

WASHINGTON COUNTY  
WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

Date: 28 March 2013

## MEETING SUMMARY OF MEETING SIX

### NOTES:

The following pages contain a summary of the presentation and discussions from the WCWCD Community Integrated Resource Planning Advisory Committee Meeting of 28 March 2013.

These pages, together with the presentation slides, constitute the meeting record.

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### Committee Members in Attendance

- Kip Bowler, Banker/Rancher
- Dave Clark, Banker
- Paul Clove, Businessman
- James Eardley, Washington County
- Murray Gubler, Chamber of Commerce
- Mary Jo Hafen, City of Santa Clara
- Laron Hall, Community
- Craig Hammer, Education
- Chris Hart, City of Ivins
- Mike Heaton, City of Washington
- Scott Hirschi, Economic Development
- Dick Kohler, Architect
- Natalie Larson, Realtor
- Lynn Olds, Toquerville Citizen
- Carol Sapp, Southern Utah Home Builders Association
- Brad Seegmiller, Southern Utah Title Company
- Lawrence Snow, Shivwits Band of Paiute
- Don Stratton, Vision Dixie
- Christi Wedig, Citizens for Dixie's Future
- Karl Wilson, City of LaVerkin

### Committee Members Absent or Excused

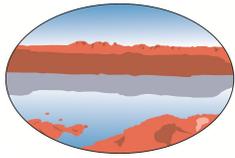
- Barry Barnum, City of St. George
- Larry Blake, Rancher
- Lee Bracken, City of Enterprise
- Tracy Ence, Development
- David Isom, Health Care
- Floyd Jackson, Contractor
- Lynn Olds, Toquerville Citizen
- Darin Thomas, City of Hurricane
- John Wadsworth, Farmer
- Travis Wilkinson, Small Business

### District/Committee Staff Members in Attendance

- Ronald Thompson, General Manger
- Barbara Hjelle, Associate General Manager/Counsel
- Corey Cram, Associate General Manager
- Roberta McMullin, Executive Administrator
- Julie Breckenridge, Water Conservation Manager
- Doug Wilson, New Project Development & Information Systems Manager
- Ann Jensen, Publications and Outreach
- Karry Rathje, Public Information Manager
- Tina Esplin, Legal Secretary
- Brie Thompson, Chemical Engineer
- Judie Brailsford, Public Outreach
- Dr. John Brailsford, Facilitator

### Other Attendees

- Dennis Strong, Utah Division of Water Resources
- Eric Klotz, Utah Division of Water Resources
- Todd Adams, Utah Division of Water Resources
- Eric Millis, Utah Division of Water Resources
- Matt Millis
- Lisa Rutherford
- Paul Van Dam
- Cheri Reynolds
- Waid Reynolds
- David Demille
- Mark Weston
- Jennifer Kohler



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### Agenda

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

John Brailsford welcomed the committee and visitors from the Utah Division of Water Resources.

#### 2. Report on Governor's Message at Utah Water Users Convention: Ron Thompson, General Manager, Washington County Water Conservancy District

