



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 December 5, 2022

The Cache Water District Board of Trustees convened for a regular meeting on Dec. 5, 2022, 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:

Scott Clark - Logan #2 Council District
Shaun Dustin – Southeast Council District
Jonathan Hardman – South Council District
Max Pierce – North Council District
Bret Randall – Northeast Council District
Brett Roper – At Large Position
Jeannie Simmonds – Logan #1 Council District
Regan Wheeler – Agricultural Representative

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD EXCUSED:

Jared Clawson – At-Large Position
Kirt Lindley – At-Large Position
Herm Olsen – Logan #3 Council District

ATTENDANCE:

Mike Wilson, Chris Slater, Eric Franson, Jaimi Butler, Chad Brown

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hardman called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Consideration for the minutes from November 7, 2022, and the current meeting agenda with a change on the agenda from Rep. Casey Snider to Senator Chris Wilson for the legislative update section.

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Dustin to approve the agenda and the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Clark. The motion was approved unanimously (8-0).

Yea: Clark, Dustin, Hardman, Pierce, Randall, Roper Simmonds, Wheeler

Absent: Clawson, Lindley, Olsen

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

FINANCIAL REPORT

- [See Attachment 1](#) -

Ms. Simmonds reviewed the monthly report and explained that some of the grant(s) income comes in at different times so there are times that they do not align (e.g. some funds are expended before reimbursement is received). Other than that, all accounts are doing well and within budget. Mr. Randall suggested leaving the budget open until all receivables come in (as many cities do). The Board agreed that this would be a wise option.

2023 BUDGET

- [See Attachment 2](#) -

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Randall to approve the proposed 2023 Budget. Seconded by Mr. Dustin. The motion was approved (8-0).

Yea: Clark, Dustin, Hardman, Pierce, Randall, Roper Simmonds, Wheeler

Absent: Clawson, Lindley, Olsen

CALENDAR EVENTS

- Dec. 7 – Bear River Watershed Council @ 2:00 p.m.
- Dec. 9 – Ag Water Optimization @ 10:00 a.m.
- Dec. 14 – Utah Water Task Force @ 1:30 p.m.
- Dec. 19 – APO Mtgs @ 5:30 (Water Purchases & Delivery Efficiencies)

MANAGER'S REPORT

PL-566 PROJECT UPDATES

No new status updates, still waiting for funding for Logan River and Wellsville/Mendon to begin the EIS.

BENEFITS OF BEAR RIVER UPDATE

Most of the funding has been committed. The RFP went out last week with a deadline of January 6, 2023. The goal is to have the draft completed by October with a final report by November. Mr. Randall pointed out that it would be helpful if the information could come out earlier (for legislative information). Mr. Daus said the deadlines can certainly be discussed and adjusted if financially possible when a contract is awarded.

APO REPORT

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE/REVIEW 2023 – Senator Chris Wilson

Senator Wilson thanked the Board for their service to the community. Water is a high priority for the senate. There have been no extensive debates on which direction the legislature will be headed. There will be some meetings in December and January (prior to the session). He is not aware of any specific water bills/issues that are on the table at this time. He serves on the Senate Revenue & Taxation Committee and understands the importance of the funding needed to help pay for projects. He has had conversations with Mr. Daugs about the Water District's concerns and will keep him apprised of what goes on during the session. Water needs to be treated as the precious commodity that it is, especially with the growth in Cache County and he is happy to work with the District.

Mr. Daugs asked if there was any language out yet on the Bear Lake Preservation bill; Senator Wilson said there is not, they are working with Idaho (which is where the land is).

Mr. Daugs said he would like to see an increase in funding and more support for cloud seeding. Senator Wilson said it has been discussed, it is something needed statewide and would be money well spent.

Ms. Simmonds asked about any discussions related to Bear River Development. Senator Wilson advised that he is the Chairman of the Infrastructure & General Government Appropriations (IGG) Committee [which reviews and makes recommendations for various budgets] and has not had much conversation about the issue (although he is aware of it). It seems to be "on hold"; much of the current plan does not make sense and there could be other options, it will be many years down the road before anything will happen; there is nothing imminent. If he hears anything, he will become involved in the discussions because it is important to keep/preserve the water in the valley.

Chairman Hardman said there seems to be some sentiment that the Wasatch Front thinks Cache Valley has all kinds of water. The County needs to be part of, but not the entire solution for the Great Salt Lake concerns. Senator Wilson agreed and said there is good representation from the County in positions to help protect the County's natural resources.

Mr. Randall pointed out that Bear River includes Idaho and Wyoming, which both need to be involved in discussions/solutions. Senator Wilson agreed.

