



Our Water. Our Future. Our Choice.

The purposes of the District include planning for and facilitating the long-term conservation, development, protection, distribution, management, and stabilization of water rights and water supplies for domestic, irrigation, power, manufacturing, municipal, recreational, and other beneficial uses, including the natural stream environment, in a cost-effective way to meet the needs of the residents and growing population of Cache County.
www.cachewaterdistrict.com

CACHE WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

June 3, 2024

The Cache Water District Board of Trustees convened for a regular meeting on June 3, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the Cache County Historic Courthouse Council Chambers, 199 North Main Street, Logan, Utah.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:

Mark Anderson – Logan #3 Council District
Jared Clawson – At-Large Position
Kirt Lindley – At-Large Position
Max Pierce – North Council District
Bret Randall – Northeast Council District
Brett Roper – At Large Position
Jeannie Simmonds – Logan #2 Council District
Regan Wheeler – Agricultural Representative

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD EXCUSED:

Jonathan Hardman – South Council District
Jeff Ostermiller - Logan #1 Council District
Beth Neilson – Southeast Council District

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Wayne Wurstbaugh (Bridgerland Audubon)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pierce called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Tonight's agenda and the May 1, 2024 minutes were approved.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Clawson to approve tonight's agenda and the May 1, 2024 meeting minutes as submitted. Motion seconded by Mr. Randall. The motion was approved unanimously (8-0).

Yea: Anderson, Clawson, Lindley, Pierce, Randall, Roper, Simmonds, Wheeler

Absent: Hardman, Ostermiller, Neilson

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Simmonds will review the financials next month.

CALENDAR EVENTS

- Sept. 4 – Bear River Commission Tour
- June 5 – Water Task Force Meeting

MANAGER'S REPORT

Update on PL-566 Applications

Logan River – This project is still moving forward.

Wellsville-Mendon – The public comment period is almost finished (scheduled to close June 13); most comments support the project and are similar to the first round of comments received. The draft EIS will go to NRCS for the initial review.

Porcupine – This proposal will not be moving forward to the study phase, primarily because of the number of PL-566 projects already taking place in Cache Valley. Mr. Randall asked about a snotel site above Porcupine. Mr. Daugs said negotiations with that property owner are still taking place. The site above Clarkston will be located on Forest Service land, and will hopefully be installed this fall; the permitting is almost complete.

Spring Tour Review

Mr. Daugs reported that there was good attendance. The tour started at Second Dam, moved down to the USU Water Research Lab then to the Crockett Diversion and Trapper Park to look at some of the stream restoration that has been done. There were between 30-35 people at various stops. There will be a tour this fall with the Bear River Commission; he will forward the registration information once it is available.

Mr. Daugs and Mr. Wheeler toured the new Lewiston well system. They have a good backup/recovery system to help if one pump goes out. Representatives from Cornish and Trenton were there to see the new system.

Legislative Update

Mr. Daugs said there may be possible funding for some studies (money being turned back in from other projects). Statewide there will be approximately \$20 million for studies and/or shovel-ready projects. He is meeting with Rep. Snyder tomorrow and will ask about the timeline. Ms. Simmonds asked about the type of projects the funding could be used for. Mr. Daugs said it could be for different things. For example, the South Cache Water Users are requesting ownership from the Bureau for Hyrum Reservoir. Currently, the Bureau is only looking at building a new spillway (at the cost of ~\$125+ million) and there could be a need for studies related to that. Mr. Roper said projects that affect the entire County should be one consideration. Mr. Daugs said the use of funding would be discussed and approved at a future time if it becomes available. Ms. Simmonds does not want to exceed the District's current bandwidth.

