

**CITY OF MOAB**  
**WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**JULY 10, 2019**

**Call to Order:** Board Vice-Chair Jeremy Lynch called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM in the City Council Chambers located at 217 East Center Street in Moab. In attendance were Arne Hultquist, Mike Duncan, Kyle Bailey, John Gould and Denver Perkins. Also in attendance were Assistant City Engineer Eric Johanson, City Engineer Chuck Williams, Sustainability Director Rosemarie Russo, Records Specialist Eve Tallman and Public Works Director Oscar Antillon. Recordings are archived at: <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html> (audio) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9TpFoT1kvWs> (video).

**Approval of Minutes:** Hultquist moved to approve the Water Board Minutes of June 12, 2019 with one correction. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 with Board members Perkins, Duncan, Gould, Lynch, Bailey and Hultquist voting aye.

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

**Board and Staff Reports:**

Hultquist mentioned the Vulnerability, Consequences and Adaptive Planning Study (VCAPS) workshop in the coming week and noted several members of the staff would attend. Funding shares of other agencies were mentioned. Hultquist also mentioned the Moab Area Watershed Partnership (MAWP) meeting on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The proposed agenda included discussion of monitoring wells.

Tallman announced her upcoming retirement and indicated that if there was a staffing gap, Hultquist agreed to be retained to assist the City Recorder with minutes and agendas.

Russo shared Board Chair Kara Dohrenwend's article recently published in Moab Happenings.

**Water Budget and Development Implications Recommendation—Discussion:**

Duncan discussed his plan to present to Council his own synthesis of the recent water quantity reports. City Engineer Williams stated he wants to review the numbers and stated he would forward the revised Phase 2 Report from Hydrologic Systems Analysis, LLC (HSA)—Ken Kolm and Paul van der Heijde). Williams noted his concern about the Estimated Surface Water figure in the Board's memo to Council. He added he asked the Utah Geological Survey (UGS) to peer review Kolm's findings. Lynch asked if the information requested by Council was time-sensitive. Duncan clarified the information desired to inform code revisions were longer-range than the current moratorium. He added the County is growing faster than the City. Williams said he wanted final numbers to be agreed upon. Johanson reported that Mayor Niehaus asked Williams to write a memo and some members of the water board and engineering staff met. Discussion ensued regarding further review of the numbers with a future meeting of some members of the board and engineering staff prior to the August water board meeting.

**New Production Well:**

Williams stated that the City has budgeted for the siting and design of a new production well. He explained old wells would be analyzed for new well proximity. Hultquist brought up the Hanson Allen & Luce (HAL) report which indicated the City had a storage issue not a production issue. Williams explained the HAL report was necessary to identify the storage need prior to seeking funding for the tank. With the report, the city is actively pursuing funding for a three million gallon tank at the intersection of Spanish Trail and Spanish Valley Drive.

***Hydrologic and Environmental System Analysis (HESA):***

Johanson asked Williams to update the Board on the City's plan to engage HSA to complete a similar analysis for the Spanish Valley aquifer.

***New Public Works Director:***

Oscar Antillon was introduced as the City's new Public Works Director. Water Superintendent Levi Jones was praised.

***Moab Water Facts—Discussion:***

Johanson stated he was concerned about the buildout number in the document. The discrepancy between the hotel room water usage number (.36 Acre Feet) versus the hotel room sewer number (.8 Equivalent Residential Unit) was discussed. Tallman agreed to forward the Wastewater Treatment Facility Master Plan to Hultquist. Russo brought up the effectiveness of the water conservation placards placed in hotels. Duncan asked if a comparison would be appropriate between the water usage of a family in a hotel and a local family at home.

***HSA Report—Discussion:***

Hultquist explained his disagreement with some of the findings of the HSA Phase I report regarding isotopes in the Glen Canyon Aquifer. Discussion followed regarding determining age of water, Blanchard's report and the loss of 3,000 Acre Feet below Sheley tunnel. Lynch suggested the Board could continue to bring up the discrepancies until the Utah Geological Survey (UGS) accepts or rejects the fracture zone hypothesis. Hultquist indicated he would make the UGS aware of the matter.

***Outdoor Watering Campaign—Review:***

Staff and board discussed the newspaper article, box ads, social media postings and determined the campaign was launched as anticipated.

***Other Business:***

Tallman brought up a recent water rights request published in the paper. Russo mentioned her experience with the adjudication process. Bailey brought up a recent Salt Lake Tribune article regarding global warming and the ski industry.

***Future Agenda Items:*** Further review of the Moab Water Facts numbers.

***Adjournment:*** Hultquist moved to adjourn. Lynch seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 3:44 PM.