

# Uintah Water Conservancy District

Board of Trustees  
Special Meeting Minutes  
December 18, 2023

Approved

**Conducting:** Chairman Quentin Johnson called the December 18, 2023, Special Board Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed guests.

**Present:**

Trustees: Quentin Johnson, Shane Frost, Todd Thacker, Tyson Murray, Dean Baker, Mitch Phillips. Greg Witbeck joined the meeting via telephone.

Others: William Merkley, UWCD General Manager; John Hunting, UWCD O&M Manager; Marie Cook, UWCD Clerk; Wyatt Olsen, Mike Cottle, BHI; Jeff DeMarco, Bureau of Reclamation; Jordan Oyler, Bowen Collins & Associates; Spencer Strand, Bureau of Reclamation via Microsoft Teams

**Steinaker Service Canal Project:** Mike Cottle, with BHI, submitted an updated project schedule for the Board's consideration. The main items included completion of the preliminary punch list, resetting the Steinaker Feeder Canal bridge, and the final repair to the failed pipeline section. Although BHI is planning to complete the punch list items and the bridge repair before spring, they proposed a date of April 19, 2024, to provide sufficient time for any delays or unforeseen circumstances. After discussion, Shane Frost made a MOTION to accept April 19, 2024, as the new completion date excluding those items associated with the final pipeline repair. Included in the motion was the statement that the District would consider damages against the contractor if this new deadline was not met. The motion was SECONDED by Tyson Murray and approved unanimously.

**Pipeline Failure Testing:** William reported that a meeting was scheduled for December 19, 2023, with all project partners and two pipe material consulting firms to address the pipeline failure, physically evaluate the failed section, and further discuss the testing necessary to determine the cause of failure. William sought clarification on the hiring of Bryan Hauger Consulting (dba BHC Associates, Inc.). Shane Frost made a MOTION that all payments to BHC Associates, Inc. be covered by the District, but that the District be reimbursed from funds withheld from the Contractor, Project Engineer, and Pipe Supplier. The motion was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously.

**Final Repair  
Timeline:**

Due to concerns with potentially disrupting the irrigation season with the final repair and pressure testing, Shane Frost made a MOTION that the final repair be delayed until October 15, 2024, or after the irrigation season, and that the pressure testing be done immediately following the repair while the fusing equipment was still onsite. The motion was SECONDED by Dean Baker and passed unanimously.

**Legal, Engineering,  
and Construction  
Invoices:**

Because an updated project schedule had been presented and accepted, Dean Baker made a MOTION, which was SECONDED by Mitch Phillips, and passed unanimously, to pay Bowen Collins & Associates (\$9,563.75), BHI (\$162,111.66), and BHC Associates, Inc. (\$6,000.00) a total of \$177,675.41.

**Adjourn:**

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Shane Frost, SECONDED by Dean Baker, and unanimously approved.