

**MOAB CITY
WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2019**

Regular Meeting Called to Order & Attendance: The Moab City Water Conservation and Drought Management Advisory Board held its Regular Meeting on the above date in the Council Chambers at the Moab City Center, located at 217 East Center Street, Moab, Utah. Board Chair Kara Dohrenwend called the Meeting to order at 2:06 PM. In attendance were board members Kara Dohrenwend, Denver Perkins, Kyle Bailey, Jeremy Lynch, Arne Hultquist and Mike Duncan. Board member John Gould was absent. Also in attendance were Project Specialist Eve Tallman, Sustainability Director Rosemarie Russo and Assistant City Engineer Eric Johanson. Dana Van Horn of the Grand Water and Sewer Services Agency (GWSSA) and two members of the public and press also attended.

Approval of Minutes: Lynch moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2019 meeting. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0 aye, with Board members Bailey, Perkins, Lynch, Dohrenwend, Hultquist and Duncan voting aye.

Citizens to be Heard: There were no citizens to be heard.

Board and Staff Reports: Russo reported on the upgrade of the duck pond at Old City Park and the project to stock it as a fishing pond for youth. Duncan mentioned some groundwater modeling he has been working on and hopes to report on at a later date. Tallman reported she had received a revised draft of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) groundwater study and board members requested to see the revision with the understanding it is still not a public document.

Water Data—Discussion: Dohrenwend requested a standing agenda item to discuss current water conditions. Several data sources were considered.

Outdoor Watering Campaign Materials—Update: Dohrenwend and Russo distributed calendars with timelines for various elements of the campaign. Newspaper advertisements once per quarter supported by the City and once per quarter supported by GWSSA were mentioned. Options for publicity were updated to include the “My View” column, guest editorials and letters to the editor. Inclusion in the City’s water bills will occur in May. Ads for landscaping or lawn watering are planned for the first week of April. Also discussed were a technical feature story and an open house as well as timer rebates.

Publicizing the release of the USGS report, when it happens, was discussed, as well as Russo’s *Moab Happenings* article.

Historical Newspaper/Social Media Educational Campaign—Discussion: Lynch pointed out there is a significant archive on the Canyonlands Watershed Council website. The *Times-Independent* historical page was mentioned. Historical photos, information about Kens Lake, floods, anecdotal interviews and more are under consideration for this project.

Review of 2016 Water Conservation Plan—Discussion: Perkins asked about the section of the existing report that mentioned the formulation of a regional groundwater management plan. He also brought up the prior day’s County Planning Commission meeting at which groundwater resources were discussed. The question of a regional water authority was considered, and the ongoing adjudication process which was believed to require at least another year for completion. Van Horn stated her understanding that a state facilitator would guide the

regional groundwater management plan process for local stakeholders. She mentioned that if no consensus could be reached, the process would revert to First in Time, First in Right. The results of the adjudication process were discussed. Dialogue ensued about the Acre Feet (AF) of water rights associated with private wells and springs. Hultquist mentioned the numerous minor agreements already in place between local water agencies. It was stated that it was safe to assume there would be no more San Juan Spanish Valley Special Service District (SJSVSSD) water right allocations granted before a Regional Groundwater Management Plan was complete. New water tanks for GWSSA and SJSVSSD were brought up.

It was agreed that the 2106 Plan would be discussed at each meeting with an eye toward revision in 2020. Russo suggested adding infographics to the executive summary.

Vulnerability, Consequences and Adaptive Planning Study (VCAPS)—Approved:

Hultquist introduced a research study to be completed by University of Colorado personnel to study climate change and dealing with drought regarding the Spanish Valley watershed. He said the total cost would be \$7500 and thus far there was an offer from Marc Stilson's office to provide partial funding. Other potential funding sources mentioned included GWSSA, SJSVSSD, the County (besides GWSSA), the City, the Division of Water Resources, and the School and Institutional Trust Land Administration (SITLA). The time-frame would conclude the study around the third week of August.

Motion and Vote: Hultquist moved to approve a request for \$1,000 from the Sustainability or Administrative budget of the City toward the project. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 aye with Boardmembers Hultquist, Bailey, Dohrenwend, Lynch, Duncan and Perkins voting aye.

Ken Kolm Report—Update: Johanson stated the Engineering Department had received Kolm's revised draft the prior day. Tallman stated she would follow up with Kolm regarding a field trip with the water board members.

Future Agenda Items: Outdoor watering campaign update, data discussion, review of the 2016 Water Conservation Plan, update on Kolm's water budget, Revision of Moab Water Facts, VCAPS, Duncan's report on historical trends regarding sustainability of local springs and wells, and discussion of the USGS revision.

The County Planning Commission's collected water documents and discussion from the March 12 meeting were agreed to be disseminated.

Adjournment: Bailey moved to adjourn the meeting. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0 aye, with Board members Bailey, Perkins, Lynch, Dohrenwend, Hultquist and Duncan voting aye. The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 PM.