

Approved

BOARD OF WATER RESOURCES MEETING

MINUTES

May 12, 2016

Department of Natural Resources
Auditorium
1594 W. North Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIONS ii

THOSE PRESENT iii

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES..... 1

FEASIBILITY REPORT 1

DAM SAFETY FUNDING 2

LAKE POWELL PIPELINE REPORT 2

WATER CONSERVATION UPDATE 3

DIRECTOR’S REPORT..... 3

SUMMARY OF BOARD ACTIONS

1. Minutes from the March 16, 2016 meeting were approved Page 1

2. The Board voted to provide 53% of the project cost up to \$403,000 for the Moon Lake Water Users Association, with the project to be purchased at 0% interest over approximately 15 years with annual payments of \$26,900. Page 1

3. The Board voted to increase the dam safety grant for Red Creek Irrigation Company to \$5,142,500 and the loan to \$871,500, which will be returned at 0% interest over approximately 35 years with annual payments of \$24,900. Page 2

4. The Board moved to commit an additional \$166,500 in dam safety grant funds to the Kaysville Irrigation Company, increasing the total dam safety grant to \$2,718,000. Page 2

THOSE PRESENT

The Utah BOARD OF WATER RESOURCES met in regular session on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at the Department of Natural Resources, 1594 W. North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah. Chairman James Lemmon presided over the 1:00 p.m. meeting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Lemmon, Chair
Dave Humphreys
Charles Holmgren
Stew Paulick
Blaine Ipson
Norm Johnson
Gawain Snow

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Eric Millis, Director
Todd Adams, Deputy Director
Bill Leeflang, Assistant Director
Barbara Allen, Secretary
Shalaine DeBernardi, Finance Officer
Jim Egbert, Finance Officer
Randy Staker, Accounting Officer
Joel Williams, Chief of Investigations
Tom Cox, Engineer
Russell Hadley, Engineer
Marisa Egbert, Engineer
Jaqueline Pacheco, Engineer
Ben Marett, Engineer
Dave Cole, Chief, Hydrology and Computer Applications
Candice Hasenyager, Asst. Chief, Hydrology and Computer Applications
Joshua Palmer, Public Information Officer
Paul Gedge, DTS Engineer

OTHERS PRESENT:

Randy Julander, NRCS
Dex Winterton, Moon Lake WUA
Shawn McConkie, Moon Lake WUA
Jim Young, Moon Lake WUA
Andy Thompson, Kaysville Irr. Co.
Dee Hansen, Kaysville Irr. Co.
Sterling Brown, Utah Farm Bureau

MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF WATER RESOURCES MEETING
May 12, 2016

Chair Jim Lemmon called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Steve Farrell was excused due to illness.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Blaine Ipson made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 16, 2016 board meeting. Gawain Snow seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Lemmon announced the filing of the Preliminary Licensing Application for the Lake Powell Pipeline Project to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

Randy Julander from the NRCS said the Bear, Weber, and Provo rivers are running from about 65% to 75% of average. The Duchesne is at about 110%. Southeast Utah snowpack is pretty much gone. Southern Utah has 135% to 145% of average precipitation for the year so far. There has been about average snowpack and average snowmelt so far. He said low elevation watersheds have peaked for the year; higher elevation watersheds will likely peak in the next week or two. So far, stream flow looks good: close to average, with good volumes. Reservoir storage statewide is a couple of percentage points behind last year, with a couple of exceptions being Gunnison Reservoir currently at 5% of capacity and Scofield Reservoir at 25% of capacity. Both are not likely to get much higher. Although this is a slightly below average water year, there is three to five times more snow on the ground right now as there was last year.

DISCUSSION OF PROJECTS

FEASIBILITY REPORT

#E-362 Moon Lake Water Users Association

Chair Lemmon welcomed Shawn McConkie, Jim Young, and Dex Winterton.

Marisa Egbert gave the report. The sponsor is requesting assistance from the board to install a geomembrane liner with a shotcrete cover along approximately 5,100 feet of the Yellowstone Feeder Canal in Duchesne County. The project will conserve about 30-40% of flow from the canal that is now lost to seepage and leaks. The sponsor has obtained a WaterSMART grant to help with funding.

