



State of Utah

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Department of Environmental Quality

Tim Davis
Commissioner

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

Drinking Water Board
Justin Maughan, Chair
Blake Tullis, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Corinna Harris
Shazelle Terry
Phil Bondurant, Dr.PH, LEHS
Jason Luettinger, P.E.
Hollie McKinney
Tim Davis
Nathan Lunstad, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary

DRINKING WATER BOARD MEETING

August 25, 2026 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Via Zoom Webinar & In Person:
Multi-Agency State Office Building
195 North 1950 West Rm 1015
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Nathan Lunstad Cell # 385-239-5974

MINUTES - DRAFT

1. Call to Order

Justin Maughan, called the Drinking Water Board (Board, DWB) meeting to order at 1:08 PM.

2. Roll Call – Nathan Lunstad

Board Members present at Roll Call: Justin Maughan, Corinna Harris, Shazelle Terry, Jason Luettinger, Blake Tullis, and Hollie McKinney. Tim Davis and Philip Bondurant joined at 2:03 pm.

Division of Drinking Water (DDW, Division) Staff Present: Steph Alpizar, Chris Ledding, Jessica Fitzgerald, Kcris Hunter, Michelle Deras, Ken Hoffman, Allyson Spevak, Russell Seeley, Kjori Shelley, Helen Lau, Colt Smith, Sarah Romero, Sarah Page, Michael Newberry, Brian Pattee, Heather Pattee, Mark Berger, John Steffan, Tom McOmie, Rebecca Yoo, Ryan Dearing, Dylan Martinez, Rebekah Brown, and Atie Amirgol.

Other Attendees: Shannon Rasmussen, Jake Wood, Janell Braithwrite, Dale Pierson, Marisa Heiling, Lenise Peterman, Lauren Ploeger, Monte Hawkins, and Parker Vercimak.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes June 30, 2026

- Hollie McKinney moved to approve the Drinking Water Board meeting minutes on June 30, 2026. Jason Luettinger seconded. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

4. Disclosure for Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest

5. Directors Report – Nathan Lunstad

A. Enforcement Report (Board Packet Item Only)

The Enforcement Report can be found in the Drinking Water Board Packet

Nathan Lunstad briefed the Board on several Division updates.

Thanks to Utah Water Operators

Nathan Lunstad expressed gratitude to Utah water operators, division staff, and technical assistance providers for their dedication during a demanding emergency response season. Communities across the state have faced intense pressures from wildfires (Cottonwood, Babylon, Wild Mouth 2), post-fire flooding, mudslides, persistent drought, and cybersecurity threats. Lunstad highlighted emergency repairs in Beaver, Junction, Meadow, Tropic, and Elk Meadows, and thanked the Rural Water Association of Utah (RWAU) for their partnership.

Local Water Cybersecurity Grant Program

Lunstad mentioned that the Utah State Legislature approved this funding. DDW staff will be working with local communities to help them apply for funding.

6. Rural Water Association Report – Shannon Rasmussen and Jake Wood

Shannon Rasmussen provided an update on RWAU activities, noting approximately 20 emergency response incidents handled between June and July. Jake Wood presented details on the emergency waterline repairs in Beaver City following flash floods and wildfire scar runoff. RWAU also highlighted upcoming training workshops and the fall conference in Layton.

7. Rule Changes

A. R309-400 Water System Rating Criteria (Improvement Priority System) - Colt Smith R309-520 Facility Design and Operation (Disinfection) – Rebecca Yu

Colt Smith presented the repeal and reenactment of the Improvement Priority Systems (IPS) Rule.

- Justin Maughan motioned that the Board approve R309-400. Seconded by Jason Luettinger. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

Rebecca Yu presented proposed amendments (repeal and replace) to improve organization, clarify ambiguous language, and incorporate disinfection rules from other sections.

Board Discussion

Jason Luettinger asked for an explanation of the one-time capital costs to the water systems that this rule might affect. Yoo explained that it depends on each water system, some will be affected for certain items, while others may not. Luettinger confirmed that the costs of \$197 to \$352 are

cumulative over all the water systems that would be impacted. Yoo confirmed that was correct. Justin Maughan asked for clarification on whether that is a continuous cost, Yoo confirmed it is a one-time cost, not continuous.

