

# GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 22, 2015 - 12 Noon  
Garden City Office Complex - North Building  
305 West Logan Road (U.S. 89) in Garden City, Utah

## MINUTES

### PRESENT

County Executive Craig Buttaris  
Commissioner Bill Cox  
Council Member Val Potter  
Commissioner Jeff Scott  
Mayor John Spuhler

Commissioner Stan Summers  
Commissioner Norm Weston  
Mayor Sim Weston  
Commissioner Tom Weston  
Council Member Cory Yeates

### EXCUSED

Commissioner Jeff Hadfield  
Mayor Craig Petersen

Mayor Tyler Vincent

### BRAG STAFF PRESENT

Roger Jones  
Zac Covington

Dolores Berkley

### OTHERS PRESENT

Sandy Kester  
Mitch Poulsen  
Niel Allen  
Kelly Kopp  
Darrell Rothlisberger  
Robert Gillies  
Alfonso Torres  
Joanna Endter-Wada  
Larry Rupp

Senator Orrin Hatch's Office  
Bear Lake Regional Commission  
Utah State University-Extension  
Utah State University-Extension  
Utah State University-Extension for Rich County  
Utah State University-Climate Center  
Utah State University-Utah Water Lab  
Utah State University  
Utah State University

### WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND MINUTES

Council Member Val Potter, Chairman, welcomed everyone to Rich County and Garden City. Introductions were made. Potter asked if there were any changes or additions to today's agenda or the minutes of May 27, 2015. Council Member Cory Yeates **MOVED** to approve; Commissioner Tom Weston **SECONDED** and the motion **PASSED** unanimously.

### MANAGING THE DROUGHT - TOOLS FROM USU

- Darrell Rothlisberger, USU Rich County Extension Agent, provided an overview of extension in Rich County as follows:
  - Programs include: 4H, Healthy Living, STEM, The Maker (Creativity)

- Funding needed for show ring and county fairgrounds, new extension building
- 25,000 cattle in Rich County

USU Extension Team members provided information as follows:

- Kelly Kopp, Extension Water Conservation and Turfgrass Specialist, provided a *power point* presentation: *Managing for Drought and Water Scarcity* describing water programs in order to preserve for the future; Utah has the chance to be ahead in the western states. Other topics:
  - USU's Center for Water Efficient Landscaping
  - Utah's Water Check Program that is now in its 14<sup>th</sup> year.
- Joanna Endter-Wada, Ph.D. talked about Water Management Analysis and Planning Software.
- Niel Allen, Extension Irrigation Specialist reviewed Agriculture Water Management; Water Use in Box Elder, Cache, and Rich Counties; Water Management; Irrigation Management.
- Alfonso Torres, Utah Water Research Lab (UWRL) Research Engineer, AggieAir ([www.aggieair.usu.edu](http://www.aggieair.usu.edu)) provided an overview of precision agriculture and agriculture using satellite data.
- Robert Gillies, State Climatologist for Utah Climate Center, provided information about climate change, climate variability and water. UCC conducts climate research around the world.
- Nancy Mesner, Extension Water Quality Specialist, was not in attendance; however information was provided about water quality and the many resources and programs for all audiences ([www.extension.usu.edu/waterquality](http://www.extension.usu.edu/waterquality)).
- Larry Rupp, Extension Landscape Horticulture Specialist, reviewed water conservation programs in landscape horticulture.

Very nicely done brochures were provided to the Board and others for their information. The floor was then opened for any questions about any of the above topics. Questions were asked by Jones, Buttars, and Spuhler.

Chair Val Potter complimented all members of the USU team for all the great information.

### **STATEWIDE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

Roger Jones distributed copies of the Statewide Water Infrastructure Plan. In 2013, Governor Herbert met with water managers to discuss logistics of supplying water to the six million people who are projected to live in Utah by 2060, double the current population. Highlights include: Origin of Data, the Plan, Estimated Statewide Costs, Cost Summary;

information specific to the Bear River Basin and other water basins in the State. (See brochure)

### **THE VALUE OF WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICTS**

Box Elder County Commissioner Jeff Scott talked about the value of the Bear River Water Conservancy District and provided a *power point* presentation about the district which owns and operates five separate water systems supplying culinary water to municipalities, private water companies, and retail developments-Bothwell, Harper Ward, Beaver Dam, Collinston and South Willard.

Cache County Executive Craig Buttars distributed information about Cache County's Water Master Plan. Topics that were included: Introduction, Bear River Allocation and Map; Map of the Bear River Development by the State; District Purpose, and District Benefits. Cache County is blessed with water and we have a responsibility to be good stewards of our water. Water is critical to our county now and will be more so in the future.

### **RICH COUNTY ISSUES**

Commissioner Norm Weston and other officials from Rich County talked about the opportunities and challenges facing the County.

- Tragic boating accident that happened on Bear Lake
- Volunteer only fire department, emergency services and related liability
- Tourism-turnouts for parking
- Taxes-Sales tax, gas tax, fast food resort tax
- PAL tax in Garden City (Mayor Spuhler)
- Water for grazing areas
- The need for a gun range (Commissioner Tom Weston)
- Deer/Horse fly problem (Commissioner Cox)

People just want stuff solved!

### **FUNDING FOR REGIONAL/COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING**

Roger Jones talked about the funding for the regional County Resource Management Plans. HB 323 amends the Utah State Code Title 17 requiring counties to include resource management plans in general plans "as a basis for communicating and coordinating with the federal government on land and resource management issues." See outline of what the Resource Management Plans must contain, etc. Each County must have their plans submitted to the State by July 2016 according to HB 323. Jones said the timeline may be extended. The Community Impact Board has allocated funding to each AOG in the State, \$150,000 to BRAG, to gather data and conduct regional resource management planning.

Roger Jones complimented BRAG's outstanding Community and Regional Planning Staff. Information was provided on each member of the staff—Brian Carver, Zac Covington, Landon Profaizer, Zach Maughan, and Bryan Wilson. BRAG Planning Services for 2014/2015 were outlined in a handout.

Jones introduced Zac Covington who was in attendance at the meeting. The statewide map and data for the Resource Management Plans were exceptional and compiled by Zac.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 and all were invited for Bear Lake's Famous Raspberry Shakes at the Chevron station.