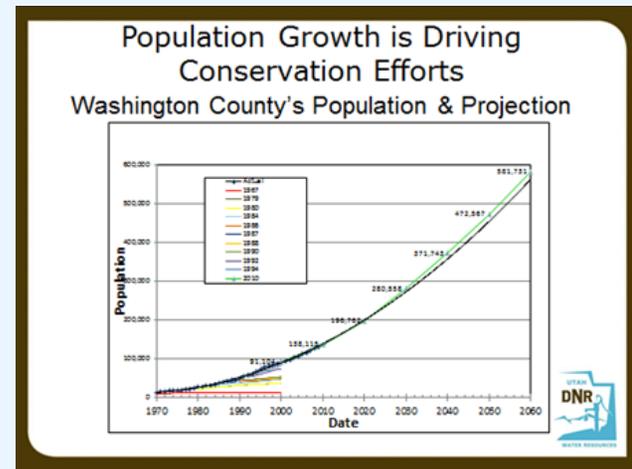
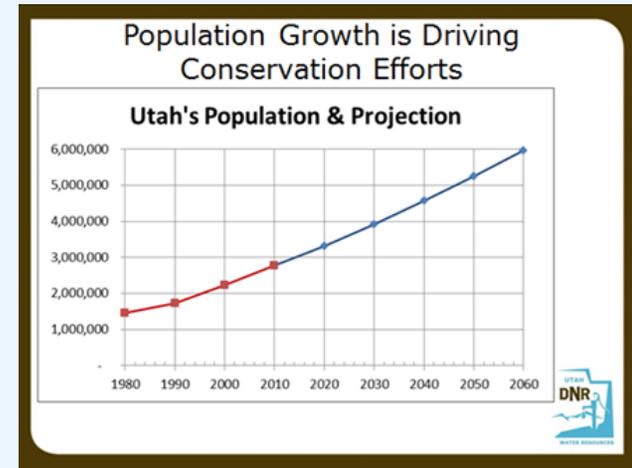
Ron Thompson gave a brief review of Governor Herbert's proposed water plan. The governor stated that water was the number one issue here in Utah right now and stressed four needs: 1) ongoing conservation of 25% by 2025 instead of 2050, which will stretch water suppliers but is achievable; 2) develop additional water supplies; 3) proactively maintain and upgrade existing infrastructure; and 4) look at innovation. He has appointed what he calls his "Gang of Six" who will be hosting state-wide meetings to discuss water use, distribution, law, sources and supplies to look at how to meet the state's water needs in the future and has challenged this group to have a draft plan ready by the Utah Water Summit in late October.

#### 3. Utah's Water Conservation Program: Eric K. Klotz, P.E., Utah Division of Water Resources

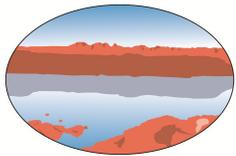
John introduced Eric Klotz, who has been with the Utah Division of Water Resources (DWRe) for over 28 years and currently manages the water conservation and education section, and said Eric's presentation will focus on where we stand in regard to our per capita water use and how we can meet the goal of a

25% reduction by 2025.

Eric Klotz showed the latest population projections for the state and for Washington County.



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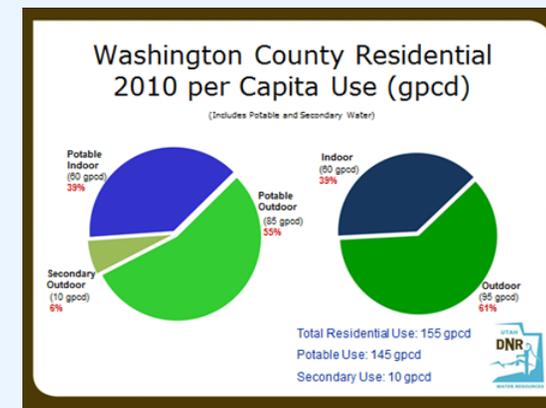
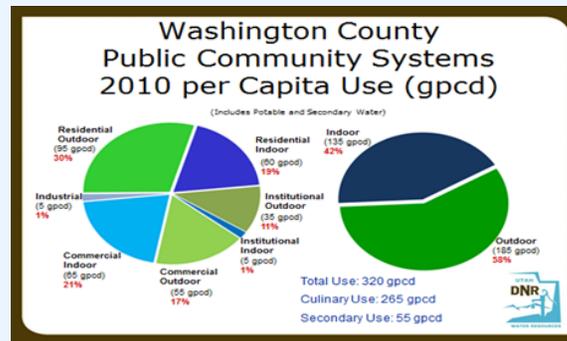
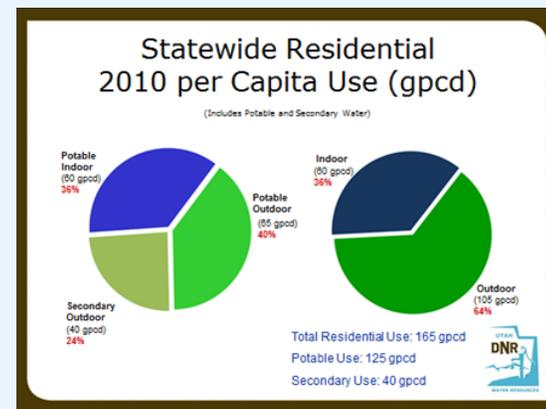
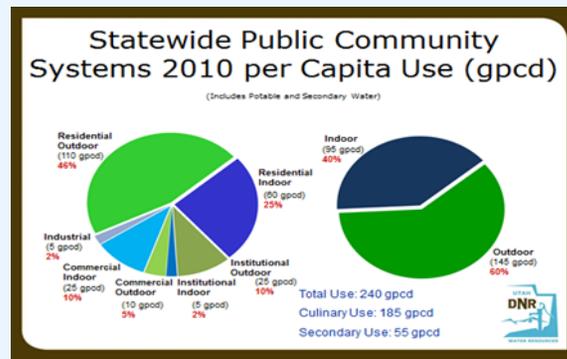
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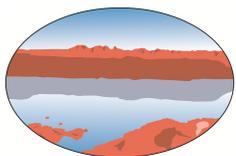
Eric stated that every five years DWRe does an in-depth study of all public water systems in the state, which takes an incredible effort to compile the correct water use information. Per capita water use at a customer level means all meter readings at each customer level whether residential, commercial, institutional or industrial are totaled and then divided by the census population.

