

CITY OF MOAB
WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES--DRAFT
August 14, 2019

Call to Order: Board Chair Kara Dohrenwend called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM in the City Council Chambers located at 217 East Center Street in Moab. In attendance were Arne Hultquist, Mike Duncan, John Gould and Denver Perkins. Also in attendance were Assistant City Engineer Eric Johanson, City Engineer Chuck Williams, Assistant City Engineer Marc Jolissaint, Sustainability Director Rosemarie Russo, Records Specialist Eve Tallman and two members of the public. Recordings are archived at: <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html> (audio) and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ak9cN_DMSOI (video).

Approval of Minutes: Hultquist moved to approve the Water Board Minutes of July 10, 2019 with corrections. Gould seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 with Board members Perkins, Duncan, Gould, Dohrenwend and Hultquist voting aye.

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

Board and Staff Reports:

Duncan presented his review of the City's water budget revision and his findings. He noted Kolm and van der Heijde presented a recharge rate of 18 percent, which is much higher than the common range of three to six percent. He concluded the evidence seems to show that water is being mined from the aquifer. Hultquist pointed out that the recent Vulnerability, Consequences, And Adaptation Planning Scenarios (VCAPS) workshop presented data that suggests there has been no decrease in local precipitation in the last 50 years although Kolm reports a ten percent decrease. Discussion continued and it was agreed a meeting should be arranged with the engineering staff, water board members, Kolm and van der Heijde in September.

Russo reviewed water use of hotels and other water users. She found that hotels use 16 percent of Moab's water and residents use 51 percent. She found that hotels average just under .36 Acre Feet (AF) per unit. She agreed to report back at the next meeting with more data on overnight accommodations and water use.

Tallman reported that the United States Forest Service Manti-La Sal Forest Plan is due to be released in draft form in the coming month and urged boardmembers to work with Oscar Antillon, Public Works Director, to compile Moab City comments on the draft plan.

Hultquist reported on a tour he recently participated in that involved the Environmental Protection Agency and feedlots, funds for revegetation, enclosures for springs and more.

Other Business:

Russo also reported on a recent workshop regarding VCAPS. She noted that according to the Washington Post, the local Grand County climate may be in the top five areas in the United States to be hardest hit by climate change and temperatures are expected to increase by 2.5 degrees. It was also pointed out that extreme cold is also expected in the future.

Williams stated he would try to get corrected numbers of the Moab Water Facts document in time for the next meeting.

Future Agenda Items: Further review of water use by overnight accommodations, Comments, if any, on the USFS Forest Plan Draft, revision of Moab Water Facts numbers.

Adjournment: Hultquist moved to adjourn. Duncan seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 3: 55 PM.

DRAFT