

**Bear River Water Conservancy District  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday January 26, 2022 6:00 p.m.  
Bear River Water Conservancy District Conference Room  
102 West Forest Street, Brigham City, Utah**

**Minutes**

Present: Trustees: David Forsgren, Charles Holmgren, Mark Larson, Neil Capener, Jay Carter, Richard Day, Jeff Scott, Jay Capener, Joe Summers, Dennis Bott

Absent: Roger Fridal

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

Other: As listed on the Visitor's Attendance Sheet

**Welcome:** Vice Chairman Dave Forsgren  
Invocation: Charles Holmgren  
Pledge of Allegiance: Jay Capener

**Declaration of Conflicts of Interest:** None

**Introduction of new board members**  
DJ Bott, Mayor of Brigham City  
Joe Summers, Bothwell

**Oath of office for new board members**  
Jill Jeppsen, a Notary Public, gave the oath of office to the two new board members.

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

A motion was made by Board Member Bott 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 December 15, 2021**

The minutes of the Board Meeting held December 15, 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 December 15, 2021. The motion was seconded by Board Member J. Capener. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

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

The financial statements for December 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 Financial Chairman Forsgren to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member N. Capener. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

**Approval of travel per diems and standard mileage rate**

A motion was made by Financial Chairman Holmgren to approve the travel per diems of \$40.00 per day and standard mileage rate of \$.585 as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Scott. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

**Review of open account list**

A motion was made by Financial Chairman Holmgren to approve the open account list as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member J. Capener. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

**Craig Hawkes – Howell Town**

Mayor Hawkes asked for help from the District in paying the remaining bills for additional engineering for their waterline project. The balance due is \$8962.00.

There was a discussion regarding the amount that might be provided and if there were any legal ramifications due to the project already being completed. It was decided there we not. Mayor Hawkes said the town has not adjusted any water rates to their citizens at this time, it is something they are considering for the future. Most of the project money came from a grant from Bear River Association of Governments (BRAG). The project cost more than anticipated and this is the only outstanding bill from the project. The board mentioned we have helped other entities in the past and want to help Howell Town.

The question was asked of Board member Scott if there would be any additional grant money from BRAG, and if Howell Town should be asking them first. He mentioned the State had requests for 5 times the amount of money they had for infrastructure.

In answer to questions that were asked by the Board members Mayor Hawkes said:

They have about 115 users on their water system

60% of the water for livestock watering

The town contributed about \$90,000 towards the project and are looking for some help to get the rest taken care of.

All the water is metered

The monthly rate is \$20 for 20,000 gallons then goes to \$1.30 per 1000 gallons over that

This project was 2 miles of 8” line that was installed and it has really helped the system. Impact fees are \$7,800.00.

There have been only one or two new houses per year for the last few years so there is not a lot of money coming in.

The Board members looked at the engineering budget for this year.

A motion was made by Board Member Day to approve \$4,000 to Howell Town to help out with engineering costs. The motion was seconded by Board Member N. Capener. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

It was noted the money would be paid directly to the engineering firm.

### **Public comment period**

Rules of the public comment period were given by Vice Chairman Forsgren:

This is a public meeting, not a public hearing. Each person that wants to comment will be given 2 minutes, one time. The Board may or may not answer questions or respond in any way. Please state your name and stand so you can be heard.

