MINUTES OF THE **WORK SESSION** OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRAL UTAH WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024, 11:30 AM AT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, OREM, UTAH.

## TRUSTEES PRESENT

Shelley Brennan, Chair Steve Hanberg Eldon Neves Wayne Andersen, Vice-Chair Max Haslem Jim Riding Jon Bronson Marvin Kenison Jennifer Scott Kirk Christensen Kathy Wood Loveless Randy Vincent Steve Farrell L. Alma Mansell **Brad Wells** Wade E. Garner Greg McPhie

## **STAFF PRESENT**

Gene Shawcroft, General Manager Devin McKrola, Bonneville O&M Manager Lisa Anderson, Board Executive Assistant Robert Moore, Legal Counsel Kirk Beecher, Lands Manager Rachel Musil, Water Rights Manager Jim Brooks, Human Resources Manager Roger Pearson, CUPCA/Special Programs Mgr Derek Bruton, Project Engineer Brad Perkins, Project Engineer Brent Chase, Computer Systems Specialist Mike Rau, Water Quality Manager Heath Clark, Asset Management Manager Bronson Stewart, Controller Dylan Dastrup, Stillwater Area Manager Amanda Strack, Water Conservation Manager Chris Elison, Engineering Manager Sarah Sutherland, Environmental Program Manager Will Garner, Project Engineer Paulette Webster, Contract Administrator Shawn Lambert, CFO Mike Whimpey, Assistant General Manager Cort Lambson, Engineering Manager Cindy Willard, Records Assistant Bart Leeflang, Assistant General Manager Gerard Yates, Deputy General Manager Rick Maloy, Director of Communications

Wayne Andersen, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:46 a.m.

Tyler Harvey, Emergency Manager, shared a report on a tanker truck oil spill on US-40 on January 12, 2024. He reported that over 150 vehicles were stranded along US-40 during a major snowstorm and at 9:00 p.m. US-40 was closed to traffic. Multiple search and rescue units from multiple counties were dispatched to help with rescue efforts and during that time, a report of an overturned tanker truck sinking into Strawberry Reservoir was received. Due to the poor weather conditions, it took several hours to locate the driver and the truck. Tyler stated that the accident occurred at the Soldier Creek Dam turnoff and that the truck tank had ruptured and spilled approximately 11,000 gallons of crude oil approximately 200 yards east of the reservoir. He explained that crude oil solidifies into a wax when it gets cold so it appears that nothing made it into the reservoir, however, continuing mitigation, clean up, and sampling will continue and is anticipated to be complete before spring runoff to avoid adverse impacts to water quality. Tyler stated that Wasatch County has covered all costs.

Shelly Brennan, Chair, joined the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Sarah Sutherland, Environmental Program Manager, and Will Garner, Project Engineer, presented the Water Management Optimization Project Environmental Assessment. Sarah stated that a scoping packet about the project was mailed to the Trustees last week for their review. She reported that prescoping work was completed in November and December 2023 with District stakeholders impacted by the project and now the District is entering a 30-day scoping comment period.

Will stated that this project will allow for CUP deliveries from different reservoirs, and it will allow Provo River Exchanges which will provide greater reliability and resiliency, operational flexibility to allow the District to optimize the water, and to meet NEPA compliance. He explained that the project will not affect any of the contracts for delivery to customers, just where that water may come from through exchanges. In response to a question, Sarah stated that they had presented the information to Mt. Nebo Water Agency and that the users are aware of the project and supportive as it may be of direct benefit. In response to a question, Will stated that no additional piping is needed to complete the project, but one valve needs to be evaluated for flow capabilities.

Bart Leeflang, Assistant General Manager, gave a brief report of the Board Tour which took place in Southern California last week, January 23rd through January 25th. He stated that the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) hosted the tour and took Trustees and staff to see infrastructure and agricultural areas managed by MWD, Palo Verde, Coachella, and Imperial Irrigation Districts to share and obtain a better understanding of the magnitude and number of projects utilizing Colorado River water in California. Bart then invited Trustees who were on the tour to share their thoughts.

Kathy Loveless stated that it was wonderful to see the perspective of how California deals with what Colorado River water we send to them and the difference between how they operate and how our District operates. She also expressed gratitude to be able to spend time associating together outside of Board meetings.

Jon Bronson stated that he didn't know what to expect but his perspective was changed in different areas.

Randy Vincent stated it was very beneficial to see the practices of the entities on how they use the water on irrigation property and was amazed to see 242 miles of open cement-lined canal that pumps 225 cfs 24 hours a day with less than 5% evaporation achieved by the low water temp and constant movement of the water in the canals. He also commented on the difference in technology used by MWD and noted that the CUP is using modern electrical gear and SCADA equipment whereas MWD continues to use panel boxes from the early 1930s with only one panel and motor having been updated from the original equipment. He also noted how the agricultural growers irrigate and fallow their land.

Greg McPhie thanked the District for scheduling it and shared his perspective on how the power supply necessary for one single pump station could power the Heber Valley several times over if fully functioning.

Brad Wells stated that his takeaway was that California was divided on how they could conserve Colorado River water and it isn't an easy fix as they would need to move water from northern California to keep up with their needs in southern California.

There were no committee reports.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Shelley Brennan, Chair

Gene Shawcroft, General Manager