

UTAH BOARD OF WATER RESOURCES

BOARD BRIEFING MEETING

August 21, 2025

10:00 AM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Mike Davis

Vice Chair Dana Van Horn

William Merkley

Blaine Ipson

Spencer Jones (online)

Juliette Tennert

Brian Steed

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED

Tim Hawkes

STAFF PRESENT

Director Candice Hasenyager

Deputy Director Joel Williams

Assistant Director Shalaine DeBernardi

Assistant Director Todd Stonely

Marisa Egbert

Tom Cox

Ben Marett

Ethan Stayner

Ann Baynard (on-line)

Brad Caldwell

Eric Dixon

Shannon Clough

Jessica Cheun

Sarah Shechter, Attorney General's Office

AV Team Carmen McDonald & Seth Magers

OTHERS

Edward Mueller, Deputy State Water Agent

WELCOME

CHAIR MIKE DAVIS called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. He then excused board member TIM HAWKES from this meeting, and all board members present and online introduced themselves.

CANDICE HASENYAGER introduced the staff present.

DISCUSSION OF BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

<u>Project #</u>	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Project Manager</u>
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FEASIBILITY REPORTS:

RE499 Lake Creek Irrigation Company		Wasatch	Ben Marett
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BEN MARETT summarized the project report.

DANA VAN HORN asked why the interest rates are different for agriculture versus the secondary.

SHALAINE DEBERNARDI explained that the board guidelines specify the interest rates for different uses and secondary is considered a municipal use, so we use the municipal rate. The Board guidelines are what dictate that we have 1% for agriculture projects and a higher variable rate for municipal projects.

COMMITTAL OF FUNDS:

RE472 Davis & Weber Counties Canal Company		Davis	Tom Cox
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TOM COX summarized the project report.

BRIAN STEED AND JULIETTE TENNERT have joined the meeting. (10:14 AM)

RE495 Co-op Farm Irrigation Company		Weber	Ethan Stayner
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ETHAN STAYNER summarized the project report.

WILLIAM MERKLEY asked if this was presented to UDAF, the water optimization group, as a phased project in order to get two separate water optimization grants?

CANDICE HASENYAGER suggested asking Tony Richards at UDAF to get an answer before the board meeting.

RE496 Huntsville South Bench Canal Company

Weber

Bradley Caldwell

BRADLEY CALDWELL summarized the project report.

NEW APPLICATIONS:

RE500 Smithfield Irrigation Company

Cache

Ann Baynard

RE501 Cache Highline Water Association

Cache

Bradley Caldwell

SECONDARY METER ARPA GRANT RETURNED FUND:

SHALAINE DEBERNARDI will be asking the board to set a fifth application period of September 8, 2025 through October 10, 2025.

LAKE POWELL PIPELINE UPDATE AND CONTRACT AMENDMENT REQUESTS:

ERIC DIXON as you know, the Colorado River issues and their associated deadlines continue to be a significant focus, especially with the potential for federal intervention. So water conservation and reuse remain top priorities for the area. I will provide a more detailed update during the board meeting, but the most pressing item is that we have two contract extensions set to expire. We propose extending both contracts for an additional two years, so we will be requesting a motion at the board meeting to approve these two-year contract extensions.

GREEN RIVER BLOCK-THIRD PARTY CONTRACT:

SARAH SCHECTER, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL provided information to the board regarding the history of the water rights that are separated into the Green River block and Lake Powell Pipeline block, and how change applications of Green River block water trigger the need for a contract between the board and a third party. Kent Raim acquired a segregated portion of the assigned water right from Uintah Water Conservancy District and applied to the Colorado River Authority to use this water right as part of the Demand Management Pilot Program. Mr. Raim is required to file a fixed-time change application to participate in the program. She is recommending the board approve the Third Party Contract as to form. We'll have an updated motion for the board meeting.

INFORMATION TO THE BOARD:

STATUS OF FUNDS:

SHALAIN DEBERNARDI presented the Status of Funds. There was a board discussion about dam safety funds and Joe's Valley Dam in particular.

UPDATE ON GREAT SALT LAKE LITIGATION:

SARAH SHECHTER, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL presented the update.

SHALAIN DEBERNARDI discussed the tour, upcoming Board Meetings and what schedule is preferred going forward. The Board agreed that Thursdays are good, and mornings would work better than doing them later in the afternoons.

MARISA EGBERT updated the board about unused ARPA funds, projects that are not moving forward and how staff may handle those in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT:

BLAINE IPSON moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 AM. BRIAN STEED seconded the motion.