**Richard Garrett, Collinston** – my wife, Kelly Lemon and Connie Lemon have succeeded me their two minutes also. I assume the proceedings are being recorded for accuracy. I am sorry I missed the last meeting due to recovering from a biopsy and will miss the February meeting due to recovery of a surgery taking place the day before. We started this meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance where everyone repeated the words with liberty and justice for all. I believe that with all my heart. I spent 23 years in the military. I have to tell you I believe we live in a truly amazing time. On October 13, 2021 at approximately 5:00 PM, you sir, Mr. Forsgren told the residents of Beaver Dam that you did not represent Beaver Dam and Collinston and did not know who did. I spoke at the County Commission meeting on January 6<sup>th</sup> about having a representative, a resident of Beaver Dam or Collinston with certain qualifications, represent us on the Board of Directors. As of 24 January the County Commissioners have not acted on that according to Mr. Summers. And sometime after the January 6<sup>th</sup> meeting Mr. Forsgren magically became the representative for Collinston and Beaver Dam, before he wasn't on paper. A few keystrokes and now we have representation. I think it is dishonest and disingenuous. On a related subject on honesty and openness, I contacted Mr. Mackley about being on the agenda for this meeting, he replied, we have a fairly full agenda and time wise for that meeting, would you be willing to wait for the February meeting? If not, I will put you on the agenda at the end of the meeting. I said fine, put me on at the end of the meeting, thank you. A couple hours later I got this; After talking with our attorney and your board representative, Mr. Forsgren we will not be putting you on the agenda. We will hold a limited public comment period at the beginning of the meeting. You can look for specific information on our meeting minutes or make requests for specific information. However, as a protestant of the District's application it is not appropriate for us to be providing you with information regarding the application. Then he talked about the upcoming water rights hearing. I am sorry, but if you poke a sleeping dog he is going to bite. And you poked the wrong dog, folks. I will not be silenced nor ignored. I find it offensive and an attempt to restrict my first amendment rights. I strongly suggest that all of you get some training on ethics and transparency. The revised application that was submitted on 29 October 2021 changing the request from 500 acre feet to 210 acre feet, on page

4 says: review of the water rights in the area surrounding the proposed POD indicates that there are approximately 75 acre-feet of water rights between the proposed POD and the Bear River competing for the recharge contributed by the Wellsville Mountains and the foothills southeast of the PODs. (All of a sudden POD's is plural.) Therefore, it is estimated that there are approximately 135 acre-feet of groundwater discharge that do not currently have groundwater rights attached within the areas of the wells. I am going to skip over some of the other stuff here. In the next few paragraphs, the words estimate, estimated, assuming, anticipated, potential, about, are all words that mean guess. Those words are used 7 times in 6 sentences. There are assumptions based on assumptions because the Cooper-Jacob solution is also based on assumptions. So,  $210 - 135 = 75$  acre feet, which is the amount of private held water rights. To me that says the District plans to steal or interfere with water to which they have no right nor title. I'm sorry, I do math. I can't read that any other way. So here is my point. The Bear River Water Conservancy District cannot offer any mitigation that is acceptable to the owners of the privately held water rights in Collinston. If we wanted to be part of your system, we would have already bought connections so we could be subject to your control of our water. We know we can and do manage it better than you do. So let me state it so we are not misunderstood. The private water rights holders of Collinston are not interested in any mitigation you might offer. We will keep our water rights, wells, and springs. I hope everybody understands what I just said. So, a few more things I want to say. Thank you for showing me that you believe I am a person you believe needs to be silenced for whatever reason. I am not going to ask why because this is not a question and answer. Most people consider me to be a reasonable person. Thank you for demonstrating time and again that you believe we should accept a non-answer as a reasonable response. For example, on more than one occasion when Mr. Mackley was directly asked how Bear River Water Conservancy was going to protect our private water rights as stated in your mission statement, his response was 'is it my responsibility to protect your family?' Bad answer, Carl. I find that response to be nonsense and offensive, it is a form of deflection, a tactic used to avoid answering the question. That particular non-answer to a straightforward question is also a form of passive aggression. Among my other academic accomplishments this Idaho farm boy just happens to have a master's degree in counseling, so I know what I'm talking about. And believe me, I will provide for the safety and security of my family. Thank you for showing me that Bear River Water believes it can and should manage all the water in Box Elder County. That the belief that government can and should manage resources better than private citizens is a belief long held by many. The fact was first officially published in a pamphlet in 1848. If you are interested in reading the entire text it was authored by Frederick Engels and Karl Marx and called the communist manifesto. Thank you for once again demonstrating that we still don't have anybody on the Board of Directors who truly represents Collinston and Beaver Dam or what we as residents, taxpayers and water rights holders have to say. I have been involved directly or indirectly, well, I will just leave it at directly, and practiced logistics management for longer than this district has been existence. I understand long-range planning and how limited resources should be managed and allocated. I directed the activities of over 350 technicians who maintained 200 remotely located intercontinental nuclear missiles spread over 22,500 acres, or square miles, I'm sorry. That is the size of New Hampshire and Rhode Island combined. I was responsible for ensuring they had the necessary training, parts, equipment, supplies, transportation, and security to perform that mission 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and did it within budget constraints. I understand logistics. Your own meetings, the Conservancy District's water system master plan, and documents previously submitted to the state water board of rights show that you have plenty available water. You need to learn how to manage it properly. I would like to point out on more than one occasion, Mr.

