

**CITY OF MOAB**  
**WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 12, 2020**

The 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. An audio recording of the meeting is archived at <http://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html>. A video recording of the meeting is archived at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aq11NTVgljo>.

***Regular Meeting—Call to Order and Attendance:***

Water Board Chair Kara Dohrenwend called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm. In attendance were Water Board Members Kyle Bailey, Jeremy Lynch, Mike Duncan, and Denver Perkins. Water Board Members Arne Hultquist and John Gould were absent. City staff in attendance were Assistant City Manager Carly Castle, Water Superintendent Levi Jones, Assistant Engineer Eric Johanson, and Deputy Recorder Joey Allred.

***Approval of Minutes: November 13, 2019 & January 8, 2020—Approved***

***Discussion:*** Board Chair Dohrenwend mentioned that the word “advice” should be changed to “advise”. Board Member Bailey asked about the City Council minutes from the 1990’s, since he couldn’t find them online.

***Motion:*** Board Member Lynch moved to approve the minutes from November 13, 2019, and January 8, 2020. Board Member Bailey seconded the motion.

***Vote:*** The motion passed 5-0 with Water Board Members Dohrenwend, Bailey, Lynch, Duncan, and Perkins voting aye.

***Citizens to be Heard:***

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

***Board and Staff Reports:***

Board Member Duncan discussed the snowpack level. Board Chair Dohrenwend and Assistant City Manager Castle said that the current level was about 140%. Board Chair Dohrenwend reminded everyone to project and speak clearly into their microphones.

***Nomination and Selection of Board Chair—Approved***

***Motion:*** Board Member Bailey nominated Board Chair Dohrenwend to remain the board chair. Board Member Lynch seconded the motion.

***Vote:*** The motion passed 5-0 with Water Board Members Dohrenwend, Bailey, Lynch, Duncan, and Perkins voting aye.

***Continued Discussion of 2020 Visioning and Goal Setting Workshop***

***Discussion:*** Board Chair Dohrenwend said that the board wants a clear set of tasks to accomplish this year. She said that, after the last meeting, she created a potential list of tasks. Board Member Perkins said the draft mission statement is just a starting point. Board Chair Dohrenwend said it is important to ensure the mission statement is what the Board wants. She said the possible ordinance change needs discussed as well. She provided a brief history of the goals that were outlined in 2018 and then presented the potential tasks for this year’s board. Board Member Duncan said the water conservation report is required by state statute. He said the rest of the tasks are not. He said, based on that information, updating the water conservation report is top priority. Board Chair Dohrenwend said the report needs updated every five years, so it does not need to be completed this year. Assistant City Manager Castle said

the due date is August 2021 to produce a draft for DNR to review. She said that the timeline has been extended, and the report is not technically due until 2022. Board Member Bailey asked if more information has been received from Ken Kolm and if his scope was expanded. Assistant Engineer Johanson said that more information has been received but the report is not finished yet. He said that Kolm is working on Spanish Valley now. Board Member Duncan requested clarification regarding the terms of Kolm's contract. He asked if Phase I of the report describes the geology, Phase II covers the water budget, and Phase III is about source protection zones. Assistant Engineer Johanson said Phase I also includes hydrological systems analysis. He said Phase II includes the water budget and storage calculation. He said Phase III includes source protection and is not complete yet. He said Phase IV includes the water balance budget and storage, and it is an amended addition to the original contract.

Assistant City Manager Castle said that one of the current goals is a water use reduction of 25%, and she does not know if any reduction has occurred. Board Chair Dohrenwend said she was sure there have been reductions. Assistant City Manager Castle said it is doubtful that the reduction amount has reached 25% and it is a good idea to re-examine this goal.

Board Chair Dohrenwend said the board has focused on the supply side of things primarily. She said the board does not have a clear understanding of the delivery side of things. She asked if the current mission statement needs revision. Board Member Bailey said the ordinance needs revised first. He said the scope of this board is more than a water conservation plan. Assistant City Manager Castle said demand management is a huge task that requires specialization and understanding of the community.

Assistant City Manager Castle said that, if Council wants to expand the scope of the ordinance, there are some suggestions for how to proceed. Board Member Perkins said he thought the board was independent and reported to City Council. He said it sounds like the board will be tasked with objectives by City staff instead. Assistant City Manager Castle said the board is not subordinate to anyone, but it is reactive. Board Member Bailey said the board needs to be aligned with Council and staff. Assistant City Manager Castle said it will take one meeting to outline what the board needs to be successful. Board Member Duncan suggested delegating specific parts of the water conservation report to board members for research. He said it is better to focus on educating the Council.

