 1 to 1 ½ hours per step. The static water level is 322 feet.

There was a discussion regarding sealing the bottom. Nothing will be decided until after the pump test but it is likely we will not seal it off. The discussion continued regarding the new pump specifications.

After the test pumping is complete, we will do a series of chemical treatments for the iron bacteria. The plan is to run the pump at least twice per week to keep the water moving and lessen the bacteria problem.

General Manager Mackley added some information about the iron bacteria present in this well.

Robbie Thayne continued his report. Iron bacteria is not harmful, but it tastes and smells bad. We have been able to control it by keeping the chlorine level high.

We now own the 1 acre of ground in Deweyville for the Flat Canyon well site. We have most of the rights-of-way to access the property along the canal road.

Country Sunset Ranchettes has been issued the operating permit for phase 2.

We have had three mainline leaks in Bothwell. They have all been at the corp. stops. We are looking to change the way we install the service line by decreasing the angle at which it attaches to the mainline so the dirt and pressure over time will not break the connection.

We have installed the 3 one-inch meters in Beaver Dam for the Brodie Calder subdivision. These will service 2-inch waterlines to provide sufficient water for the fire suppression systems. They will be required to install these systems in their homes, in lieu of installing a fire hydrant.

At the Tremonton Booster Station in East Tremonton, there is a vault and a booster pump that has always been there, where in case of an emergency, we could take water from Tremonton to provide water to Riverside North Garland Water Company and Ukon Water Company. We have never used this pump. We thought we might want to take more water from this connection to provide to Ukon. We wanted to test it to see how much water we could deliver. We cannot deliver it by gravity feed due to Ukon's system having more pressure than we do. We found that the pump does not work. We have had the electrical checked out but suspect that something is stuck in the motor. Mountain Valley Pump will be coming out to look at the pump.

### **Carl Mackley – General Manager's Report**

General Manager Mackley asked the board members to refer to his written report included in the packets. There was an item on the report to talk about the concept of pressurized irrigation. We are going to hold off on that discussion for this meeting while a few ideas are defined better.

We were hoping for an update from Board Member Scott on the County's ARPA funds. Water is one of the few areas where this money can be used. We are curious to know how that compares to the ARPA

funds that were administered through the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. There was \$50 million available and there were 389 applications for those funds; 81% of them were for water or wastewater related projects. About 75% of the funding allocated went towards water and wastewater projects. We were disappointed that none of that money went anywhere in Box Elder County. There were other entities besides the District that applied for funding.

The County will not have an easier way of funding water projects than with this money that is allocated for very specific uses, including water and wastewater. This is something we will continue to track. About 10% of the \$10.8 million that the County received has already been allocated for Broadband in the Howell area.

On a state level, a large portion of the money that was allocated went for secondary metering in the large counties. This was not specifically ARPA funds, but it is still Federal funds. It is easy to justify this allocation because the data that shows the water savings when users are metered vs when they are not metered is significant.

The drought resiliency funds that we applied for will be 50/50 matching funds. Results for these funds should be out by February.

Board Member Scott has now arrived at the meeting. He was asked about the types of requests the county is seeing for the County ARPA funds. There are a few applications that the money cannot be used for. We have seen some interest from a couple of small water companies and some broadband and sewer. We will be making some decisions around the first of the year. Water is toward the top of the list. It is not for sure, but I think there will be an allocation [available to the District.] General Manager Mackley asked if the process was still open for requests. Board Member Scott answered it will probably be open until the end of the year, then the requests will be evaluated at the beginning of the year.

The board members were provided with a Board Meeting schedule and a calendar with holiday and pay date schedules for 2022. It was noted we did change the August board meeting to the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday due to the County Fair the previous week.

A motion was made by Board Member Larson to adopt the 2022 Board Meeting Schedule as presented with a correction to the meeting times. The motion was seconded by Chairman Fridal. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Board Member N. Capener the Holiday and pay date schedule as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

General Manager Mackley said he would like to change things a little for 2022 meetings. We have the annual meeting in March where the audit report is presented to the Board along with the General Manager giving an annual report to review the highlights of the previous year and set some goals for the current year. This year I would like to do the review of the previous year and set some goals for 2022 in January as some projects may be delayed if we wait until March. The annual meeting will still be held

in March. Beginning with the January meeting I would like to receive direction and feedback and have you suggest any course corrections or solidify the direction we are going, in your Trustee reports.

### **Closed Meeting**

#### **Pending or reasonably imminent litigation**

#### **Purchase, exchange, lease, or sale of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares**

A motion was made by Board Member Larson to enter a closed meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Howe. The roll call vote is as follows:

Dave Forsgren, Aye	Charles Holmgren, Aye	Jay Capener, Aye
Neil Capener, Aye	Mark Larson, Aye	Roger Fridal, Aye
Russ Howe, Aye	Richard Day, Aye	Jay Carter, Aye
Jeff Scott, Aye		

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Forsgren to end the closed meeting and return to the open meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Scott. The roll call vote is as follows.

Dave Forsgren, Aye	Charles Holmgren, Aye	Jay Capener, Aye
Neil Capener, Aye	Mark Larson, Aye	Roger Fridal, Aye
Russ Howe, Aye	Richard Day, Aye	Jay Carter, Aye
Jeff Scott, Aye		

### **Trustee Reports**

**Charles Holmgren** – We measured .44” of rain at the farm from the last storm. Except for Western Box Elder County, it was one of the lowest readings in the state. Brigham City received over 1 inch and Mantua and Cache Valley did well. We ran the cloud seeder, there was some good water in that storm. We had a Board of Water Resources meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> and Candice Hasenyager was selected to represent the Bear River Commission for the State of Utah, replacing Todd Adams. There is also an agreement to share more data from the Division of Water Resources with the State Engineer. This means we will have monthly meetings with the Bear River Commission to discuss water rights issues and depletion issues on the Bear River. Joel Williams was selected as the Deputy Director of the Division of Water Resources. The ranchers in Rich county have had a severe year. The summer was very hard on them, one rancher had a culling rate of 25%. A lot of people were hurt by the continuing drought.

**Jay Capener** – We are trying to measure the water layer with sonic now, and we are seeking funding to do that.

**Neil Capener** – Riverside North Garland had an interesting meeting with Will Atkin from the Division of Water Rights. We were interested to see what was going to happen with Steve Welling’s water right

that he is marketing. Will would not give us much information except to say that the well has not been used. Brian Shaffer, President of Ukon Water Company is under the opinion that they may not let Ukon drill the well they planned to drill next to the King well because it might affect the Kings' well. That issue has not been decided for sure yet. There could be some mitigation required.

**Mark Larson** – no report

**Roger Fridal** – There are a lot of things going on in Tremonton. Water is one of the main things citizens are complaining about because there is a potential for a fair amount of growth coming to Tremonton. Tremonton is doing well; the water sources are doing well. The secondary water has been very beneficial.

**Russ Howe** – Expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Board. Thatcher is doing well. Thanks and appreciation were also expressed by the Board members to Russ for his service on the Board.

**Richard Day** – no report

**Jay Carter** – Read an article that California is wanting 40% of the early run-off flow, instead of letting it go in the reservoirs. The irrigation districts are not happy about the request.

**Jeff Scott** – Waiting for an email from a lobbying group that works with Wasatch Regional Council, they have several infrastructure grants that are going to be available on the federal level. They are mainly to do with transportation, but they also have some that are for water infrastructure. It may be an opportunity for matching funds for regional projects.

**Dave Forsgren** – no report

A motion was made by Board Member J. Capener to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Larson.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.