

**WASHINGTON COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT**

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees

January 16, 2018

Minutes of a public meeting of the board of trustees of the Washington County Water Conservancy District, held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018, at 533 East Waterworks Drive, St. George, Utah beginning at 5 pm. Those board members present for the meeting were: Chair Ed Bowler, Zachary Renstrom, Howard Bracken, Kevin Tervort, Ken Neilson, Chris Hart and Jon Pike. Also present were General Manager Ron Thompson, Associate General Managers, Barbara Hjelle, Corey Cram, Brie Thompson, legal counsel Jodi Richins, and Secretary Roberta McMullin. Other guests at the meeting are set forth on the attached sign-in sheet. Ed Bowler conducted the meeting and welcomed those present.

The first item on the agenda was a continued discussion of succession planning and consideration of job description for deputy general manager and adoption of revisions to administrative policy. Ron told board that as discussed at the last board meeting the present policy technically allows the general manager to create this position with the board’s consent but he would like more involvement and input of the board. There are some minor proposed changes to the administrative general policy passed out. Those changes are redlined for the board’s review. Some responsibilities were added on page three and five that fit in the policy better than the job description. The position summary also has some minor changes. These documents were also emailed to the board yesterday so they would have a chance to review them before this meeting. In addition, distributed at this meeting were the Notice of Employment Opportunity and a proposed hiring schedule with the following dates:

<i>Job Posting:</i>	Wed. January 17
<i>Job Closing:</i>	Wed. February 14 (4 weeks)
<i>Resume, Application Review, & Interview Scheduling:</i>	Thurs. – Fri., February 15 & 16
<i>Interviews & Reference Checks:</i>	Mon., February 19 – Fri., March 2
<i>Panel Recommendation to Board & Board Vote</i>	Wednesday, March 7

Ron suggested as they go through this process they start with a committee of three board members and the general manager and then come back with a recommendation to the entire board. The committee would narrow the candidates down to one to three qualified candidates to recommend to the Board. The whole board could accept the recommendation or conduct additional interviews if they wanted to. Ron said the intent is to get this process going and hire somebody so that they can work with Ron before he retires. Ron said he is looking at December 2019 or January 2020 for his retirement time frame. He said he is hopeful that the LPP record of decision would be done by then. Ron indicated the job notice would be posted on the state job website, the district's site and through the National Water Resources Association.

There was some discussion that followed. Jon Pike indicated that he liked the fact the whole board will ratify or approve this decision. He also asked about the removal of the deputy general manager if that became necessary. Could that be made subject to board approval as well? Ron said his only concern would be that he doesn't want to leave a general manager with a deputy that is answerable only to the board rather than the general manager. Chris Hart expressed some concern about this too and wondered since it takes a vote of the board to hire the deputy general manager if it shouldn't also require a vote of the board to fire that person.

Ron said that the general manager has the ability to remove employees under him and the general manager answers to the board and serves at their pleasure. Ron assured the board that if a problem arose with the deputy general manager the board would be aware of it and there would be discussions before a removal or firing ever took place. Barbara Hjelle mentioned that this new draft doesn't create a permanent deputy general management position.

Some of the board members said they hadn't had time to review the revisions in the revised copies and so time was taken for the board to stop and review the notice, the job description, time schedule and administrative policy.

After reading the documents and further discussion, Chris Hart and Jon Pike both said they were satisfied with the documents as presented and their questions had been answered and discussed.

All board members indicated they were satisfied with the amended documents and a resolution adopting revision to the administrative policy regarding this was given to the board. After a review of the resolution the following motion was made:

Jon Pike moved to approve the job description as revised, notice of employment opportunity, time schedule and the resolution adopting revisions to the administrative policy that were presented to the board at the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ken Neilson and a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Ed Bowler Yes

Chris Hart Yes

Ken Neilson Yes

Jon Pike Yes

Howard Bracken Yes

Zach Renstrom Yes

Kevin Tervort Yes

Ron said the hiring notice would be posted tomorrow.

The next item on the agenda was an **approval of minutes of the December 6, 2017, Board of Trustees Meeting.** After review and consideration of the minutes the following motion was made:

Chris Hart moved to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting as presented. Kevin Tervort seconded the motion and all voted aye.

There was some discussion and a question as to the background regarding the article in Saturday's Spectrum Newspaper regarding the FERC process on the Lake Powell Pipeline project. Ron said it had been understood that FERC had already accepted jurisdiction over the whole LPP penstock but when FERC issued its ready for environmental analysis statement it contained language that made the State and District question whether FERC was changing this understanding and indicating that it may only accept jurisdiction for portions of the project consisting of the hydropower plants. Ron said they felt it would be a serious mistake to move the project forward without determining whether FERC has jurisdiction over the whole penstock so they filed a declaratory action for FERC to determine whether it has

jurisdiction over the whole penstock. He said it may cost some money and take more time but it is important. Barbara Hjelle said that if FERC leaves the question of jurisdiction unanswered, it would leave the project in limbo procedurally and may result in the State/District having to pay for an additional environmental contractor because FERC's environmental contractor would not be covering the whole project. FERC apparently has never before on other projects indicated that it will accept jurisdiction and then reversed its position. She said it looks like BLM will file a pleading also asking FERC to retain jurisdiction.

Ed asked if there were any questions from the audience. There being none a motion was made and the *meeting was adjourned.*