Board Member Perkins said the 2016 report was compiled by very knowledgeable people. Board Chair Dohrenwend said the 2021 report will be the first one compiled by the Water Board, since it did not exist in 2016. Board Vice Chair Lynch inquired about keeping the current mission statement and ordinance so the Board can focus on the objectives and move forward. Board Member Duncan said City staff and the Board need to agree on what is presented to Council, so the Council does not receive conflicting reports. Assistant Engineer Johanson said it is a matter of agreeing on the facts to be presented. Board Chair Dohrenwend said the Board must accept a high level of ambiguity on the supply side of things. She expressed concern that the demand side would be pushed aside as the Board attempts to lessen the ambiguity of the supply side.

Board Member Perkins said the reports from the USGS and Kolm do not match and he suggested acquiring more data from another source. Assistant Engineer Johanson said there is no disparity between the two reports. He said that Kolm is utilizing the USGS report to aid in his report. Assistant Engineer Johanson said that Kolm's report narrows the scope to Moab Valley while the USGS report looked at a larger area.

Assistant City Manager Castle suggested a work plan meeting and a public engagement meeting.

She also suggested inviting stakeholders that worked on the last water conservation plan. She said a couple meetings prior to that will need to include water rate design. Board Member Bailey said the meetings are a little premature until all the reports are complete. Board Chair Dohrenwend expressed agreement with Assistant City Manager Castle regarding the next steps. Board Vice Chair Lynch said he agrees with moving forward to create an agenda plan. Board Member Bailey suggested that the Board requests for City staff come from Assistant City Manager Castle. Board Chair Dohrenwend suggested that City staff and the Board coordinate in their efforts to achieve objectives. She asked City staff if this process would be helpful or create extra work. Water Superintendent Jones said it would be helpful. Assistant Engineer Johanson agreed that it is doable. Board Chair Dohrenwend asked if the strategy to move forward on the water conservation plan is palatable for Board members. Board Vice Chair Lynch said he agrees with moving forward and inquired if the work plan meeting would take place next month. Board Chair Dohrenwend also suggested looking at Council's needs of the Board at the next meeting.

Assistant Engineer Johanson said the Engineering department has discussed storm water detention and green infrastructure. He said the Council wants to see green infrastructure on future projects. He said green infrastructure is very costly in both design and construction, and that the City needs to be more economical at this time.

Board Member Bailey asked if there is a gauge at the chlorination station for how much water goes through it. Water Superintendent Jones said that all water is metered separately for each spring or water source. Board Member Bailey asked if the springs are maintaining their flow in the winter. Water Superintendent Jones said the water flow fluctuates throughout the course of the year. Board Chair Dohrenwend requested data for the spring levels presented as a graph. Board Member Duncan said spring flow is a great observational tool to monitor how full aquifers are. Board Chair Dohrenwend said that topics the Board feels are important need to be brought before City staff in order to be researched and reported on. Assistant City Manager Castle said there appear to be questions regarding source production. Board Chair Dohrenwend asked why the spring level data is not readily available to the Board. She said the sharing of information would help the Board. Water Superintendent Jones said the raw data was provided to Kolm so a graph could be created. He reiterated that the graph was not created by City staff. Assistant Engineer Johanson said the Engineering team has been reviewing the data and it could be possible to present it to the Board.

### ***Discussion and Possible Adoption of Board Priorities for 2020***

This item was not discussed due to time constraints.

***Future Agenda Items:*** Board Chair Dohrenwend said the next meeting will include the work plan for the conservation plan update. She said water standards for hotels or other commercial uses can be discussed as well. She said there will be discussion regarding the Board's information needs and where to acquire the information. She suggested creating a list and presenting to staff what the information needs are. Board Member Lynch said the ordinance was not fully discussed in this meeting, but he does not believe it needs revision. Board Chair Dohrenwend said the ordinance can be revisited two meetings from now. Assistant City Manager Castle said the nomination of the Vice-Chair will be on the next agenda.

***Adjournment:*** Water Board Chair Dohrenwend adjourned the meeting at 4:03 PM.