- Jason Luettinger moved to approve the request to begin rulemaking for R309-520. Seconded by Corinna Harris. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

B. Adoption of R309-210-1 through R309-210-6, Distribution System Monitoring Requirements, R309-110-4 Definitions, and R309-200-5 Drinking Water Standards. - Sarah Romero

Sarah Romero presented final adoption for EPA primacy alignment regarding lead and copper rule improvements, effective September 1, 2026.

- Shazelle Terry moved to adopt the amendments to R309-210, R309-110, and R309-200. Seconded by Jason Luettinger. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

8. Financial Assistance Committee Report

A. Status Report and Cash Flow – Chris Ledding

Chris Ledding, DDW Financial Manager, provided an overview of the Status Report and Cash Flow included in the packet. This report covers various financial aspects such as Federal State Revolving Fund (SRF), American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Authorized Projects, Lead Service Line, Emerging Contaminants, and State Revolving Fund (SRF).

Chris highlighted that the current SRF funds remaining are about \$39 million of regular funding and \$10.4 million for Hardship.

The ARPA Funds remaining that need to be obligated are down to \$28,447. The current unspent balance is now only \$4 million.

The remaining Federal Lead Service Line funding is \$16.9 million

The remaining Federal Emerging Contaminants funding is \$23.6 million.

The remaining State Drinking Water Funding is \$3 million for State and \$7 million for Hardship.

B. Project Priority List – Ken Hoffman

Ken Hoffman reported there are no new projects being added to the Project Priority list.

C. SRF Applications

i. Federal

a. Helper City - Scope of Work Addition - Allyson Spevak

Representing Helper City were Lenise Peterman and Lauren Ploeger.

Allyson Spevak presented Helper City's financial assistance request. Project details can be found in the Drinking Water Board Packet.

Board Discussion

Jason Luettinger asked if the remaining funds are due to final costs coming in under what was projected. Allyson Spevak confirmed this was correct. Jason asked if the added projects are related to the original work. Allyson clarified that it is to improve on the project even further than what was originally planned.

Corinna Harris asked what the remaining funds are. Allyson stated it is \$443,000, and a little bit more remaining that they're going to be using on their asset management plan and their master plan, which is already in process.

- Mayor Hollie McKinney moved to authorize the use of \$443,000 in remaining DWSRF construction project funding related to Helper's AMI meters, SCADA system, flow meters and tank security fencing. Seconded by Shazelle Terry. The motion passed unanimously.

ii. State

a. Beaver City - Emergency funding - Heather Pattee

Representing Beaver City were Monte Hawkins and Parker Vercimak.

Heather Pattee presented Beaver City's financial assistance request. Project details can be found in the Drinking Water Board Packet.

Board Discussion

Justin Maughan asked if the funds would cover the costs of Phase I and II. Heather clarified that it would only cover costs for Phase I. She also explained that Phase II will go to the DW SRF staff and Phase III will come back to the Board for review and authorization. Justin asked how long water service was down for the community. Parker Vercimak explained it was down for 3-4 days for some.

- Justin Maughan moved to authorize a grant of \$196,000 from the State Hardship Grant Fund to Beaver City. Seconded by Corinna Harris. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

III. ARPA

a. Authorization for any remaining funding - Ken Hoffman

Staff recommends the Drinking Water Board: motion the Executive Secretary or Assistant Executive Secretary may deauthorize unspent ARPA funds on October 1, 2026 and reallocate these ARPA funds under the special conditions noted in the Board packet.

Special Conditions

1. 1. Reallocated ARPA funds may only be utilized for early repayment of the Water

2. Systems previously closed DWSRF loan,
3. 2. Green Hills Water & Sewer District shall be authorized for 25% of reallocated funds,
4. funds,
5. 2. Levan Town shall be authorized for 25% of reallocated funds,
6. 3. Leeds Domestic Water Users Association shall be authorized for 25% of reallocated funds, and
7. reallocated funds, and
8. 4. Pine Valley Mountain Farms shall be authorized for 25% of reallocated funds.

Board Discussion

Jason Luettinger asked how those four projects were selected. Ken Hoffman stated that the SRF team spent a lot of time discussing and determining which projects would be a best fit in order to get the funds spent before the deadline. Justin Maughan asked for the approximate amount of funds. Ken stated it is about \$400,000. Corinna Harris asked how much ARPA funding is still needing to be spent, Ken stated between \$100,000 and \$400,000.