Holmgren expressed his concern that the District was selling connection you don't have. So sir, thank you for your voice of reason. At this time, I formally request that the Bear River Water Conservancy withdraw the predatory and unnecessary Collinston application A48040. In closing, many of you have the opportunity to be interviewed every couple of years, when that occasion next occurs, I promise you that you will remember what I have said this night. So, think about your actions regarding the citizens of Beaver Dam and Collinston before you answer the question; Are you honest in your dealings with your fellow men? Thank you.

**Stacie Maxfield, Beaver Dam.** As I have looked out our window from our home and also traveled to Logan and Brigham, the last 3 to 4 weeks there has been something downright frightening to me. That is the amount of snow up on the Wellsvilles. In reality, I do not remember a January in 21 years of living here that I have been able to look out and see the amount of brown spots and lack of snow on our mountain range that feeds our system. What is equally frightening is the lack of snow you see as you travel southward towards Brigham City, as most of you have done today as you were travelling. Unless something changes, and we all pray and hope that something does change and the heavens open, there will be very little runoff from the mountains and springs. We have not received enough snow this year to even begin to compensate for the lack of moisture last year. If what we have received so far this winter is an indicator, it is that this drought is not going to be letting up any time soon. And there have been many comments in your meeting minutes about we don't know what next year is going to hold, regarding the drought. The reason I would like to comment today is to urge the Board members and Mr. Mackley to please error on the side of caution when it comes to dealing with the water systems and the water in our district and the decisions you make. I don't just mean Beaver Dam and Collinston, I mean the entire District. This drought, no one is immune from it. We are being affected by it. I realize that you do have a Drought Response Plan in place, and I appreciate that, however, limiting usage and then turning around and issuing an abundance of connections is not the answer. Please use caution when issuing connections. Connections you thoroughly don't know if you have water for during this drought. Fourteen years ago, when we built, we approached the gentleman who had stewardship over the Beaver Dam water system and asked him if we could get a water connection. I still remember his words this day, he said 'we would love to provide you with a water connection, but we don't have the water for it right now.' They were in the midst of getting the District to help them out and he said, 'please go get a well permit, then if a water connection became available you are more than welcome to purchase,' which we did. He was acting as a wise steward, not just on the systems we have, because he knew it would be a burden to the system if he continued to add connections. But he also acted in our interest on saying 'I don't want you to purchase something if I can't provide that service to you. If we are running out of water, it is not going to do me any good to sell you a connection.' He was looking out for both of us. I know that each of you guys represent an area for the District. In reality, you should all be representing all areas of the District, not just your specific area. I urge you to be wise stewards over our water, and over the water you have been given stewardship over. Please use caution, and error on the side of caution when you are making these decisions that effect not just this year, but years down the line. Thank you.