Mr. Dustin is concerned that Representative Moore, whose district now includes Logan and parts of the Wasatch Front might be torn between the needs of the different areas instead of being entirely supportive of Cache Valley. Senator Wilson said he believes that he is fully committed to Cache Valley. Tim Stewart, a lobbyist, lives here and is also invested in trying to help and can be a good support.

Mr. Clark said there seems to be a lack of education, especially regarding some articles that have been written about the Great Salt Lake. Agriculture seems to be an easy target. Senator Wilson agreed that oftentimes articles do not provide the full picture. There is a need to protect agriculture, so it might help to put educational information on the website and send it to local media outlets.

OTHER

The Board thanked Shaun Dustin and Herm Olsen for their service on the Board. Two new members (Bethany Neilson and Mark Anderson) will be sworn in next month.

Mr. Daugs has talked with the Utah Association of Special Districts and it has been determined that Scott Clark will need to be replaced on the Board because he has moved outside his district. Mr. Daugs will work with the County on the process for a replacement.

The annual Home & Garden Show was discussed. The consensus of the Board was to focus on other things such as localscapes classes and education rather than hosting a booth at the show. Mr. Randall also suggested that members take time and speak to local mayors and city councils to answer questions, provide information/updates about what the Board is doing, and what programs are available.

Mr. Daugs and Mr. Roper will work on an annual Water District accomplishment report.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2022

ACTION: Motion by Mr. Randall to approve changing the January 2 meeting to January 9, 2022. Seconded by Mr. Clark. The motion was approved (8-0).

Yea: Clark, Dustin, Hardman, Pierce, Randall, Roper Simmonds, Wheeler

Absent: Clawson, Lindley, Olsen

-Attachment 1-

2:52 PM
12/05/22
Accrual Basis

**Cache Water District
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
October 2022**

	Oct 22	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Cache County	0.00	
Cache County Property Taxes	0.00	22,916.67
PL-566 Watershed Grant		
NRCS	0.00	
PL-566 Watershed Grant - Other	25,000.00	33,333.33
Total PL-566 Watershed Grant	25,000.00	33,333.33
Restricted Income		
Northern Utah Water Conference	0.00	
Restricted Income - Other	0.00	
Total Restricted Income	0.00	
Sales	0.00	
Wellsville Mendon Study	0.00	50,000.00
Total Income	25,000.00	106,250.00
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	0.00	
Total COGS	0.00	
Gross Profit	25,000.00	106,250.00
Expense		
Advertising and Promotion	0.00	
Automobile Expense	0.00	
Bank Service Charges	0.00	
Computer and Internet Expenses	0.00	
Depreciation Expense	0.00	
Insurance Expense	0.00	
Interest Expense	0.00	
Meals and Entertainment	0.00	
Office		
Bank Charges	0.00	
Insurance and Bonding	0.00	416.66
Office Furnishings	0.00	
Office Supplies	0.00	166.66
Publications	0.00	375.00
Rent	0.00	458.33
Technology		
Cell Phone	53.43	
Computer and printer	0.00	
Technology - Other	0.00	250.00
Total Technology	53.43	250.00
Vehicle		
Fuel	0.00	200.00
Vehicle - Other	0.00	4,166.00
Total Vehicle	0.00	4,366.00
Office - Other	0.00	
Total Office	53.43	6,032.65
Office Supplies	0.00	

2:52 PM
 12/05/22
 Accrual Basis

Cache Water District
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
 October 2022

	Oct 22	Budget
Outreach		
Conservation	0.00	2,000.00
Dues	0.00	200.00
Northern Utah Water Conference	0.00	
Sponsorships	0.00	250.00
Training	360.00	500.00
Website	0.00	200.00
Outreach - Other	0.00	
Total Outreach	360.00	3,150.00
Payroll Expenses	0.00	
Personnel		
Salary and benefits	9,473.81	11,250.00
Travel and Mileage	0.00	420.00
Workers Compensation	0.00	
Personnel - Other	0.00	
Total Personnel	9,473.81	11,670.00
Professional Fees		
Administrative	0.00	125.00
Attorney Services	0.00	2,500.00
Audit	0.00	585.00
Financial Services	182.00	850.00
Professional Fees - Other	0.00	
Total Professional Fees	182.00	4,060.00
Project funding		
ASR Studies	0.00	
Bear River Development	0.00	
Cloud Seeding	0.00	4,000.00
Secondary Irrigation	0.00	
Seepage Loss Studies	0.00	
Water Acquisition	0.00	2,540.00
Water Master Plan	0.00	
Water Studies		
PL566 Logan River	25,245.00	33,300.00
Water Banking	0.00	
Wellsville/Mendon Irrigation	55,367.50	50,000.00
Water Studies - Other	2,577.44	12,500.00
Total Water Studies	83,189.94	95,800.00
Project funding - Other	0.00	
Total Project funding	83,189.94	102,340.00
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00	
Rent Expense	0.00	
Repairs and Maintenance	0.00	
Telephone Expense	0.00	
Travel Expense	0.00	
Utilities	0.00	
Total Expense	93,259.18	127,252.65
Net Ordinary Income	-68,259.18	-21,002.65
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Transfers from equity	0.00	
Total Other Income	0.00	