buildings, parks, and golf courses if owned by municipalities. He indicated what influences the higher numbers of commercial and institutional customers in Washington County, as compared to statewide, is that Washington County has more commercial and institutional than what is required to meet the needs of people that actually live here permanently to handle the high volume of visitors and tourists.



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Eric said water conservation is concentrated so much on residential because most public water system water use is residential. Institutional includes churches, governmental



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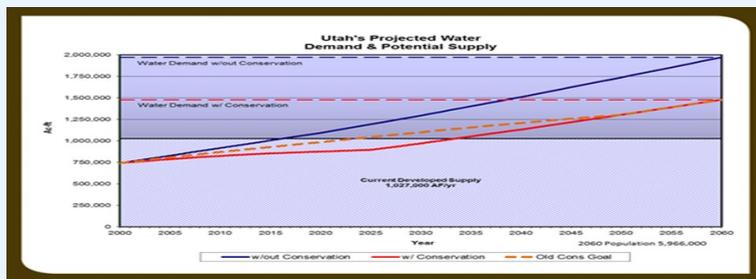
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Eric said indoor use of 60 gallons per capita per day pretty much holds true all across the state. It is also the national average because habits across the country tend to be standard. It is outdoor and secondary use where our per capita is up because we have to irrigate. The average for Washington County is slightly lower than the statewide average because Washington County residents do not have as many secondary systems that irrigate their homes.

Eric showed a chart and explained Utah's projected water demand and potential water supply, the current existing developed water supply from all systems in the state, demand with and without conservation, population projections up to the year 2060, the old conservation goal of conserving 25% by 2050 and the number of increased acre feet that doesn't have to be developed with conservation. One thing the chart does show is we believe you cannot conserve your way to zero and you cannot conserve your way out of the population growth scenario. We still need to build additional water projects, and the goal will be reached by the building of the two major projects, the Lake Powell pipeline and Bear River pipeline and through agricultural conversion.



Eric went over the eight conservation strategies that will get the state to its goal. We now stress water conservation on all of our state water plans, we have conservation policies in place in order for applicants to get state water loans, and we have education programs and are looking at new technologies and best management practices that we think will get us to our goal.

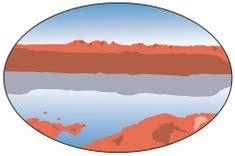
### Utah Division of Water Resources Conservation Strategies

- 1 Water conservation in state water plans.
- 2 Board of Water Resources' water conservation policies.
- 3 Water Conservation Plan Act.
- 4 Lead the Governor's Water Conservation Team.
- 5 State's water education program.
- 6 New water conservation technologies and practices.
- 7 BMPs for Utah's water providers.
- 8 Promote water wise landscaping practices.