**Neal Fisher,** I have been here before, and we have talked about the Beaver Dam situation. I know Carl has done a lot of work putting together some plans and different scenarios for Beaver Dam. I wrote a letter and sent it out, you may have read it already, but I wanted to reiterate our position now that we

have had a chance to go back through the meeting from November 17<sup>th</sup> when Carl presented 8 different plans. We are good with 3 of your proposals; number 0, 1 and 3. If you would present one of those 3 alternatives, we will support that. I recommend that you do that. The other 5 we have serious concerns about. I think it is a recipe for disaster and we will run out of water. We are trying to work with you guys, we don't want to be adversarial to you guys. We are concerned, not only about our culinary water, but our irrigation that we have brought up in the past and you guys are all aware of. I think if you adopt one of those 3 plans that we mentioned there that Carl did put the numbers together on, I think it would serve us all. It would be a good compromise that would protect our irrigation water and our culinary water, and it gives you flexibility. This is where we are now with 42 connections. I think if we go to any one of the other plans, we are going to resist them. I am really fearful that one of the other 5 will result in us being out of water and that is not going to do anyone any good. As a matter of fact, the charts themselves say as much. Of those 8 plans, the 5 I am concerned about, everyone of them show the system running out of water at some point in time. Please don't adopt one of those 5, adopt one of the 3; 0, 1 or 3 and we can support that. Thank you for your time.

**Therina Simmons**, I represent my father in Collinston, Jim Parkinson. I want to put on record I would appreciate you withdrawing that well, as well. Because I know there is enough water that you don't have to put that well there. And I also wondered how many of you board members have read the Box Elder Together plan that our county has put together? Would you raise your hand and tell me if you have read that? Trying to plan our future. Our county is growing, and we are one of those later cities to grow, our township is. And we can look at Salt Lake and become like Salt Lake. I came in July and asked who gave permits first, is it water or the county. You guys told me it was water. So if you are the ones that give the permits first, if you read each plan you can eliminate a lot of even asking about wells and stuff by reading the plan and following that plan. I feel like if our whole county works together, let's all be together instead of everybody trying to get it for somebody's favor or something like that. Let's make the town fabulous, our Box Elder County, let's work together and we get something that we all want.

**Brodie Calder**, I want to make mention about the reason that we have Bear River Water Conservancy District and that is to help people and the people of the community to have water and provide water for the future. I would like to first speak about Beaver Dam, I know that there is much to say in regards to if there is water or not water available. I would state that I would look to the engineer's to see what they have to say and go off the reports that you get to make your educated decisions. If there is water there, great, or is there is not water there. That is how I would make the decision if I were in your shoes. In regards to the well; I'm going to change my hat and wear the Ukon water board hat at this point. You have an obligation to Ukon for a lot of water and there are over 700 connections that rely on that water coming from the Collinston side. That provides us water, and I am one of those users, but there is a lot in losing that Deweyville well for water is a real big problem, and we need to find another source. So, you have to find another source to be able to provide because our water has arsenic in it and we blend at the blending station there, to be able to make it so we can have water sufficient to all who currently have water. So, there is going to need to be a resolve somewhere. I just put it back to using the facts and really paying attention to those that can provide facts to you guys.

**Adam Alexander**, Collinston. Before you guys had mentioned that there is excess water in Bothwell to be used in this system. I would like to understand more of why we cannot use that to provide for more water shares, and why we are running out of water, already. Thank you.

**Kelly Lemon**, Collinston. Water has always been a battle, I know. A lot of us have invested a lot of money into our systems, it is what we rely on. We live on the dry side up there, the water that we get is in a very limit aquafer. This well that has been proposed will directly affect us; and that has been stated by your director, as well. It will affect our wells. The Hansen Allen Luce report said there is current water, in the worst situation until 2035, there is enough culinary water already, if you read the report. And if we get wise with our water use that will extend the use to 2065 and possibly beyond. Those reports that you guys have quoted in several places, the Great Salt Lake Council is also looking at that, the water that currently is available will meet our current needs if we are wise in how we use it. I have been told that water can be borrowed from one place to another. It is very disingenuous to say that the water that was sold to people, the thing that is trying to be pushed through is that this well is needed to provide water for 44 connections in the Collinston area. There have only been 30 new homes that have been built in the area, unless you start counting homes that are back in Deweyville, which is where the Bear River Water Conservancy is actually providing water for the same people that are saying they want their water back. There is a little bit of some playing math that is going on there. So, it is very disingenuous to say the water is not there. We can pull it from the Bothwell area, we have a lot of water that is being used for non-culinary use over there. To say all these homes that need water, yes, that's true but the water, what I am seeing from reports is available if we are wise in how we use it.