Dex Winterton said the geoliner will be a 30-mil, three-part Huskar liner, with 3 to 4 inches of shotcrete over that. The repair is over the worst section in the canal, which has been there for 60

or more years. Concrete breaks up over time and the geomembrane underneath will be the primary containment. The canal runs anywhere from 45 to 90 cfs. The repair will include plenty of freeboard. The life expectancy of the project will be 50 years, which is similar to what pipe is rated for. He expressed appreciation for the board's help.

Gawain Snow moved that the board provide 53% of the project cost up to \$403,000, with the project to be purchased at 0% interest over approximately 15 years with annual payments of \$26,900. Dave Humphreys seconded the motion and all were in favor.

DAM SAFETY FUNDING

#C-045 Red Creek Irrigation Company

Russell Hadley gave the report. He said the sponsor was not required to attend the meeting. The project to bring Red Creek Dam up to current dam safety standards has been completed, but additional problems were found at the site during construction. The sponsor is requesting additional dam safety grant and loan funds totaling \$545,000 to pay for the increased costs. Also, a fence will be added to the project to prevent visitors from driving vehicles on the downstream face of the dam.

Gawain Snow moved that the board increase the dam safety grant to \$5,142,500 and the loan to \$871,500, which will be returned at 0% interest over approximately 35 years with annual payments of \$24,900. Norm Johnson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

#C-044 Kaysville Irrigation Company

Andy Thompson and Dee Hansen were welcomed to the meeting.

Joel Williams gave the report. He said work on the Kaysville Dam has been completed. Change orders and modifications during construction have increased project costs by about \$185,000. The sponsor is requesting additional dam safety grant funds to pay for the project.

Dee Hansen said the project is finished and working well. It has taken longer than they thought it would. Some of the problems that led to increased costs included bad material and the contractor misunderstood the plans. These problems were fixed. They are storing water in the reservoir now.

Dave Humphreys made the motion to commit an additional \$166,500 in dam safety grant funds, increasing the total dam safety grant to \$2,718,000. Gawain Snow seconded the motion and all were in favor.

LAKE POWELL PIPELINE REPORT

Bill Leeftang said extensive work went into preparing and incorporating responses to comments received during the 90-day review period for the Preliminary Licensing Proposal that was submitted to FERC on May 2, 2016. The total license application was approximately 40,000

pages. Supplemental information will also be sent to FERC to clarify the license application and more thoroughly address certain subjects. The proposal will assist FERC while processing the license application. FERC will begin the NEPA process when it issues the Notice of Ready for Environmental Review at the end of this year.

Chair Lemmon complimented staff on the work they did in getting everything finalized and submitted. Director Millis also noted that Mr. Leeftang, his staff, Joshua Palmer, and many in the office have been working at addressing comments and getting the report together and getting it in on time.

WATER CONSERVATION UPDATE

Joshua Palmer told the board about the new water conservation program that was rolled out a couple of days ago, the “H2Oath”. He said water conservation is both a great opportunity and a great challenge. Population projections show a doubling of Utah’s population by 2060, yet the water supply will not be doubling and that makes water conservation very important. One of the things they did in the campaign was recognize that it is a challenge to get people to go from saying “I care about water conservation” to acting on that value. The H2Oath can be found online, and is a simple pledge that supports simple water conservation methods. It will be possible to follow up with people who take the pledge and track the changes they make. The recent public kickoff event had a great turnout and a great amount of support, and the public is reacting positively. There will be an effort to reach out to get more business partners involved. Mr. Palmer asked board members to also sign the pledge, which they did at the end of the meeting.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Millis expressed his thanks to Mr. Palmer for the good work he has done and his help on many issues. The division’s Facebook post that he wrote went viral, and the good thing from that is that the newscasters are still telling people not to water their lawns yet because of all the rain we have been getting.

The water supply is better this year; the snow pack in the north and east will be good for the Colorado River supply. Mr. Millis said he was invited to go on a tour in southern California a couple of weeks ago to see what they are doing there to deal with drought conditions. They are doing very creative things to get by, including drip irrigation, recharge, reuse, desalinization, alternate landscaping, etc. They are working hard because they are still in a very extreme drought.

The Colorado River Basin States still meet together to discuss drought contingency plans, and are discussing ways to make sure that things that are important, like the ability to use Colorado River water and have reliable power supplies, are kept healthy and functioning.

The Lake Powell Pipeline license application was submitted. There is still a lot of work to do with that as it goes through the FERC process and the division is ready to do that.

SLIDE SHOW PRESENTATION

Tom Cox showed the board a slide show of the re-construction of Wide Hollow Dam by the New Escalante Irrigation Company.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.