

Uintah Water Conservancy District

Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2018

Approved

Conducting: Chairman Todd Thacker called the August 14, 2018, Board Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed guests.

Present: **Trustees:** Todd Thacker, Quentin Johnson, Greg Witbeck, Herb Snyder, Vern Richens, and William Merkley. Dean Baker was excused.
Others: Gawain Snow, UWCD General Manager; Mary Searle, UWCD Clerk; Dave Rasmussen, UWCD Consultant; Gayle McKeachnie; Wayne Simper, Central Canal; Bart Jensen and Mike Hawley, Jones & DeMille Engineering; Aaron Averett, Sunrise Engineering; Clint Allen, CRS Engineers; Kenneth D Long and Butch Kidd, Rock Point Canal; Scott Elliott, Bureau of Reclamation.

Approval of Minutes Herb Snyder made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Vern Richens and passed unanimously to approve the June 12, 2018, Board Meeting minutes.

Steinaker - Safety of Dams There will be a tour of the construction on the dam right after meeting for anyone who wants to go. Hopefully the pumps will be going on Thursday.

Vernal Unit Efficiency Project Because of conflicts, the NRCS asked us to arrange for an engineer to do a Watershed Plan. After advertising for RFP's, the selection committee chose the combined proposal of Jones & DeMille and Sunrise Engineering. It should be completed August 31, 2019. Greg Witbeck made a MOTION that was SECONDED by William Merkley and passed unanimously to instruct them to move ahead and authorize Chairman Thacker to sign documents to that effect.

Uinta River Bifurcation We have received agreements from BIA for each of the irrigation companies. We are expecting the FONSI at any time. The design is in the process of being finalized. We will need to do another survey for Ute Lady Tresses. We hope to start construction this Fall.

Ashley Valley Flood Control - Resolution The CIB has said that if the District is going to build the pipeline, they would not release the money. They want to see what they are paying for the easements. Gayle McKeachnie explained the implications of tax requirements on the agreements. If the pipeline is built in the same year the money is received, they can write it off as expenses. Rock Point Canal is in a position to do that, but the other canals companies are not ready. The money will be placed into an escrow account. Rock Point can move ahead with their project. We need to get solid time lines from Ashley Upper and Highline. There needs to be substantial completion

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by the end of December. The deal has been that the irrigation companies would pay the loan back to the District which would, in turn, pay off the loan. William Merkley made a MOTION that was seconded by Quentin Johnson and passed unanimously to approve the lease agreement and authorize Chairman Thacker to sign it.

Uintah County will sublease the flood control agreements.

**Financial
Statements**

Vern Richens made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Herb Snyder and passed unanimously to approve the June and July financial statements.

Invoices

Vern Richens made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Quentin Johnson and passed unanimously to approve the following invoices: BHI \$2,350; Jones & DeMille \$10,642.50; PdM \$6,400; Brett Prevedel \$502.02; Snow Christensen \$397.50; Sunrise Engineering \$1,057.50 for a total of \$21,349.52.

Allotments

Quentin Johnson made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Greg Witbeck and passed unanimously to ratify the allotments set in the May board meeting.

Manager Report

Gawain and Todd reported on the NWRA conference held in Park City.

Scott Elliott and Ben Wolfe went with Gawain to look at trespass and encroachment problems on the Service Canal. To avoid future issues, fences should be moved where possible to the actual easement boundaries.

After discussion, it was determined that there will be no change in the stock water policy which starts October 1 and ends May 1.

S Stock will still be charged in 2019.

Adjourn

William Merkley made a MOTION to adjourn which was SECONDED by Vern Richens and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m. Several of the board members then went on a tour of the construction site on Steinaker Dam.