The public comment period was closed by Vice Chairman Forsgren.

### **Board discussion items**

**General Manager Mackley** began his report while the Board members waited for printed copies of the proposed policy changes.

The General Manager's written report looks at each system and highlights some current issues from 2021 and what the continuation is in 2022.

The 2021 drought has impacted everyone, in conjunction with the drought we did a couple of things. One was a county-wide plan, we reached out to all the public water suppliers that were interested in responding. Most of them responded and attended the planning meeting. We came up with a drought resiliency plan that identified certain vulnerabilities that we had. We divided the county into 6 regions, which made sense due to the current alignment of water systems and connections and agreements between the water suppliers. It potentially opens the door for funding to try and bolster water supplies where needed.

General Manager Mackley explained to the two new Board members we have 5 independent water systems that serve retail customers. Each of the systems is managed separately and has its own pricing structure. We also came up with our Emergency Drought Response Plan in response to the Governor and a desire to help conserve water. This Drought Response Plan has lofty goals; asking for 20% indoor use reduction and 50% outdoor use reduction. It is tough to measure exactly, but the overall result from our customers that wanted to help save water was significant. We implemented drought

response rates where we gave the customers an incentive by increasing the minimum amount of water to a 'target' amount and kept this at the base rate of each system then increased the tiered rate amounts. We read meters once per week and added the meter reading/usage on the website so customers would know what they were using and could change their behavior and not get hit with a huge bill. We found a lot of water leaks on customers sides of the meter that was contributing to overages.

The GM Report was paused to continue with the agenda items.

### **Water Service Policy Updates**

A motion was made by Board Member Day to table the Water Service Policy Updates until the February 2022 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Bott. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

### **Beaver Dam Impact Fee Plan and Analysis**

Vice Chairman Forsgren made a recommendation to the board members to go back to the Impact Fee Study that was done in 2012. Which would allow for 52 connections, which would be 10 more than we currently have. We have reviewed the scenarios pointed out in the public comment period of numbers 0, 1 or 3 that allow for no more connections. In order to meet our financial obligations and take care of the system the way we need to, we should go back to the 2012 study.

Financial Chairman Holmgren asked the question if there are any adjustment of the impact fee for inflation over the past 10 years and the increase in infrastructure costs? General Manager Mackley answered he addressed the issue in his written report. Most of the customers are asking to not sell any more connections, which is one option. The other option is we stay with the 2012 impact fee plan, which was not objected to. If we do anything other than that, then we have to update and adopt a new Impact Fee Plan and Analysis (IFPA). One of the reasons we were looking to update the IFPA was because we were looking into developing the other Sleepy Hollow springs that we have rights to. The cost to get an additional 15 gpm is several hundred thousand dollars, so that is not a good option.

Board Member Bott commented on how costs have changed. It seems short-sighted to go back to a 2012 study to base any decisions on. Vice Chairman Forsgren explained the impact fees are not for new infrastructure and is based on the usage per household, the same that it was in 2012 when the original study was made. General Manager Mackley added that upkeep of the system is not included in the impact fees, it is directly for improvements that we made when we took ownership the system in 2012. The legal council we were given is if you are going to do any additional infrastructure or spring source development you will have to update the impact fee plan. If we cannot proceed with any updated infrastructure at this time, there is no reason to change the IFPA.

There was a question if the 2012 policy needed to be re-affirmed. It was determined in the discussion that this policy is still in force.

General Manager Mackley added that the 2012 study was done before we had any available data. We now have 10 years of data. The question is what happens in July and August. We have sufficient water rights on paper, but in July and August in years like this, the spring flows are down, and the usage remains about the same. Most of the existing customers have additional sources for their outdoor water. If we sell new connections, we have less information and we are guessing on what the new customers

will use when they don't have the additional sources available for irrigation. We have sold an equivalent of 42 connections.