Nathan Lunstad advised the Board that this proposal would benefit the Division, SRF team, and community by ensuring we would not have to send back any Federal funds. Corinna Harris asked if the ARPA funds could be used for cybersecurity needs. Ken replied that there is not enough time to utilize the funds for new or upcoming projects.

- Corinna Harris moved to authorize the Executive Secretary or Assistant Executive Secretary to deauthorize unspent ARPA funds on October 1st, 2026, and reallocate them under the specified conditions. Seconded by Blake Tullis. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

9. Water Cybersecurity Grant Program Approval - Nathan Lunstad and Division of Technology Services (DTS) Staff

Nathan Lunstad and Tom McComy, alongside representatives from the DTS Utah Cyber Center, Debbie Johnson and Ken Wheeler presented the matching grant program established under House Bill 3 (\$1.5 million appropriated) to strengthen cybersecurity resilience for public water systems. Further details can be found in the Drinking Water Board Packet.

Board Discussion

Justin Maughan asked if detailed information on how to apply can be found on the website. Nathan Lunstad confirmed it can be. Hollie McKinney expressed concern for smaller and disadvantaged water systems that may not qualify due to the use of the State MAGI or have the support to apply for this grant and asked staff to explain how those smaller systems will be supported through this program. Nathan clarified that this program is specifically targeted to help the small and disadvantaged communities the most. Debbie Johnson explained that the match percentage will be decided on a case-by-case basis. Small communities could potentially pay only a 1% match for the cost and could receive up to \$20,000 in supporting funds. Nathan expounded to say they will advertise with specifications that all systems should apply and reach out for DW and DTS support during the process, as the qualifications are flexible and intended to specifically support the small and disadvantaged communities.

Justin Maughan asked for Ken Hoffman's input in being able to have flexibility with the grant program requirements. Hoffman replied that since the money is funded by the State Legislature, not the Federal Government, they should have discretionary space to prioritize systems in need if they're able to find proof to justify it.

Hollie McKinney suggested changing the qualification verbiage to state that systems under 10,000 people would qualify. Hoffman agreed and gave some additional verbiage suggestions. Commissioner Davis added encouragement for DW and DTS staff to ensure the outgoing messaging is reaching the intended audience. Debbie Johnson clarified that they have also been sending out a link with direct access to the application. Hollie asked staff exactly how they would support a smaller system. Tom McOmie acknowledged that some systems that have reached out are not sure how to use the funding. He advises all systems to reach out to the Utah Cyber Center staff, as they can help the systems decide what they need to update their system and how to apply.

Shazelle Terry asked if the link is to a website or a form. Debbie Johnson replied she is not sure. Shazelle suggested having a website landing page with helpful information as well. Debbie replied that they can add it to their pre-existing website. Nathan Lunstad added that DW can also add it to their website. Nathan stated that if needed, they can bring this back to the board in order to adjust the criteria and improve it as they learn from the applicants.

Phil Bondurant asked for clarification on verbiage, Nathan Lunstad stated it was a typo. Justin Maughan suggested the verbiage be changed for the motion, the Board agreed. Tom McOmie mentioned additional resources for small and disadvantaged systems, including National Rural Water WWC, Justin shared an anecdote about Nibley City utilizing their resources with success in the past. Jason Luettinger asked for clarification that any public water system can apply for these funds. Tom replied in the affirmative but expounded that because it is only \$1.5 million, they are prioritizing advertising to smaller and disadvantaged systems. Nathan added that it is not for (non)transient.

- Phil Bondurant moved that the Drinking Water Board authorize the staff recommendation for the Utah Cyber Center and Division of Drinking Water's grant application process and hardship determination criteria. Seconded by Jason Luettinger. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

10. Public Comment Period

None.

11. Drinking Water Board Training - Marisa Heiling

- A. Open and Public Meetings Act

12. Open Board Discussion

13. Other

14. Next Board Meeting

Date: November 3, 2026
Time: 1:00 - 4:00 pm MST
Place: Multi-Agency State Office Building
195 North 1950 West Rm 1015
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

15. Adjourn

- Jason Luettinger moved to adjourn the meeting. Justin Maughan seconded. The motion was carried unanimously by the Board.

The Meeting adjourned at 2:57 pm MST.