

**WASHINGTON COUNTY WATER CONSERVANCY
DISTRICT**

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees

May 1, 2019

Minutes of a public meeting of the board of trustees of the Washington County Water Conservancy District, held on Wednesday, May 1, 2019, at 533 East Waterworks Drive, St. George, Utah beginning at 6 pm. Those board members present for the meeting were: Chair Ed Bowler, Kevin Tervort, Howard Bracken, Chris Hart and Jon Pike. Ken Neilson and Victor Iverson were not present. Also present were General Manager Ron Thompson, Deputy General Manager Zach Renstrom and Associate General Manager Brie Thompson. Other staff included Secretary Roberta McMullin and attorney Jodi Richins. Ed Bowler conducted the meeting and welcomed those present.

There was some follow up discussion of the field trip and some of the *A work meeting began at 3 pm and included a field trip to the Sand Hollow Regional Pipeline project, Sand Hollow Reservoir and Quail Creek Reservoir.*

components of the SHRP project. The board expressed appreciation for the field trip and how much they were able to see and learn about the SHRP project. The project is moving along very well and should be functional by this summer. It is ahead of schedule and may come in under budget.

The first item on the 6 pm meeting agenda was Consideration of a Resolution Updating Personnel Policy Regarding Information Technology. The proposed resolution is to update our personnel policy regarding the use of particularly wireless devices that belong to district or electronic devices. Exhibit A to the resolution shows previous policy and Exhibit B is what is now proposed. It sets forth things that are prohibited use on district provided technology such as pornography, gambling, etc. Another paragraph shows the permitted uses. Ron said the resolution has been reviewed by himself, Zach, IT people, and HR. Jodi wrote it.

Jon Pike made a motion to approve the Resolution Updating Personnel Policy Regarding Information Technology. Kevin Tervort seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken.

Ed Bowler *Yes*
Kevin Tervort *Yes*
Howard Bracken *Yes*
Jon Pike *Yes*
Chris Hart *Yes*

Ron Thompson gave a breakdown of budget to actual and detailed expenditure report handout for the first quarter of 2019. He encouraged the board to take it home and review this. Ron reviewed categories and percentages of budgets spent for each budget. He said he likes to give this information to board every quarter for their review and any questions they may have.

Ron Thompson gave his manager's report. He said the **runoff is coming off pretty well.** We have not seen any monstrous flows. There has been over 2000 cfs in the Virgin River a few times. This storm we just had put 6" of snow and ½ of water in snowpack at Kolob. Most south facing slopes are melting off at even at higher elevations.

Santa Clara, Newcastle and Grass Valley– Ron gave some historical background. He said when the early settlers came in and settled in Santa Clara the upper reaches of Santa Clara came off of Pine Valley and Grass Valley and the earliest water right priorities were here. But in the early 1900's a group put together a project to build a tunnel out in Grass Valley that took water to Newcastle which was about a mile long. They built a levee to turn the water from turning down Santa Clara River to the basin there. This has been the source of a lot of contention over the years, so a few years ago they tried to negotiate an agreement to put these issues to bed. The agreement is Newcastle can take 5000 af of water out of Grass Valley. This limits the amount they can divert to 45 cfs if the reservoir isn't full or 30 cfs if the reservoir is full.

Ron told the board there are a lot of interests to work out here. People in Pinto are upset because they think they are getting washed out lately and it is tearing up their head gates. Once Newcastle gets 5000 a.f. they are done with water for the year. We are spilling water at Gunlock, but when it quits, we are going to expect Grass Valley water to turn south. They can't violate the terms of the agreement but if they do there will be a fight. Ron said he thinks they have it resolved in a way that will work for everyone, but they will keep an eye on it. Ron said we are going to

have to fix some of the structures in Grass Valley and make sure this agreement is covered. There is a good weir there with a camera so we can keep track of water being taken and they have access to the meter data also. Ron told the board that probably in the summer they are going to want to do some work there. We need to help fix that levy so the gate works and go back down to that old reservoir sit and put in a tiered outlet in so that it drains and it is more like a flood control structure.

Reservoirs - Ron told the board the reservoir is spilling. A shortage of water isn't our problem right now. At Quail Creek Reservoir they will take that up a little higher. Sand Hollow only has about 6 or 7 inches to be full. Kolob isn't full yet, but coming up very quickly. Ron said there is 50 cfs coming out of Crystal Creek and it came up yesterday over 400 AF so Kolob isn't far from being full and should fill in the next few weeks.

Lake Powell Pipeline Project (LPP) - Ron said this is moving along. There are a lot of issues with the Native Americans and environmental issues. He said they are going to have to work their way through all of these issues. He said the district is also going through a legislative audit on our ability to pay back the loan money on the LPP project. He said he has seen the working draft of the audit and it appears to be very positive.

Cholla Creek – Ron said there was a big line break today over at Cholla Creek. When the line was put in there, there was no Cholla Creek subdivision, but the line was put in to flush and pig water lines in the La Verkin Canal Company. This has been tied into the Toquerville Secondary Water System over the years. Ron said it is tied in by Trail Ridge and there is a whole subdivision on top of it now. He said staff has been working on this and gotten the break isolated and will get it back working soon. They want to replace it with something that is a higher-pressure class.

Ivins Reservoir - We have been working on a recreation plan with Ivins City and they have done a lot of work over at Ivins Reservoir recreationally and the district had a meeting with the Shivwits council regarding additional enhancements on the recreation plan that everyone has agreed to. Some of the nicest beaches are on the reservation side. They've built these nice access trails that are concrete and want to extend these trails back to the other beach area on the southwest side. They have met with the Shivwits council and they are supportive of this and Ivins is proposing that the county pay 1/3 of the walkway extension around the lake, the

water district pay 1/3 and Ivins pay 1/3. The district's one-third share would be approximately \$50,000.

Chris Hart said the district has been very generous. He told the board that as you look at the map you can see where the reservation boundary line is – everything to the right of that will be finished by the end of this month including bathrooms, pavilion, landscaping, etc. The Shivwits don't have any resources to contribute to this but are amenable to having this done. Because it is outside of Ivins boundary it is hard to justify all the expense with the Ivins city council, so they are wondering about the possibility of this last contribution from the district and the county to help fund this. He told the board that more than half of the beach area is in this section he is talking about. He said he just wanted to present this information tonight to the board. They are not requesting any action tonight, just wanted to put the information out there for consideration.

Ron said he thinks Ivins City has done a good job with this. The board expressed support of this request even though it won't be approved tonight as it was not on the agenda.

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Ed Bowler said that *a right-of-way by the Ruggles property* is what guy that was wanting to purchase some of the district's property is wanting now. Ed told him to get it surveyed exactly where he wanted it and then bring it back to board. They just need access and UDOT isn't giving them access. In the future however, they would like to buy a big piece of property for their business.

Baker Reservoir – Ed said this fall they are going to redo that spillway and the state dam safety people were up there a month ago. They said a piezometer is needed there. Ed asked if the district could help with that. Ron said Brie could help them order that. Ed said they want to read it weekly. The other piezometer they had isn't working and they probably need one on sight. If they have to buy one, they can do that.

Approval of minutes of the last board meeting on March 6, 2019, was the last item on the agenda. The minutes were reviewed by the board (there was no April meeting). After review, a motion was made as follows:

Chris Mart moved to approve the March 6, 2019 minutes. Jon Pike seconded the motion, and all voted aye.

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

Secretary/Treasurer