

CITY OF MOAB
WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2021

The Water Conservation and Drought Management Advisory Board held its regular meeting on the above date. Consistent with provisions of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, Utah Code Ann. §54-2-207(4), the Water Conservation and Drought Management Advisory Board Chair has issued written determinations supporting the decision to convene electronic meetings of the Board without a physical anchor location. Due to the health and safety risks related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and considering public health orders limiting in-person gatherings, the Water Conservation and Drought Management Advisory Board will continue to hold meetings by electronic means. An anchor location was not provided. An audio recording of the meeting is archived at <http://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html>. A video recording is archived at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYf2qxikho4>.

Regular Meeting—Call to Order and Attendance:

Water Board Chair Jeremy Lynch called the meeting to order at 3:04 PM. Participating remotely were Water Board Members Arne Hultquist, Kyle Bailey, Steve Getz, and Kara Dohrenwend. Water Board Member Mike Duncan joined the meeting at 3:37 PM. Water Board Member Eve Tallman was absent. City staff participating remotely were Sustainability Director Mila Dunbar-Irwin, City Engineer Chuck Williams, Public Works Director Levi Jones, Recorder Sommar Johnson, and Deputy Recorder Kerri Kirk.

Written Determination to Conduct Electronic Meetings:

Board Chair Lynch read the written determination into the minutes.

Approval of Minutes: April 14, 2021

Discussion: Board Vice Chair Hultquist said he requested a couple of minor changes to the minutes. There was a discussion about difficulty accessing the minutes for review. Board Member Bailey inquired if he was listed as present on the minutes. City Engineer Williams confirmed that Board Member Bailey was listed as present on the minutes.

Motion: Board Chair Lynch moved to table the minutes. Board Vice Chair Hultquist seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion passed 5-0 with Board Members Hultquist, Lynch, Getz, Dohrenwend, and Bailey voting aye. Board Members Duncan and Tallman were not present for the vote.

Board and Staff Reports:

Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin offered to resend the link for the agenda packet to the Board Members.

City Engineer Williams reported that bids were received for Well #12. He said the bid results will tentatively be on the Council agenda for May 26.

Board Member Bailey reported that Regional Engineer Marc Stilson for the Utah Division of Water Rights was present at the recent County Commission meeting.

Board Vice Chair Hultquist reported there is a MAWP meeting coming up. He said there is a Utah Water Conservation Forum Spring Conference on May 13. He offered to forward a link for the Spring Conference to the Board Members.

Water Conservation Plan Update: Review Outline:

Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin reviewed the checklist of requirements for the water conservation plan. She said the draft of the plan is due by July 15 to the state. She reviewed the water conservation plan outline. There was a discussion about the water quality section of the outline. Board Vice Chair Hultquist offered to draft the water quality section. City Engineer Williams suggested utilizing the USGS report, UDWR, and Kolm's report to draft the water measurement section. There was discussion about system water loss and water use by type. There was a discussion about conservation goals and the metrics from different years.

City Recorder Johnson left the meeting at 3:30 PM. Board Member Duncan joined the meeting at 3:37 PM. He suggested changes to the water conservation goal table. There was a discussion about the amount of Moab senior water rights to the sole source groundwater aquifer. There was a discussion about paper water rights versus wet water rights.

There was a discussion about why water use has decreased in Moab. There was a discussion about potential water conservation measures. There was a discussion about water rates for high water users. Board Vice Chair Hultquist offered to draft the section about the Matheson Wetlands. Board Member Dohrenwend offered to share insight about treating the creeks like ecological systems instead of storm drains.

Water Conservation Plan Update: Discussion of Draft Conservation Policies

Graywater Ordinance: There was a discussion about new commercial developments including graywater systems. Board Member Dohrenwend said the landscape and graywater ordinances need to work together, and there needs to be plenty of education and outreach. Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin said she has discussed both ordinances with the Planning Department and the Southeastern Utah Health Department. She said she would add the Water Board's suggestions to the Graywater Ordinance draft.

Landscape Ordinance: Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin introduced the Landscape Ordinance draft. She said that USU (Utah State University) is not recommending day-of-the-week watering anymore. There was discussion about wind, nighttime watering, leak detection, and moisture meters. There was a discussion about the watering systems for the city parks. Board Member Dohrenwend offered to assist with identifying the right types of landscape species for the Moab area. There was a discussion about education for current development, and requirements for new development.

Adjournment: Board Chair Lynch inquired about future agenda items for June. Board Member Getz said UDWR is going through their adjudication process, and some residents have wells that include residential use, but they are on municipal water. Board Chair Lynch said this discussion item could be added to a future agenda or taken to the MAWP. There was a discussion about UDWR closing the aquifer after the adjudication process, and how that would affect well owners. Board Chair Lynch adjourned the meeting at 5:00 PM.