Ms. Simmonds noted that the audit with Davis & Bott is proceeding. Mr. Wheeler said audit costs would be less if PL-566 projects were not run through CWD and asked if was fair to use tax money to pay for the audit. Mr. Daugs said because CWD is only the sponsor, we can only be reimbursed for the hours spent processing the paperwork. Mr. Lindley asked what the difference in the audit costs would be; Ms. Simmonds said it is at least 50% higher because of all the funding run through the District. Mr. Lindley asked why the PL-566 entities cannot pay some of the cost. Mr. Daugs said those costs were not included in the original grant. Ms. Simmonds said there needs to be some financial reimbursement for the responsibility of CWD being the sponsor of these types of grants. Mr. Clawson said it is part of CWD's mission to help facilitate these types of projects. Ms. Simmonds agreed but also noted that this makes the audit cost more. Chairman Pierce said the District continues to learn. Mr. Wheeler said there is quite a bit of money flowing through the District, and assurance is needed to ensure that it is being handled appropriately. Ms. Simmonds is unsure how to effectively communicate what is being done and how it improves water issues in Cache Valley. Chairman Pierce said a workshop could be scheduled to discuss what the projects are and what benefits they have to the valley as a whole. Mr. Roper said most of them will have long-term benefits and values. Chairman Pierce would like to see a written narrative of what is happening. Mr. Roper said the District needs to develop a rationale for how projects are accepted and a better understanding of the overall outcomes of each one. Mr. Randall noted that representatives on the Board are from all over the County so each locale might be different and have unique needs. Some projects may benefit a particular area more than another, but overall, the valley benefits. Having a project that benefits the entire community might be unrealistic. Ms. Simmonds said every member should be able to communicate what the benefits are and how different projects meet the District's mission statement. Chairman Pierce would like to schedule another workshop for this fall.

CENTRAL UTAH WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT OUTREACH PRESENTATION

Monica Hoyt presented (see [-Attachment 1-](#)).

The Board said this is a good time to have this information as a new Outreach & Education position is being considered. Ms. Hoyt pointed out in her presentation that education is a generational investment; the dividends may not be seen for years to come.

Mr. Randall asked what can be done to better educate cities that consider water as a revenue source. Ms. Hoyt said this is not an easy issue to manage, the goal is that over time cities will recognize that water infrastructure is important and being proactive is important.

Ms. Simmonds asked how to talk about the value of water districts to the broader community. Ms. Hoyt said the key is redundancy – to educate people to look at the bigger picture. The job of a water district is to determine “how to benefit the most” by having a long-term vision. Discussing how the district is planning for future generations, what will help with sustainable growth, and how to use limited resources, is an important component.

Chairman Pierce asked how to educate people that the District is helping the entire community. Ms. Hoyt said counties are comprised of smaller pieces, it is important to take the time to teach that each community has different needs and the District tries to determine what is best for the entire community.

OTHER

Mr. Daus distributed a copy of the draft job description for the Education & Outreach Coordinator. Ms. Simmonds questioned why Forest Management expertise is being required. Mr. Daus said that is likely the result of a copy and paste from another description. Mr. Roper said it needs to be clear that this position may eventually change from a remote to an in-person role. Chairman Pierce said he does not want the position to be separated from the manager; Mr. Daus said there is no office space available right now. Mr. Anderson likes the idea of promoting opportunities to work together as a bigger community. This role can be vital in education. Mr. Daus said it is important to get the message of the CWD out to the entire community.

Mr. Daus will make some changes and add this discussion to the next agenda.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Water: More Precious Than Rubies



Monica Hoyt
June 1, 2024



Our Mission

The mission of INL's K-12 Education Enrichment Programs is to inspire Idaho's future STEM workforce, impact students, teachers and families by integrating best practices in STEM education and empower employees to ensure STEM readiness to transform K-12 Education Enrichment into a driver for innovation.



Typical Wholesaler Communications

- *"We don't have customers"*
- *"Just trust us – we know what we are doing"*
for 60+ years
- Unknown to taxpayers who pay property taxes to the District
- Except when we were raising taxes



Ruby - \$200 per carat

Diamond - \$2,000 per carat



What story have we told about water?



Soft Infrastructure

- Invest in storytelling
- Adults the unicorns of outreach
- Focus on kids



Be Where The People Are

Libraries, City Festivals,
Movies in the Park...

- AWWA Water Week (May)
- Water Festivals
- STEM Storytimes
- Leak Hunters



Teach the Teacher Model

7 counties – 2 educators

- Curriculum
- Aligned to Utah SEEd Education Standards



69 Curriculum

- Coloring Sheets
- Activity Sheets
- Songs
- Flood Frequency
- Infrastructure
- Colorado River, Utah Lake, GSL
- Engineering
- Chemistry
- Weather
- Gamification
- Water Rights
- Careers
- Videos



People will not conserve
what they do not value

CUWCD.gov/Education