

Uintah Water Conservancy District

Board of Trustees
Board Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2017
UWCD Office
10:00 a.m.

Approved

Conducting: Chairman William Merkley called the February 14, 2017, Board Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed guests.

Present:

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

Others: Gawain Snow, General Manager; Mary Searle, UWCD Clerk; John Hunting, O&M Manager; Dave Rasmussen, UWCD Consultant; Alan Preston and John Thompson, WW Clyde; Carl Pitzer, Thompson Pipe Group-Flowtite; Aaron Averett, Sunrise Engineering; Eric Major, Jones & DeMille.

Approval of Minutes Greg Witbeck made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Todd Thacker and passed unanimously to approve the January 10, 2017, Board Meeting minutes.

Aquatic Species Agreement The quagga mussel program to inspect boats at Red Fleet and Steinaker needs the contract to be updated. Their fiscal year is different from ours so we need two contracts. Quentin Johnson made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Todd Thacker and passed unanimously to approve two contracts (dated January 1 and July 1) with the Division of Wildlife Services in the amount of \$6,250 each for a total of \$12,500 for 2017.

Steinaker - Safety of Dams John Hunting attended a value engineering study meeting in Denver where they presented four proposals to try to reduce the costs of the project. They will need to look at other borrow areas because they need more of the large cobblerock. While construction is proceeding, they are looking at the option of filling the spillway with dirt so they can drive across the top or put a road on the top of the riprap going down the face of the dam to get more access to the area. They may need to pump the deadpool down so material can be replaced on dry ground. Wildlife Resources is planning to re-stock the fish. Construction costs are at about \$29 million.

Flood Control John Hunting reported on the Red Fleet flood control policy. We stored water last fall. When we had more inflow, we started releasing water and will continue to drop the reservoir for safety issues. Steinaker will be full the first part of March.

**Vernal Unit
Efficiency
Enhancement
Project**

They completed placing all the walls for the turn-outs. All valves and bolts are in. Pipe is being filled and getting ready for pressure testing. They are waiting for weather and ground conditions. There is still work to do at the intake structure. There is a fencing issue. In order to get three feet of fill over the top of the pipe, more of the canal bank was used than expected. The access road is higher than the fence and fields creating drain and maintenance issues. The fence needs to be relocated to the right-of-way boundary. This will amount to extra work for the contractor. The Bureau of Reclamation has offered to buy the fencing materials. The existing fence needs to be removed, drain issues need to be fixed with grading. After discussion about the cost comparison of bringing in a sub-contractor to build the fence, Todd Thacker made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously to contract with W.W. Clyde for installation of 6,200 feet of fence for \$45,500.

The Board instructed that we communicate with the property owners before the fencing starts to be installed. The Bureau will mark the easement the full length of the canal. The fence will go in for the most part on the easement boundaries.

**Financial
Statements**

Herb Snyder made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Todd Thacker and passed unanimously to approve the January financial statements.

Invoices

Quentin Johnson made a MOTION that was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously to approve the following invoices: Bowen Collins \$3,811.25; Henrie Engineering \$1,148.88; Jones & DeMille \$440.97; Snow Christensen \$105; W. W. Clyde \$358,929.82; for a total of \$364,435.92.

**Administrative
Code**

Chapter II - Board, Committees and Trustees was presented for the board to look it over and bring any suggested changes to the March meeting.

Fiber Pipe

Carl Pitzer from Thompson Pipe Group - Flowtite did a presentation on the benefits for using fiber pipe.

Manager Report

William, Greg, Dean and Todd asked to be registered for the Utah Water Users Conference in St. George in March.

A questions was raised about the ponds that are being built and where they are getting the water rights. The Utah Water Rights holds the rights for the Upper Canal at the Bird Farm.

Closed Session

Quentin Johnson requested that the board go into a closed session to discuss a personnel issue. Aye votes were recorded by Greg Witbeck, Dean Baker, Quentin Johnson, Todd Thacker and William Merkley. Herb Snyder had to leave. The meeting was reconvened at 12:30 at which time Quentin Johnson made a MOTION to Adjourn which was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously.