



CACHE WATER DISTRICT
Our water. Our future. Our choice.

The purposes of the District include planning for and facilitating the long-term conservation, development, protection, distribution, management and stabilization of water rights and water supplies for domestic, irrigation, power, manufacturing, municipal, recreational and other beneficial uses, including the natural stream environment, in a cost-effective way to meet the needs of the residents and growing population of Cache County.

www.cachewaterdistrict.com

CACHE WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
May 7, 2018

The Cache Water District Board of Trustees convened on May 7, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. for a REGULAR SESSION in the Cache County Historic Courthouse Council Chambers, 199 North Main Street, Logan, Utah.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:

Jeannie F. Simmonds – Logan #1 Council District
Jonathan W. Hardman – South Council District
Shaun Dustin – Southeast Council District
Jared Clawson – At-Large Position
David L. Erickson – At-Large Position
Don Baldwin – Agricultural Representative
Herm Olsen – Logan #3 Council District
Max Pierce – North Council District
Bret Randall – Northeast Council District
Jon White – At-Large Position

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ABSENT:

Barbara Y. Tidwell – Logan #2 Council District

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisa Welsh (USU), Hilary Shughart (Bridgerland Audubon Society), Ann Neville (The Nature Conservancy), Blaise Chanson, Clint Carney (USU), Joanna Endter-Wada (USU), Chris Slater (J-U-B Engineers), Keith Shaw, Debbie Zilles

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jeannie Simmonds at 5:30 p.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA

Consideration of Minutes for April 2, 2018 and Agenda for May 7, 2018.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Dustin to approve the minutes as submitted and the agenda with the addition of an item for “Other Business”. The motion was seconded by Mr. Olsen. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

Chairperson Simmonds recently attended meetings for the Slow the Flow program, which has various rebate programs available. She and Mr. Baldwin attended a meeting regarding the Utah/Idaho filing to control an unclaimed portion of water in Bear Lake. Eric Millis, director of the

Utah Division of Water Resources, has been invited to present to the Board at the next meeting to provide updated information. Chairperson Simmonds signed the water banking study agreement.

FINAL CANDIDATE PRESENTATIONS FOR WATER MANAGER POSITION

Nathan Daugs has worked for the Utah Department of Agriculture & Food as a planner for the conservation districts in Northern Utah for 16 years. He has been involved in a wide range of projects, however, his presentation focused on the Logan River Restoration Project (LRRP).

The LRRP began in 2010 after major flooding in Cache Valley. Logan City and Cache County received approximately \$6 million in Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) funds. Work began on the Logan River and several homes were removed along the Black Fork River. There was quite a bit of public outcry that it was not done to properly. One of the challenges was that the funds were not earmarked for enhancing the river, only controlling flood possibilities. The Logan River Task Force was formed to determine how things could be improved. The Conservation Action Plan (CAP) was created and includes 30 different indicators regarding the health of the river and how the river system can be improved and restored.

The Stewart Nature Park Restoration included building a floodplain, moving the bank back, public meetings and public feedback. The project totaled \$80,000.

The Rendezvous Park River Realignment Project created better flow, treatment of crack willows (invasive species of tree), excavation of a new stream channel, planting of over 1,000 new trees and shrubs, installation of a sprinkler system and the area was seeded with native grasses. The public was involved throughout the process. The total project cost was approximately \$1.3 million. The area of the river from 600 West to the west was cleared of debris.

Future projects will include easement conservation, creating a blue trail, floodplain restoration, wetland mitigation, crack willow removal and replacement of native plants to provide better bank stabilization.

The most important duties of the Water Manager should be building relationships with all the organizations and stakeholders, public education, working with irrigation companies to find funding to make needed improvements and create better utilization, and ensuring that secondary systems get installed in new developments.

Mr. Dustin asked what his plan for continued funding would be. Mr. Daug said when the County reduces their tax portion, the District could assess the same amount, or based on what the projects are, that may have to be increased.

Mr. Dustin asked what the manager's role should be in getting a future tax passed. Mr. Daug said the Board will determine what the objectives will be and the manager will work on public education for what the funding will be used for.

Mr. Erickson asked about water banking. Mr. Daug said water banking is a program where water can be banked and held, then leased out temporarily until the water owner needs it back.

If agricultural areas conserve water through infrastructure or other methods, Mr. Baldwin asked Mr. Daug where that water should go. Mr. Daug said it should stay within the district or with the irrigation company (it is their right to use on their acreage). The District can help find a future beneficial use if necessary. This issue should be part of the public education.

Mr. Erickson asked what sub-committees should be implemented to help develop policy. Mr. Daus said committees could be created to research groundwater recharge, water rebate programs, agriculture irrigation (to attend meetings), and environmental to work with other groups.

