

**CITY OF MOAB**  
**WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT ADVISORY BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 9, 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=KnY3rVAdOww>.

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

Water Board Chair Jeremy Lynch called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM. Participating remotely were Water Board Members Arne Hultquist, Kyle Bailey, Steve Getz, Mike Duncan, Eve Tallman, and Kara Dohrenwend. City staff participating remotely were Sustainability Director Mila Dunbar-Irwin, 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, and May 10, 2021**

**Discussion:** Board Chair Dohrenwend requested an edit to the April 14 minutes to correct “Utah Department of Agriculture and Food” in Board and Staff Reports to “Utah Conservation District 7”.

**Motion:** Board Vice Chair Hultquist moved to approve both the April and May minutes. Board Member Tallman seconded the motion.

**Vote:** The motion passed 7-0 with Board Members Hultquist, Lynch, Getz, Dohrenwend, Duncan, Tallman, and Bailey voting aye.

**Board and Staff Reports:**

Board Vice Chair Hultquist inquired about reinstating Citizens to be Heard on the agendas for in-person meetings. He requested clarification on how many Water Board members could attend the same MAWP meeting, and the number of Water Board members required for a quorum. Eve said the bylaws suggest that three members equals a quorum, but it still needs to be clarified. Board Member Dohrenwend inquired if the quorum question could be on the next agenda. Board Chair Lynch confirmed it would be on the next agenda, and that Citizens to be Heard would begin again during in-person meetings.

Board Vice Chair Hultquist reported attending a Water Conservation CEU seminar with Public Works Director Jones. He said the seminar discussed localscapes and the Utah Water Watch program. He said one of the USU extension agents will be in touch with the Water Watch group. He said he encourages the city to work with the two new USU extension agents.

Board Member Dohrenwend reported there will be an irrigation workshop at the nursery in affiliation with the community gardens in early July.

Board Vice Chair Hultquist said the Water Watch program is promoting the low-flow toilets. He said Moab residents do not qualify for the \$100 rebate on low-flow toilets, but they are eligible for a rebate on smart water timers.

There was a discussion about Mike potentially becoming the chairman of MAWP after he completes his City Council term this year.

Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin reported meeting with Communications and Engagement Manager Church regarding a public outreach campaign for this year. She said one project includes a fridge mailer with tips for landscaping during a drought. She reported applying for a grant for technical assistance with drafting the landscaping and graywater ordinances. She reported collaborating with the Engineering department to obtain the data for the Water Conservation Plan update. She reported meeting with Public Works Director Jones to discuss ideas to implement the water conservation goals for the future. She said Governor Cox issued a third executive order that increases water restrictions in the state. She said the Water Conservation Plan needs completed before she drafts the landscaping ordinance, which will incorporate USU's research. There was a discussion about the effects of the landscaping ordinance on new development versus current residents. There was a discussion about night watering and the effects of the wind and sun on watering. There was a discussion about landscaping water use versus culinary water use. Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin said another idea is to have a demonstration xeriscape garden, which will be a multi-pronged approach that includes improvements to the landscape at City Hall.

Board Member Dohrenwend reported working on planting techniques to establish plants along the creeks in the areas that are disconnected from the creeks' water table.

#### **[Water Conservation Plan Update: Review Data](#)**

Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin reviewed the preliminary data for the Water Conservation Plan which was compiled by the Engineering department staff. There was a discussion about the reasons for the decrease of potable water use since 2005. There was discussion about the water use at the old Wastewater Treatment Plant versus the new one. There was discussion about water loss from runoff and leaks, and the output data from the springs and wells. There was a discussion about the 2016 Water Conservation Plan compared to the current plan requirements. Board Member Dohrenwend expressed concern about the current plan's deadline and ensuring that Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin has the necessary information to complete the plan.

#### **[Water Conservation Plan Update: Assignments](#)**

Board Chair Lynch inquired about any comments for Board Vice Chair Hultquist's document on the Matheson Wetlands. Board Vice Chair Hultquist said that, if stormwater continues to be pumped straight into the creek, it will entrench it more and lead to a lower groundwater table. Board Chair Lynch said the document on the Matheson Wetlands was well written.

Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin shared her screen to review the topics available for assignments. Board Members agreed to assist in writing particular sections of the plan. The "Intro to Other Considerations" section was separated from the "Ecological Concerns" section. Sustainability Director Dunbar-Irwin requested that the contributions be submitted on July 1. Board Chair Lynch requested that a reminder two weeks prior to the deadline be sent out to the Board Members.

#### **[Future of Water in the Community: Steve](#)**

Board Member Getz gave a presentation about the future of water in the community. There was

discussion about the current demand projection accuracy and wet water rights versus paper water rights. Board Vice Chair Hultquist said the adjudication process would be completed in November. Board Member Getz said the adjudication numbers will need to be reviewed.

**Adjournment:** Board Chair Lynch adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM.