

Uintah Water Conservancy District

Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2019

Approved

- Conducting:** Chairman Todd Thacker called the January 8, 2019, Board Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed guests.
- Present:** Trustees: Todd Thacker, Quentin Johnson, Greg Witbeck, Herb Snyder, William Merkley and Dean Baker. Vern Richens was excused.
Others: Gawain Snow, UWCD General Manager; Mary Searle, UWCD Clerk; Dave Rasmussen, UWCD Consultant; Bart Jensen, Jones & DeMille Engineering; Jeff McCarty, Sunrise Engineering; Clint Allen, CRS Engineering; Wayne Simper, Central Canal.
- Approval of Minutes** Greg Witbeck made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Quentin Johnson and passed unanimously to approve the December 10, 2018, Budget Hearing and Board Meeting minutes.
- Steinaker - Safety of Dams** The bid for fixing the gates is not due until January 11. After the BOR receives it, they will review it for a couple of days and then request approval from the District board. The BOR requires payment in full before they start work.
- Vernal Unit Efficiency Project** Bart Jensen gave an update on the Watershed Plan Environmental Assessment. They are still in the information gathering stage. It will be June before they are able to submit their plan so NEPA and FONSI documents can be incorporated. Uintah County is slowing their cooperation because of liability issues.
- Uinta River Bifurcation** They are waiting for an access permit and a right-of-way from the BIA. The BIA is shut down as a federal agency. Jones & DeMille are still working on design.
- Financial Statements** Quentin Johnson made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously to approve the December financial statements.
- Invoices** After discussion of lining of Steinaker Canal, William Merkley made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Herb Snyder and passed unanimously to approve paying PdM \$945; Snow Christensen \$877.50; Sunrise Engineering \$3,079.75 for a total of \$4,902.25.
- Manager Report** Energy Management Corporation came in and looked at the pump switch gear at Red Fleet. It is the original gear. We should investigate upgrading the switch gear to provide flexibility in pumping. The study about what it would cost to redo is \$625,000. It will need to be done some time in the future. There may be some energy efficiency grants available to help pay for it. The electrical system also

needs work which should be done at the same time as the switch gear. Old and new systems are not compatible. Some maintenance has been done by GE and BHI. That work would all be considered operation and maintenance. The Board indicated that we need to stay on top of those problems and look at finding grants.

We have been looking at Burns Bench possibilities. One possibility is putting in variable frequency drive to pump smaller amounts of water. That would be about \$10,000. Gawain will be meeting with Verlin and Randy Vincent to look at possibilities.

There is a company looking at getting additional water. The District is paying a portion of the capital costs on Green River. If the water is sold, we would get reimbursed.

The Uintah Basin Water Summit is January 16 at 8:00. The Utah Water Users Workshop is March 18-20 in St. George.

Greg Witbeck reported on the Colorado River Water Users in Las Vegas. With the drought, things have changed drastically. There are major problems with the generation of power from Glen Canyon. They may be taking more water from Flaming Gorge. If there is a call on the River, it could affect our local water supply.

Adjourn

Quentin Johnson made a MOTION to adjourn which was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.