



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Kimberly D. Shelley
Executive Director

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
Nathan Lunstad, Ph.D., P.E.
Director

Drinking Water Board
Kristi Bell, Chair
Eric Franson, P.E., Vice-Chair
Dawn Ramsey
Justin Maughan
Corinna Harris
Jeff Coombs
Shazelle Terry
Blake Tullis, Ph.D.
Kimberly D. Shelley
Nathan Lunstad Ph.D.
Executive Secretary

SUPPLEMENTAL DRINKING WATER BOARD MEETING

September 24, 3:00 PM

Via Zoom Webinar

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Kristi Bell, Chair, called the Drinking Water Board (Board, DWB) meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

2. Roll Call – Nathan Lunstad

Board Members present at Roll Call: Krisi Bell, Eric Franson, Corinna Harris, Blake Tullis, Jeff Coombs, Shazelle Terry, Justin Maughan.

3. Disclosure for Conflict of Interest

Eric Franson has a conflict due to working with Helper City and will refrain from voting. The Board agreed that Eric Franson could provide input on the topic.

4. Financial Assistance Committee Report

- A. SRF Applications
 - i. Helper City Additional Funding Request - Allyson Spevak

Representing Helper City was Mayor Linise Peterman, and Lauren Ploeger, engineer.

Allyson Spevak presented the Helper City additional funding request. Project details can be found in the Drinking Water Board Packet.

Drinking Water Staff recommends that the Drinking Water Board authorize a loan of \$2,412,000 for 39 years at 0% interest and a grant of \$300,000 to Helper City.

Mayor Peterman mentioned that Helper City is working to complete the replacement of their transmission line, which brings water from the Scofield area down Highway 6 into Helper. They are aiming to complete the entire project rather than approaching it in stages.

Board Discussion

Justin Maughan asked for clarification on the original grant amount, the initial project scope, and any components that were removed. He noted that the well rehabilitation was excluded and asked if the remaining scope would be covered with the current funding.

Lauren Ploeger clarified that the well in question is owned by Price, not Helper. Initially, there were plans to rehabilitate the well pump, but this was removed since Price owns the well. The current project includes Helper's connection to that well, new valving, and a new pipeline from the well to the transmission line. The actual pump will remain unchanged. Additionally, the storage tanks have already been completed.

Justin also inquired about the meter replacements and SCADA system. Lauren responded that the SCADA system is nearing completion, with a few remaining meters to be installed at the Colton well and at the interconnect.

Shazelle Terry asked if the well is currently operational and if Price plans to rehabilitate it, given that it will support Helper's needs. Lauren confirmed that the well is operational and currently only used by Helper. Originally owned by PacifiCorp, both Helper and Price had agreements to use it as needed. Price has since purchased the well, and Helper now has an agreement with Price for its use.

Corinna Harris asked if the well would eventually need rehabilitation. Eric Franson clarified that while future rehab could enhance yield, it's unnecessary for this project. Helper City is also seeking Bureau of Reclamation funds for an independent water source, and the well currently meets their needs. Lauren added that this project, by increasing the connection pipeline size, will eliminate the need for a booster pump to handle the local topography.

Kristi Bell asked about the additional funding requirements, specifically for purchasing water and a potential railroad crossing. She wanted to know if these represent a significant portion of the additional funding and what would happen if they weren't needed. She also questioned the impact of the loan-to-grant ratio difference (an additional 65 cents per month in Option 1 vs. Option 2) given the large amount already granted.

Lauren Ploeger explained that an interconnect was added based on a recommendation from the regional engineer, allowing Helper or Price to access water if a source issue arises. Helper may also need to buy water temporarily if existing lines can't stay in service during replacement due to space constraints. She confirmed the necessity of these funds. Eric Franson added that Mayor Peterman has initiated water rate increases in Helper and that the 70/30 grant-to-loan split, consistent with past Board decisions, would help manage the additional debt with minimal impact on residents' bills.

Justin Maughan made the motion that the Drinking Water Board authorize a loan of \$2,412,000 for 39 years at 0% interest and a grant of \$300,000 to Helper City. Shazelle Terry seconded. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

Eric Franson abstained from voting.

5. Public Comment Period

None.

6. Open Board Discussion

7. Other

None.

8. Next Board Meeting

Date: November 12, 2024
Time: 1:00 PM
Place: Carbon County Commission
751 East 100 North Price
Price, UT 84501

9. Adjourn

- Eric Franson moved to adjourn the meeting. Corinna Harris seconded. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.