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. A recording of the meeting is archived at http://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html. Board Chair Arne Hultquist called the Meeting to order at 2:32 PM. In attendance were board members Kara Dohrenwend, John Gould, Denver Perkins, Kyle Bailey, and Mike Duncan, whose term had expired. Board member Jeremy Lynch was absent. Also in attendance were City Parks Superintendent Mike Huts, Public Works Director Pat Dean, Project Specialist Eve Tallman, Sustainability Director Rosemarie Russo and Communications and Engagement Manager Lisa Church. Dana Van Horn of the Grand Water and Sewer Services Agency (GWSSA) and three members of the public and press also attended.

Approval of Minutes: Perkins moved to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting. Dohrenwend seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 aye, with Board members Bailey, Perkins, Hultquist, Dohrenwend and Gould voting aye.

Citizens to be Heard: Van Horn reported that the GWSSA voted to purchase more than 250 acre-feet (AF) of groundwater rights from the Beeman family with the intention of diversion to irrigation purposes. She added that GWSSA had purchased the Beeman and Corbin wells in approximately 2010 for the same purpose. She added the water has not been in use and she cautioned about protesting the State Engineer’s decision. Discussion ensued about the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) projections for the area in the 12th percentile, the stability of the GWSSA wells, and the City’s spring flows.

Outdoor Watering Educational Campaign and Work Plan: Boardmembers and guests discussed a planned outdoor watering educational campaign. March was determined to be the month for the rollout of the plan. The Water Board, City Staff, GWSSA, the Moab Irrigation Company (MIC), Parks Department and Public Works were represented. The following formats were mentioned as possibilities for conveying the watering campaign message: resident or business challenge; box ad in the newspapers; direct mailings; radio public service announcements (PSAs); City billing inserts; a column in Moab Happenings; social media including Facebook; video; Ad-Vertiser PSAs and newspaper sidebars.

Dohrenwend stated she did not envision a challenge. Content for the year’s work plan was presented tentatively as irrigation in the Spring; water facts and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Study in Summer; Stormwater in Fall and Rainfall & water supply statistics in the fourth quarter.

Examples of content for the irrigation program included a link to the state water data and water conservation information, offerings from the Utah State University (USU) Extension, the Desert Botanical Gardens, guidance on how much to water for various plantings, how much to water if it rains, targeting turf grass and automatic sprinklers.

It was discussed that the plan would be an action item at the next meeting and that Tallman would serve as the Board’s liaison and Communications Director Lisa Church would approve all content. Other ideas that were brought up included a lawn tour, rain gauges, and an award system. Working with community liaisons and professional landscapers was mentioned. The following persons volunteered to work on the subcommittee: Van Horn, Russo, Dohrenwend, Dean, Tallman, Huts and Church.
Nomination for Re-appointment: Bailey moved to nominate Mike Duncan for a new term to the Water Board. Gould seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0 aye, with Board members Perkins, Hultquist, Bailey and Gould voting aye. Hultquist commented that Duncan is prepared for meetings, informed about water issues, responsive to Board communications and is a valued member of the Board.

United States Geological Survey (USGS) Groundwater Study Executive Summary—Approved
Bailey moved to approve The Executive Summary with one edit. Gould seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 with Bailey, Gould, Hultquist, Dohrenwend and Perkins voting aye.

Discussion ensued regarding a cover letter and Perkins volunteered to draft the letter. Timing of the delivery of the executive summary was also considered.

Other Business:
Public Works Director Dean stated his department was looking for capacity for storage not increased production of culinary water supply.

Future Agenda Items: Outdoor watering campaign action item, election of officers, and National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) data.

Adjournment: Bailey moved to adjourn the meeting. Dohrenwend seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0 aye, with Board members Bailey, Perkins, Hultquist, Dohrenwend and Gould voting aye. The meeting was adjourned at 4:09 PM.