-Attachment 2-

**Final Budget
Cache Water District 2023**

<u>Income</u>	Taxes	\$ 275,000
	Cloud Seeding	\$ 28,000
	Income	\$ 125,000
	PL-566	\$ 1,500,000
<u>Transfer from reserves</u>		\$ 259,000
<u>Total Income</u>		\$ 2,187,000

Expenses

Personnel

Salary + Benefits	\$ 150,000	
Vehicle	\$ 50,000	
Fuel	\$ 2,500	
Travel	\$ 5,000	
Attorney Services	\$ 30,000	
Financial Services	\$ 10,000	
Administrative Services	\$ 1,500	
Audit	\$ 7,000	
Total Personnel		\$ 256,000

Outreach

Conservation programs	\$ 30,000	
Dues	\$ 2,500	
Training	\$ 6,000	
Website	\$ 2,000	
Sponsorships	\$ 2,500	
Lobbyist	\$ 10,000	
Total Outreach		\$ 53,000

Operations

Insurance/bonding	\$ 5,000	
Publications	\$ 4,500	
Technology	\$ 3,000	
Rent	\$ 5,500	
Office Supplies	\$ 2,000	
Total Office		\$ 20,000

Project Funding

Cloud Seeding	\$ 63,000
Water Studies	\$ 120,000

Bear River study	\$ 150,000	
Water Purchases	\$ 20,000	
Crockett	\$ 700,000	
Logan Observatory	\$ 5,000	
Wellsville/Mendon	\$ 800,000	

Total Project Funding \$ 1,858,000

Balance \$ -

Bear River Development APO Notes – 11/22/22

Attendance: Max, Bret Roper, Jeannie, Scott, Nate

- The group discussed Gov. Spencer Cox’s proclamation suspending new water appropriations within the Great Salt Lake Basin, including the Bear, Weber, and Jordan River basins. The suspension allows for existing water rights and applications to be used and developed while promoting more efficient use of the existing supply. Current applications may still be able to move forward.
- Jeannie asked if there is any sense of what the legislature may be working on regarding Bear River; Nate said at this time there are only rumors, nothing has been. The State is still moving forward with purchasing right-of-way properties south of Willard-Brigham City. There may be some legislative bills coming up that address getting water to the Great Salt Lake.
- There is some discussion regarding changing the Chair of the Bear River Commission from the Director of Water Resources to the State Engineer (being supported by Director Ferry and Representative Snider). Nate is going to try and have Rep. Snider and Rep. Wilson come to the December board meeting to talk about water issues.
- By Nov. 1, 2023, the State Engineer will provide a report to the governor’s office to determine whether the proclamation will continue or not.
- If predictions correct for climate change, with the increase in temperature, the lake will be evaporating at 600,000–1,000,000 ac-ft. more than it currently is. To keep it level it will need 1,000,000 ac-ft./annually (per information from the Salt Lake Water Symposium presentation). Max said the Utah Rivers Council’s information is that the lake evaporates 3,000,000 ac-ft. per year. Nate said that last year, Cache County and Box Elder’s diversion was only 400,000 ac-ft.
- Max said it is important to have the exact numbers so that constituents’ questions can be answered, most citizens do not realize the scale of the information.
- Max said the Utah Rivers Council information has a few options such as “Citizens can’t legally use their water rights to put water in the lake permanently, we need

to change the law to and allow people to use their water rights to permanently put water in the lake”. He said if everyone in the County were to do that, it would still be short. The other option they recommended was “ending property tax collection for water”. “Utah over-collects property taxes to subsidize the cost of water, which lowers water rates and encourages water waste, if property taxes are phased out, water conservation can be encouraged while saving taxpayers millions”. Nate said that is the argument behind the bill that would take away taxing authority from water districts (Senator McCay). Nate explained that the idea behind the second option is that rather than it being a property tax, the same amount will be on a water bill, which might encourage someone to conserve water. The problem is that there are costs, no matter how you break it down.

- Max said it is important to have the exact numbers so that constituents’ questions can be answered, most citizens do not realize the scale of the information. Public education is an important component and accurate information is needed to help provide context.
- Nate said any solution will take many years. The Bear River study is an important step in identifying information/solutions. Nate will have Jake Serrago do a presentation on watersheds at the March conference.
- Max said there is not enough water to fill the lake so it will be important to look at long-term alternatives and begin those discussions (e.g. the lake might need to be smaller due to climate change).
- Max said public education is an important component and accurate information is needed to help provide context.