

Uintah Water Conservancy District

Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2017
UWCD Office
10:00 a.m.

Approved

Conducting: Chairman William Merkley called the January 10, 2017, Board Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed guests.

Present:

Trustees: William Merkley, Todd Thacker, Quentin Johnson, Herb Snyder, Vernon Richens, Greg Witbeck and Dean Baker.

Others: Gawain Snow, General Manager; Mary Searle, UWCD Clerk; John Hunting, O&M Manager; Dave Rasmussen, UWCD Consultant; Spencer Strand, Wayne Pullen and Peter Crookston, Bureau of Reclamation; Aaron Averett, Sunrise Engineering; Eric Major, Jones & DeMille.

Approval of Minutes Herb Snyder made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Vernon Richens and passed unanimously to approve the December 13, 2016, Budget Hearing and Board Meeting minutes after adding Herb to the attendees.

Steinaker - Safety of Dams Spencer Strand presented an update on the project. The FONSI was signed last week so the EPA process is completed other than on-going monitoring. They are inviting comments on the drawings and design. They are doing a test pit by the dam to dig into the shale then they will move the excavator to the Ouray Pit. The negotiation documents are in the policy office ready to be signed by the Commissioner. There will be a public meeting from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on January 18 at the Uintah Conference Center. The schedule now is to award the contract in December. If they can't make that date, the project may be postponed until 2019. Wayne Pullen has requested a Significant Analysis on the schedule to study the impact on water users.

Vernal Unit Efficiency Enhancement Project The last of the work that remains is focused on turn-outs. A few still need pipe and valves installed. Lids are being pre-cast. We don't have an updated schedule from the contractor but we are still on schedule to be operational May 1.

Red Fleet Groundwater The study is on schedule. They have collected water quality data and information is coming in from the labs. The aquafir study will begin in March.

Financial Statements Quentin Johnson made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Greg Witbeck and passed unanimously to approve the December financial statements.

Invoices

Vern Richens made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Quentin Johnson and passed unanimously to approve the following invoices: Snow Christensen \$717; Sunrise Engineering \$977.50; W. W. Clyde \$370,118.15; for a total of \$371,862.65.

RCPP Grant

The District funded the application which was approved for 75% of the proposal which amounts to a grant of \$7,385,500. The district will partner with various projects in Uintah County. There will be a meeting on Wednesday to start the process. A Watershed Plan is required so we will contract to have that prepared. The Board asked Gawain to invite a representative to come talk about fiberglass pipe. A special thanks was offered by the Board to Jay Henrie and Brett Prevedel for their work on this grant.

**Green River
Water Right**

In the December meeting, Crescent Point Energy requested 3,000 AF of Green River water and a three-year contract. To meet the amount of water they need, they have requested that the Board approve 6,000 AF and a five-year option to lease. Dean Baker made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Vernon Richens and passed unanimously to approve that request.

Manager Report

Upcoming conferences include the Uinta Basin Water Summit January 18. All trustees will be registered except Todd Thacker and Dean Baker. The Utah Water Users Conference in St. George will be in March. Todd, William, Dean and Greg expressed interest in attending.

Uintah County is making a plan for an upgrade on Leland Bench that could require Green River water.

Adjourn

Quentin Johnson made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously to adjourn until the February 14, 2017, Board Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.