Eric said when the governor came up with the new goal of 25% before 2025, his office asked DWRe if it could be achieved. We looked at it and said yes because we are so far ahead of where we should be with a reduction of 18% from 2000 already achieved through public education, "Slow the Flow" media campaign, technology improvements and water suppliers accountability (Conservation Plan Act).

We believe the additional 7% can be achieved similarly through the continuation of these programs, cheaper technologies, water conservation plan tracking and through the younger generation who are way ahead of the curve on water conservation.

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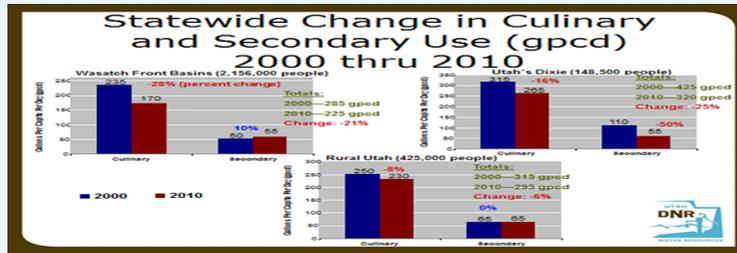
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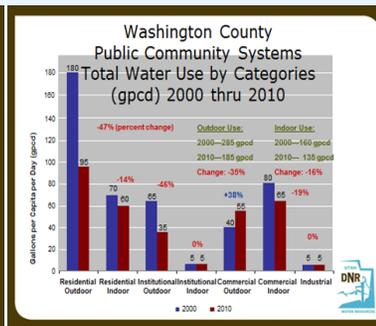
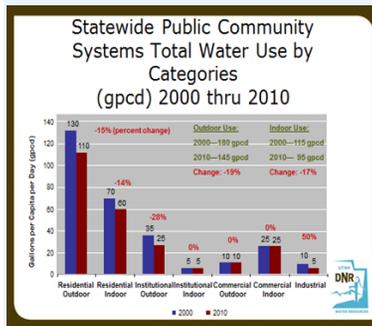
Eric showed the statewide change in culinary and secondary use. He said culinary use statewide has dropped by 22%, but we are not getting the reduction we need yet with secondary systems because for the most part they are not metered and are mostly in northern Utah.



Eric said in the last ten years, there have been many new subdivisions developed that are much more water wise and that change has reduced the amount of water used in residential areas. Washington County's residential use is actually lower than the state wide average, but it is when these other categories are added that it goes up. We have to be careful when you look at trends. We use per capita because it takes the growth rate out of the equation. The reason is when residential goes down it is because people use less water. When institution, commercial or industry goes down, we don't know if it is because they are becoming more efficient or if it is a math game.

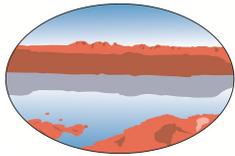
Eric showed water use reductions based on different areas of the state. Utah's Dixie includes Kane County as well. We are seeing a reduction in Dixie and believe we are going to get 35%+ in Washington County while the Wasatch Front and rural will probably remain the same. He showed and explained Statewide and Washington County use by categories.

In this area commercial/institutional/industrial is really high, and it is not because of more water use, but it is because this area has more of those services than the actual people it can support because you build for people that come here to visit and recreate.



Eric stated that Utah is the second driest state in the nation and the second highest water user. A lot of people like to compare our water use to other states, but there is no standard method of calculating water use on a per capita basis. No state does what we do in terms of collecting information regarding every single water system every five years and not many take the metered connection data and divide it by the people that live there. Every area is unique and cannot truly be compared because they all have different methodologies in collecting data so caution should be used when comparing one area to another. Some of the influencing factors of water use/cost are:

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- Climate - cost/use
- Topography - cost
- Proximity to water supply - cost
- Water supply availability - cost
- Water supply quality - cost
- Cultural influences and tradition - use
- Demographics - use
- **Methodology in calculating water use**

– COMMITTEE BREAK –

### 4. Conservation/Hardening: Barbara Hjelle, Associate General Manager/Counsel, Washington County Water Conservancy District