Vice Chairman Forsgren added if we stay with the 2012 study, nothing changes. It provides for 52 connections, and we have not reached that limit.

Board Member N. Capener recommended we do a new study. Since we have 42 connections sold, what is wrong with putting these 42 connections online and see what the numbers look like. General Manager Mackley said there is no need to do an additional study if we do not have additional water to add to the system. We can update our policy for Beaver Dam without doing a new impact fee study.

Board Member Scott mentioned that he would like to see the study that is talked about in the General Manager's report on the Beaver Dam system and looking at other sources. He thought this study should be done before selling any additional connections. After listening to the residents, it is a concern of what happens in June and July? It is a concern with the drought conditions we are in what happens when we sell an additional 10 connections.

General Manager Mackley asked the Board for a motion to engage in the study of additional supply in the area. The engineers have given us a quote for this study.

A motion was made by Board Member Scott to authorize the GM to contract with Keller and Associates to perform the Beaver Dam study as outlined in the GM written report. The motion was seconded by Board Member Larson. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Board Member Scott to put a moratorium on selling any new connections in Beaver Dam for 6 months, or until the Keller and Associates study is completed. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day. All Board Members voted in favor of the motion.

### **Rob Thayne – System Operations**

Rob invited the new board members, or any existing members, to a tour of our water systems.

South Willard – we have decided to pull the 6" piece of column. He has a tool that will cut it from the inside. If we get the 6" pipe out, then we will get all the rest of the garbage out and try to push the pump back down 20 feet and maybe seal it off. We are hopeful this will take care of the iron bacteria problem. The well driller is waiting for a part for this cutter. Getting the 6" column out will allow us to put in a bigger pump, then we could adjust it with a VFD.

Ukon Water – they recently had a tremendous leak in their distribution line. We got an alarm that the tank was almost empty. We helped them find the leak and get it repaired. We are delivering more water from the Tremonton side to Ukon. We also think there is another leak we will be working with them to locate and repair it.

Bothwell – we have a broken 12" check valve. We have the part and will be replacing it this week. Anyone is invited to come and help lift it into place.

Beaver Dam and Bothwell both have flow meters that failed, we have had them replaced.

We are working on SCADA system updates, as provided for in the budget.

Andrew and Richard are working on doing some GIS mapping of the Hammond Canal for the Bear River Canal Company. This is part of the agreement we have with them for access and easements for the Flat Canyon well. Andrew added they are trying to complete the project before there is water in the canal.

We have several applications for a new Water Operator position that was authorized by the Board during the budget process.

Rural Water Conference is coming up. It is a good conference with a lot of information.

Meters and radios are back-ordered for about 6 months. We have enough to do the connections that have been sold, but we do not have any extra.

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

General Manager Mackley continued his report.

Funding – There is about \$5.5 million worth of projects which we have applied for funding that we would have to match 50%. We also have about \$800,000 of either existing cash or money we have already paid towards these projects that can be subtracted from the total. If we could get funding for half this would bring our part down significantly. There is about \$750,000 that goes into projects annually, and the priority is first, towards debt, this year we have \$375,000 of debt payments that have been made. In a couple of years that will drop significantly. Then as we are paying these bonds off from 20 and 30 years ago, we can bond again for new projects. With the rest of the money, we either fund projects and/or it goes towards our depreciation savings. Then if we don’t spend it on our immediate needs for infrastructure this is our long-term savings account to replace equipment in all systems.

Collinston – The two projects are the Flat Canyon well and the application we filed for (water rights). There is good progress being made on the Flat Canyon well. This was constructed as a test well to investigate the quantity and quality of water for a large application that we filed 20 plus years ago. We have had a difficult time getting property to do these projects on. It was drilled to culinary standards but there are some boundary conditions there and we are limited on the amount of recharge that is coming through. We can get about 200 acre-feet per year. Our existing obligations for the Collinston system total 250 acre-feet per year. Deweyville Town did give us notice they are exiting our agreement early which is causing us to have to be quicker in finding replacement sources. We filed another application in Collinston to provide redundancy and the additional amount of water to meet our existing obligations and provide for growth. It was filed for 500 acre-feet, but after looking at some additional recharge information we amended it to 210 acre-feet.

