

**WASHINGTON COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT**

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees

January 2, 2019

Minutes of a public meeting of the board of trustees of the Washington County Water Conservancy District, held on Wednesday, January 2, 2019, at 533 East Waterworks Drive, St. George, Utah beginning at 6 pm. Those board members present for the meeting were: Chair Ed Bowler, Victor Iverson, Kevin Tervort, Ken Neilson, Howard Bracken, Chris Hart and Jon Pike. Also present were General Manager Ron Thompson, Deputy General Manager Zach Renstrom and Associate General Manager Brie Thompson. Other staff included CFO Carly Merrill, Attorney Jodi Richins and Secretary Roberta McMullin. The only other guest was Russ Condie from Dixie Power. Ed Bowler conducted the meeting and welcomed those present.

The first item on the agenda was some *training on the Open and Public Meetings Act*. In a PowerPoint training Jodi covered the various aspects of the Open and Public Meetings Act including requirements for public meeting, posting notice, closed meetings, etc.

Ron Thompson welcomed the new board member Commissioner Victor Iverson.

Zach Renstrom was also welcomed as the new deputy general manager. He started working today in that position.

Ron Thompson gave *status reports on the following projects* –

Lake Powell Pipeline – Ron said the work on this project continues to move forward assigned. The Bureau of Reclamation is the lead agency on all environmental documents. They had a productive meeting with them in Las Vegas and another meeting this morning. Ron reported that all of the public comments are in and our responses to the comments are due soon. The goal is to have them filed by January 17. Ron said the Bureau of Reclamation seems committed to getting this done as quick as they can under the provisions.

Zach Renstrom added that he was in a meeting this morning and the Bureau was very positive. They seem to understand issues and want to keep the process moving. They have been frustrated with the whole FERC thing. Ron said that

overall, they are very happy that this has been assigned to the Bureau because they are committed to this process.

Sand Hollow Regional Pipeline – Ron said there will be two bids for the board to ratify in the next agenda item. They are moving ahead on this project. They have lot of rights of ways they are working on obtaining. They are ordering materials, so they will be here soon. The goal is to have this project ready to deliver water into the south block of Washington and St. George by late spring or early summer.

Ash Creek Project - This project is still going through the environmental process. Ron said Corey indicates that everything is moving forward. They have signed additional environmental contracts which have to be finished up. They are hopeful it is in final review in the BLM and that they can start construction by the end of year. It will be about \$30 million for the pipeline and the reservoir. The pipeline will come from Ash Creek Reservoir to the new reservoir at Anderson Junction and then the pipeline will go to the west dam pond on Toquerville Secondary Water System. There will also be two more facilities built on South Ash Creek and Leap Creek to bring the high waters in.

Ivins Reservoir upgrades – Ron told the board this is well on its way right now. There are a few issues they will have to work their way through. There is probably going to have to be some riprap on the toe of the dam, which this grant will not cover but they have saved enough money on the project to put it in. The toe drain replacements should be done in the new few weeks.

The next item on the agenda was the ***ratification of bids for materials and the pipeline alignment on the Sand Hollow Regional Pipeline.*** The board had copies of the bid tabulation spreadsheet. On the material bid for the project the low bidder is Ferguson. Ron said they are a good, solid, reputable company. There was a really big spread between the low and high bid on this material bid.

The second bid is to build the pad for the project. Ron said that while they are waiting for the materials they are going to go in and start the excavation for the pad. The low bidder is Brown Brothers Construction from northern Utah. They are looking for winter work and they are bonded and ready to go. They would like to move forward this week.

After discussion, the following motion was made;

Ken Neilson moved to award the bid for materials to Ferguson Waterworks for \$6,265,998.16. This motion was seconded by Kevin Tervort and all voted aye.

Ken Neilson moved to award the construction project for the pad to Brown Brothers Construction for \$555,253 and the motion was seconded by Chris Hart. All voted aye.

Water supply conditions - Ron said we are still on average 60% of our median which means that half the time we are at more or half the time at less, even with the storms we have had. Ron shared the following information:

Current Snowpack



He also reported on the reservoir storage for January 2019 as compared to last January 2018:

Reservoir Storage (ac-ft)

Reservoir	January 1, 2019	January 1, 2018
Quail Creek	27,530	27,140
Sand Hollow	38,880	47,220
Gunlock	3,170	5,470
Kolob	110	1,890
Ivins	870	80
TOTAL	70,560	81,800

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Ron said he had hoped to see a little better than this. The staff is working hard to have everything ready for this next water year.

The next item was a **presentation on Caselle governmental accounting software and consideration of approval of purchase.** Ron said they had set aside some money for new accounting software and asked Carly to give the board a presentation on this government accounting software. She first showed a short video about Caselle.

Some information from her presentation included:

- Strictly focused on government
- 40+ integrated solutions
- Microsoft Partner
- Financial, utility, payroll, permits, specialty
- Hosted Cost - with license, setup, training, conversion \$23,200
- Hosted Maintenance and Support - \$2,679 per month = \$32,148 per year
- Why Casselle? – Best fit for meeting the District’s needs

Ed Bowler asked about support for the software. Ron said they are supposed to be one of the best for support. Carly said she has talked to a lot of entities that use Caselle. If anybody wants more information she said she has much more information that she can share. Ron said they wanted a program with a server based here inside the district and they would like board authorization to move forward with the purchase of this accounting software.

After some further discussion and questions the following motion was made:

Jon Pike moved to authorize the purchase of the Caselle governmental accounting software with the district hosting the server. Kevin Tervort seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

The next item on the agenda was the **consideration of an electric line right-of-way easement to Dixie Power**. Russ Condie from Dixie Power was present at the meeting. Russ said it would be a 138-69 line, triple circuit. The district owns one-third interest in the parcel of property at the bottom end of Purgatory Flats and they need an easement to go through that. Ron said this line for the district long term is a crucial line as it will terminate in the Sand Hollow area so it would be the right place for us to possibly tie some of LPP things into it. Russ said there are three owners in property and they are paying each of them for the easements. They are Janice Empey and her trust, Walter Plumb and the WCWCD. They will pay each of the three the same amount, based on the appraisal.

Russ also said the substation that is next to the shooting range is where that line terminates today and where they need to get to in order to tie in. The next phase will drop off the hill and go into the Sand Hollow Valley and tie in with the existing infrastructure and existing transmission in that area.

Ken Neilson moved to approve the electric line of right-of-way to Dixie Power. The motion was seconded by Howard Bracken and all voted aye.

The last item on the agenda was the approval of minutes the for October 16, 2018 and December 4, 2018 board meetings.

Jon Pike moved to approve the board meeting minutes for October 16, 2018 and December 4, 2018 board meeting with the correction of a couple of minor typographical errors. Ken Neilson seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

There was no further business and upon motion, the meeting was adjourned.
