

**Moab City Council Agenda Item**  
Meeting Date: February 22, 2022

**Title:** Water System Workshop

**Disposition:** Discussion Only

**Staff Presenter:** Chuck Williams, City Engineer

**Attachment(s):**

Attachment 1 – Signed Memorandum of Understanding to develop a Water Utility Resource Management Plan

Attachment 2 – Water Utility Resource Management Plan Draft Scope of Work and Proposal

**Recommended Motion:**

NA

**Background/Summary:**

In this part of the workshop staff will talk about the City's water system from a temporal perspective with emphasis on the present and near future. This approach demonstrates the consistent and incremental path that the City has been taking in managing the City's water system and provides insight on next steps for the future.

Staff will review water capital projects as well as discuss recent and next steps in water utility resource planning in the Moab-Spanish Valley. Staff will also provide an overview of several of the various water or watershed organizations in the area of Moab.

There are 3 primary Public Water Systems in the Moab/Spanish Valley (Valley). They are:

1. City of Moab
2. Grand Water & Sewer Services Agency
3. San Juan Spanish Valley Special Services District

These agencies have authorities and responsibilities as authorized by the Utah Safe Drinking Water Act (Title 19, Chapter 4 of the Utah Code) and other applicable statutes.

Part of the Vision of the Utah Division of Drinking Water (DDW) is "to empower water systems to be more resilient, proactive, and with a greater financial and technical capacity; to be able to plan for and provide Utahns with access to safe and reliable drinking water now and into the future." The planning effort being proposed within this document is consistent with this Vision.

In the interest of being proactive in managing the water resource in the Valley under their purview, the 3 Primary Water Systems have formed a Spanish Valley Regional Water Management Coordination Group which is staff level and meets approximately monthly. The Coordination Group addresses many issues such as operations, cross connections,

support if parts of one provider's system fails, etc. The Working Group also proposed long range planning which resulted in development of a draft scope of work for a Water Utility Resource Management Plan for the entire Moab-Spanish Valley.

The Plan proposal resulted in a signed Memorandum of Understanding by the managing or elected bodies of the 3 providers that creates a Coalition of the 3 providers to cost share funding of the Plan.

The attached Draft Water Utility Resource Management Plan (Plan) is the result of discussions with the Working Group and Utah Division of Water Rights (UDWRi) over the last 6 months. This plan will assist these agencies in implementing policies intended to ensure resilient water resource management for residents, visitors, and businesses for the next 100 years. The Plan will be prepared by Hansen, Allen & Luce, one of the premier Water Resource firms in the state and a firm that is on our On-Call Professional Services list.

Since the two Districts do not have land use authority that may be beneficial in implementing the Plan, Grand and San Juan County have also agreed to participate in the Plan process. The City has not only Primary Water System status but also has land use authority.

The attached signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) provides for sharing of the costs for development of the Plan. The City has the money for the study budgeted as part of the 2021 Water Bond. The sharing of costs is based on a five-year average of culinary water use by the Coalition partners.