Mr. Baldwin asked what Mr. Daus biggest personal limitation would be. Mr. Daus said aside from time, it might be procrastination – all deadlines are met, but he could improve prioritization of projects. Mr. Baldwin asked what asset he would bring. Mr. Daus said he has the ability to work well with diverse groups to find common ground and solve problems.

Mr. Dustin asked about the nursery that Mr. Daus owns. Mr. Daus explained that it is a part-time, family-owned business growing and selling Goji berry plants. It is more of a hobby farm, which his wife and children help with, and should not limit his time to focus on the District.

Mr. Dustin asked what Mr. Daus perceived the interaction between the Manager and Board would be. Mr. Daus said the Board will give the Manager direction, the Manager will be the communication liaison between other committees and the Board. Mr. Dustin asked how he would handle a disagreement. Mr. Daus said the Board would have the final say, however, he would be willing to work out a compromise.

Briant Jacobs is a USU alumni and currently works as an engineer for the Weber Basin Water Conservancy District (WBWCD). He understands the need to correlate water management with development.

His presentation focused on the 2017 Aqueduct Maintenance Project. Weber Basin serves 400,000 residents and WBWCD relies heavily on the Davis aqueduct; water from Weber River is piped north (South Weber) and south (Davis). The Davis aqueduct is 26 miles of concrete pipe, that was installed in 1958. It supplies raw water to two (2) treatment plants and to refineries in North Salt Lake, as well as irrigation uses. There is little to no redundancy with the Davis aqueduct; there are seven wells in Layton and two in Bountiful which are not sufficient to meet the demand, so when the aqueduct goes down it is a problem. In 2010 a condition assessment was completed. The joints were determined to be in poor condition and a few small leaks were discovered and subsequently sealed. In 2015 there were areas of the duct with high amounts of sediment which were cleaned out, inspected and prepped for joint sealing (9,000'). In 2017, he organized a shutdown to drain the pipe, install new accesses, repair a leak and clean the system.

Aspects of the project included draining the duct in multiple areas (coordination, equipment, installation, design, inspection, scheduling and quality maintenance). Some of the challenges included personnel shortage, working with warranty issues, and rerouting traffic – including school bus routes). The project was completed on time and under budget (\$611,000 out of \$650,000).

He envisions that the Water Manager would work to create an effective and efficient District, work with stakeholders to update the supply/demand study, identify and implement utilization of shared assets, analyze needs and expectations, delineate capital assets, explore funding, develop a management plan and a conservation plan, and hire more staff as necessary. Future goals could include development of a secondary water plan and/or rehabilitation plan for improving canals.

He has a variety of experience, strong organizational skills and a dedication to providing water.

Mr. Clawson asked about his fortitude to stand up to larger companies on behalf of the District and what he envisions the biggest challenges to be. Mr. Jacobs said he would develop a collaborative process.

Mr. Baldwin asked about Mr. Jacobs biggest personal limitation and his best asset. Mr. Jacobs said it would be a challenge to not rely on an established, structured program; this District is being developed. He is very organized and can carefully analyze situations.

Mr. Baldwin asked Mr. Jacobs about his thoughts regarding agricultural water conservation. Mr. Jacobs said the water should go back into the system to be reallocated for future growth and/or need. Mr. Dustin asked about local farmers conserving water and what Mr. Jacobs anticipates happening with that water. Mr. Jacobs said a policy for recaptured water would have to be developed and implemented.

Mr. Erickson asked Mr. Jacobs to explain water aquafer storage. Mr. Jacobs explained that water is put in, and stays in the aquafer until it is taken out. There is some debate as to whether that water should be treated or left raw. Water rights are appropriated by a certain percentage; all water is owned by the State (river or ground).

Mr. Dustin asked about future funding and what the Manager's role should be. Mr. Jacobs said gifts, bonds, loans and grants can be considered. Mr. Dustin said the District will have to politic for taxes and asked how comfortable Mr. Jacobs would be operating in that role. Mr. Jacobs said working with the stakeholders and public education would be important to promote the reason why funds are being requested.

Mr. Dustin asked about implementing a strategic plan. Mr. Jacobs said it should include cities within the County, irrigation companies and other water users.

Mr. Dustin asked how a conflict with the Board would be handled. Mr. Jacobs said conflict is generally a lack of understanding, generally compromises can be reached through reasoning and communication.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Erickson for the Board to adjourn to a closed executive session to consider appointment of a Water Manager. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6:50 p.m. Adjourn to Closed Executive Session

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Erickson for the Board reconvene in regular session format at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Hardman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Dustin pointed noted Article 3.2.1 in the Bylaws (adopted June 5, 2017) "*At the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Board in each calendar year, or as soon thereafter as is practical, the Board shall choose one of its members as Chairman*". He would like to add this item to the next meeting's agenda.

ADJOURN

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Dustin to adjourn. Mr. Clawson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.