

**WASHINGTON COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT**

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees

March 2, 2016

Minutes of a public meeting of the board of trustees of the Washington County Water Conservancy District, held on Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at 533 East Waterworks Drive, St. George, Utah. Those board members present for the meeting were: Chair Ed Bowler, Zachary Renstrom, Ken Neilson and Jon Pike. Board members Tom Hirschi, Jim Ence and Howard Bracken were not present. Also present were General Manager Ron Thompson, Associate General Managers Barbara Hjelle and Corey Cram and Secretary Roberta McMullin. Ed Bowler conducted the meeting and welcomed those present. Other guests at the meeting included Clint Rogers, Rick Wheadon and Marv Wilson.

The first item on the agenda were status reports on the following projects and items:

Lake Powell Pipeline – Ron said this project continues to move along. The time period just finished for receiving the public comments and they now have 60 days to rewrite the Preliminary Licensing Proposal. Ron said this is going to be a huge task and the staff has put a lot of time on reviewing these reports. Ron said there have been lots of issues so the frustration level has been high with the 23 reports that are being worked on. He gave some examples to the board of some of the issues in the reports. There are meetings tomorrow with their consultant that has written the socio-economic report which is really a cost benefit analysis and Ron said they will work their way through that tomorrow.

Ron said that we are at a critical stage right now and the district is putting a lot of resources into these studies right now. He said he and some staff had a meeting today with one of the senior MWH Engineering people today and hopefully will be able to work their way through the problems and get it done but the next 60 days are going to be high intensity as they work their way through these things.

Status report on SB 80 – Ron told the board the state created a critical infrastructure fund and he thinks we will get some earmarked long term funding going into the fund. He said he thinks the legislature is moving it in the right

direction, but we are not through all the hurdles yet. Ron indicated that Mayor Pike had helped by discussing this with the Governor when he was up at the legislature. The legislature is done next week.

Miscellaneous – Ron told the board he gave a talk this week at the homebuilder’s association luncheon. He said it went well, he got some good questions and told them generally we were considering pay for capital facilities with 75% impact fees and 25% water rates and property taxes. The homebuilders think it should be the opposite with impact fees paying 25% and the rest from water rates and property taxes.

Sand Hollow Wells – Ron said we have got four more wells now. They are putting the screen in one and hopefully during the course of the summer they will have all these new wells functioning. Corey added that they are trying to control the finer sand in this area to avoid getting the bowls in the wells chewed up.

Water Treatment Plant - Ron reported that they are redoing the 9-million-gallon tank on the inside and should have it back online by mid-April. It has been sandblasted and repainted. He said the five-million-gallon concrete tank also has some issues. RB&G Engineering has done some structural analysis. There is some settling in one area. There is a crack across it structurally that occurred after it was built. They tried to reseal it but it has opened back up and caused some seepage in the foundation. They are going to see what it costs to salvage it as compared to rebuilding a new tank since it is an older tank.

Ron told the board that everything else at the water treatment plant is going well. There is a lot more water starting to be treated as it warms up a little and the spring season starts.

Budget report- Ron told the board a copy of the first two months of 2016 budget to actual report is in their notebooks under the handouts and they can take that and review it. He said there are no issues and we are under budget on everything.

Water conditions - Ron reported that as of the first of February we were in pretty good shape with the water conditions. We were 200% of normal in several areas. Now it does not look as good. We had a dry February and water conditions have changed dramatically. There is no snow in the drainage above Little Grassy as it

has all melted off. We still have above normal water at Kolob, Webster's Flat and Midway, but they are moving down quickly. If we get a couple more decent storms in March, we could still have a decent year. We are ahead as far as storage from last year in Sand Hollow and Quail Creek. The base snow is disappearing very quickly and doesn't normally happen quite this quickly. Ron said there was five feet of snow at Kolob in February and it already down to 2 or 3 feet

Staffing issues: Ron said he has been looking to hire an accounting assistant for Melodie. The person we have working with her now will be having a baby in May and may not come back. Ron said he needs to get someone helping with that work and getting trained in Melodie's position as she will be retiring in the next couple of years. Ron said he already has good young employees coming up behind others who may also retire in the next few years.

Calendaring Items:

Dinner hosted by WCWCD	March 14, 6 p.m. , DSU Gardner Ballroom
Utah Water Users March Conference	March 15-16 - Dixie Center
So. Delivery System Project Tour	March 31-April 1 – Colorado Springs, CO
April Board Meeting	April 6 – work meeting to begin at 3 pm

Ed called for any questions from the board or the audience. Rick Wheadon, an engineer with Sunrise Engineering said he was glad to attend our board meeting and that they would like to be involved with the District as much as possible. Ron and some of the board asked Rick questions about the reverse osmosis plant he had designed in Northern Utah. He also told the board about a reverse osmosis facility they designed in Chino, California that is doing zero liquid discharge. This is expensive (\$10 to \$15 a gallon) but it was a site requirement because they had no place to take the brine.

Approval of Minutes of February 2016 Board of Trustees Meeting - The minutes of the February 2016 board meeting were reviewed by the board and the following motion was made:

Ken Neilson moved to approve the February 2016 Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes as presented. Zach Renstrom seconded the motion and all voted aye.

Motion to move into closed meeting to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual (employee).

Jon Pike made a motion to move into a closed meeting. Ken Neilson seconded the motion and all voted aye.

Closed Meeting

Ken Neilson made a motion to go back into the public session of the meeting. Jon Pike seconded the motion and all voted aye.

Adjournment of Meeting – There was no further business to come before the board and the meeting was adjourned.