Harper Ward – We drilled an 800 foot test well last year. The water quality below 393 feet was poor. We sealed it off at 393. The static water level is 340 feet, and we know the water quality is good, however we do not have an idea of the potential volume. We plan to do test pumping this year. The water right approval allows us to do 2 production wells. We will also put monitoring and measuring devices in the Harper spring. We are working with the Harper Irrigation Company to do that. It should also be beneficial to them because they do not currently have any data on how much water they use. The casing on the test well is 5”. It will have to be a small submersible pump used in the test pumping. We will do a step test at three different rates, and at least 48 hours extended pumping. We want to have the monitoring equipment installed prior to the test pumping. We budgeted \$400,000 for two test wells, one on the upper and lower sites. The bids we received were very close to each other and were nearly double what we had expected so we just did one well on the upper site.

Bothwell – We have a large water right in Bothwell in 4 wells. Two are irrigation wells and two are culinary. We have shifted our operations to only use one of the culinary wells at one time. We are using our full water right with the water we sell to Chanshare and 6 or 7 water suppliers. Our agreement with Chanshare ends in 2026, so we have a few more years with them. There is a lot of planning that

needs to happen with Tremonton, West Corinne, Ukon, Riverside North Garland, about how the potential use of this water may require updated infrastructure.

General Manager Mackley reported to the Board that we have hired Maise Technology to do our Internet and technology support. This will be a great resource for us. We also want to offer our customers the ability to pay their bills with credit cards and are going to use Xpress Bill Pay for this. There is always a cost in doing this and we have decided we will absorb the costs. We have recently had several inquiries from customers for this service. It will also integrate with our billing system and save time for us.

### **Trustee Reports**

**Jeff Scott** – We have a work session scheduled before our next commission meeting and we are going to review the ARPA requests that have been received so far. There was a company that wanted to relocate here and asked the commissioners for incentives. They told them our unemployment is so low we are not offering incentives to businesses.

**Jay Carter** – The meadows are bare; it has been another open winter. He had a conversation with his son about the Snow Water Equivalent, there is about 40” of snow which means about 12” of water.

**Richard Day** – There is about 4 feet of snow up above Pine View.

**Joe Summers** – no report

**Mark Larson** – no report

**Neil Capener** – We might be renegotiating with the District for water after speaking with the Division of Water Rights regarding the Steve Welling well. He may not be able to sell it due to lack of use. He commented that to pay your water bill by credit card is generational. They started using this system in Riverside North Garland and the secretary reminds them that not one of the directors pays by card.

**DJ Bott** – no report

**Jay Capener** – left the meeting before the reports were given

**Charles Holmgren** – West Corinne Water is not having an annual meeting due to COVID. Chad Hardy, Brian Warren and Steve Norman are up for elections. Acme Water had a meeting, but he was not able to attend. Snowpack on the Bear River Basin is 111%, which is better than last year, but still not great. There was a Lower Bear Distribution meeting today. They appointed a new river commissioner and Jay Capener was elected to the committee. The Canal Company is having its annual meeting the same night as the District’s next board meeting. We were scheduled to have a meeting in Evanston on the Bear River Commission today, but it was rescheduled for March due to COVID. They announced today that James Greer has left the Division of Water Rights. The canal company received a positive report from Pacific Corp on Bear Lake it has 10 feet that it can rise. We will have to see how the snow comes and if the canal company has a full allocation this year, if things don’t change much

from where we are now it could be about 80%. As a matter of information, Scoular is closing the largest grain elevator in Utah at the end of May this year.

**Dave Forsgren** – no report

A motion was made by Board Member Scott to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Day.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.