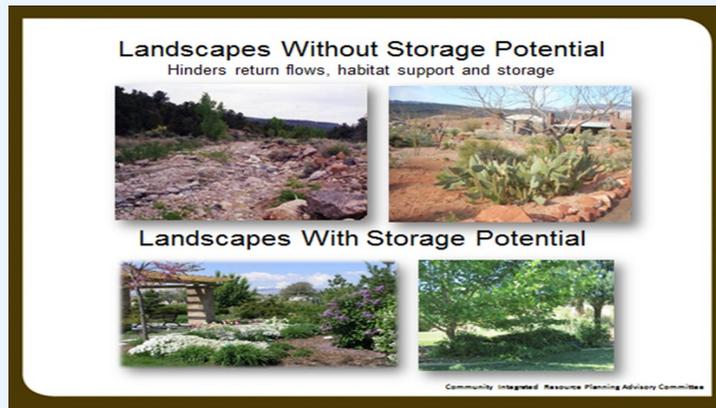
Barbara Hjelle talked about what it means to harden our water supply. She explained that water does not sit still, it follows the flow of gravity and the laws of physics -- it evaporates, it percolates and it flows downstream. There are really two kinds of water storage, one is our managed reservoirs and the other is landscape reservoirs.

Barbara said back in the 1950s the people addressed water needs created by drought by stopping the watering of their lawns and tapping into the “landscape reservoir” to address their water needs, but if we harden our water supplies and don’t have landscape reservoirs, we have nothing else to give in a drought, except by holding back more water in our reservoirs just in case it’s needed.

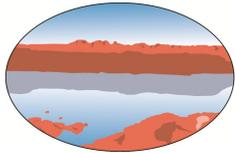
Wouldn’t we be better off having landscape reservoirs of flowers and gardens, shade trees and some turf so in times of drought that we can give that back on a temporary basis? If we have a certain amount of inefficiency in our water use, the water not used percolates back into the ground and some returns to our rivers and riparian systems. We would be required to augment and maintain flows for endangered fish and birds and their habitat if they don’t have those return flows.

The water district does not condone waste and encourages wise water use through education, our conservation programs and impact fees.

Barbara explained that Washington County has a unique factor that very few people understand. We divert water for culinary treatment just below the Town of Virgin and pipe that water several miles down to Quail Creek reservoir and then over to Sand Hollow reservoir because of the LaVerkin, also known as Pah Tempe, hot springs which introduces into the Virgin River water that has about 10,000 total dissolved solids (TDS).



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In our water treatment facility, water that exceeds 1,000 TDS cannot be treated for culinary use so that water is unusable for human consumption. High TDS water can only be used for agriculture and secondary use.

Another unique factor is we have off-stream reservoirs that cannot take all of the flows of the Virgin River and store them. They can only take the amount of water that will fit into the pipes that we have, so if someone says there is on average 123,000 acre foot (af) of water available in the Virgin River, they don't understand that we cannot use all of that because we cannot capture it. These are important things to understand when we talk about water.

### 5. Future Meetings: Dr. John Brailsford, Facilitator

John said we will address questions related to financing at our meeting in May and other questions at future meetings.

#### 2013 CIRPAC Meeting Schedule:

2013 Thursday, April 25	4:00 – 6:30 pm	Facilities Tour
2013 Thursday, May 23	4:00 – 6:00 pm	Financial Discussion

### 6. Public Comments

John said all questions will be addressed at least verbally and on the website.

John read the questions into the record and they will be included in the meeting summary and responded to separately

on the website and addressed at future meetings as posted on the agenda:

- When will the Western Resource Advocates local waters alternative be presented to CIRPAC?
- Will the Local Waters Alternative in place of the Lake Powell Pipeline Project by Western Resource Advocates be presented to CIRPAC?
- Other desert cities have a tiered pricing system that definitely charges for more water use. Why can they charge more than Utah? Is it Utah law that's dictating what the water charges can be?
- What additional efforts are being made to educate school children to a greater detail about water conservation needs? (4<sup>th</sup> grade is not enough!)
- Jordan Valley Google Earth city comparison shows Albuquerque area that has a lot less grass than many areas there.

### 7. Meeting Wrap-Up

#### Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.