

Uintah Water Conservancy District

Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2020

Approved

Conducting: Chairman Todd Thacker called the January 14, 2020 Board Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed guests.

Present:

Trustees: Todd Thacker, Quentin Johnson, Greg Witbeck, Herb Snyder, Dean Baker, Shane Frost and Tyson Murray.

Others: William Merkley, UWCD General Manager; Mary Searle, UWCD Clerk; John Hunting, UWCD O&M Manager; Dave Rasmussen, UWCD Consultant; Bart Jensen, Jones & DeMille Engineering; Aaron Averett, Sunrise Engineering; Keith Despain, CRS Engineers.

Approval of Minutes Herb Snyder made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously to approve the December 9, 2019, Budget Hearing and Board Meeting minutes.

Master Plan Project List William Merkley went through a comprehensive list of current and future District Projects as well as outside projects for which the District has a financial commitment. He asked that board members go through the list and make additions or changes with regard to priority and relevance and let him know as soon as possible so he can get the list to Mike Collins for the Master Plan.

Vernal Unit Efficiency Project Watershed Plan Bart Jensen presented a summary of all projects included in the Watershed Plan. Aaron Averett added that Central Canal has 27 points of influence where there is a storm drain crossing where the Central Canal gathers flood water and cannot be completely replaced by pipe or otherwise ignored. They hope to submit drafts to the NRCS this month.

Uinta River Bifurcation Bart Jensen reported that Duane Moss is wanting more say and control of the structure and also over the River Commissioner. That is the main hold-up.

Ashley Upper/Highline Canals Pipe Project Aaron Averett reported that surveys have all been done and reports are being written up now. Shon Massey has been working through mitigation priorities on his property. The draft EA will go in the next two weeks. That will trigger the 120-day review period for the Ute Lady Tress habitat mitigation. They are on track for the report being complete so they can start construction in Fall. BHI has been hired to provide pre-construction services..

Website Redesign William Merkley brought up the website as it currently and showed the features and many possibilities it offers. It should be ready to go online in February.

**Thornburg
Diversion**

John Hunting reported on the progress of this project. They hope to eliminate the water screen belonging to Dyle Webster and connect his pipeline directly into the structure. This would eliminate extra water overflowing downstream and flooding private properties..

**Financial
Statements**

Greg Witbeck made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Shane Frost and passed unanimously to approve the December financial statements.

Invoices

Quentin Johnson made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously to approve paying Bowen Collins \$10,008.50.

**Navajo Water
Rights**

William Merkley included the MOU in the packet and explained there are bills before the legislature regarding this.

Manager Report

William reported that there will be more information coming on the Moon Lake Exclusion next month.

He gave an update on overtime that showed overtime had decreased from 2018 to 2019 by approximately 26%. There could be an increase this year due to close monitoring of the filling of Steinaker.

Greg Witbeck, Todd Thacker and Dean Baker expressed interest in attending the St. George conference in March.

Adjourn

Shane Frost made a MOTION to adjourn which was SECONDED by Quentin Johnson and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.