

Central Iron County Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2018



Board Members

Brent Hunter – Chairman
Paul Cozzens
Joe Melling
Tom Stratton
Tim Watson

District Staff

Paul Monroe – General Manager
Mandi Williams-Office Manager
John Juergens - Operator
Tracy Feltner-Operator
Shelby Ericksen-Public Outreach

Curtis Nielson– District Engineer
Kelly Crane-District Engineer
Justin Wayment-District Legal Counsel

Others in Attendance:

Cory Dow
Carl Mazur

CALL TO ORDER: Board Chairman Hunter called the meeting to order. 6:33 PM
Kelly Crane led the pledge, Paul Cozzens offered the invocation. **(9:00)**

DECLARATION OF ABSTENTIONS AND/OR CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BY BOARD MEMBERS: None **(9:30)**

Consider Approval of Minutes from the Board Meeting Held January 18, 2018 • Board Member Melling moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held January 18, 2018. Second by Board Member Cozzens
Motion unanimous 6:36 pm **(9:55)**

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS AND ADJUSTMENTS FROM January 12, 2018 Through February 7, 2018:

•Williams- Said the last month was fairly ordinary. Two additional water data logger systems were purchased for measure the streams in the Kanarraville area. \$5600 was paid to Rocky Mountain Fence for the completion of the security fence Three Peaks Tank. All board members were registered for the Water Users Conference in St. George March 20th. **(11:40)** There were a few disconnections of water service due to non-payment.

Board Member Stratton moved to approve the payment of bills and the adjustments register from January 12, 2018 through February 7, 2018. Second by Board Member Melling.

Motion Unanimous at 6:39pm (13:30)

REVIEW 2018 BUDGET- •Monroe- Said the first page of the 2018 Budget shows cash on hand and where the District is at with projects and assets. Monroe said the only item out of the ordinary is well and pump maintenance which is at 58% for the year. **(14:45)**

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: ▪Monroe- Brought up the situation with the Cross Hollow Hills Subdivision. Monroe said Mandi, Curtis, and him met with about six of their board members February 15th. They are still wanting CICWCD to take over their water system. They do not think the State Engineer will shut off their water because of junior water rights. They want a decision.

Mandi put together some figures of what it would look like if CICWCD took over their system. ▪Stratton asked what the cost is with maintenance to pump 1,000 gallons. ▪Monroe said he does not have that answer currently, but that it costs \$1.10 just for pumping costs. Monroe said they were billed about \$0.75 per 1,000 until the summer when the rates were adjusted to \$1.50 per 1,000 gallons.

Right now, the District does not have to worry about sampling costs and distribution maintenance because we are currently only supplying bulk water. (19:40) The projected yearly revenue from Cross Hollow Hills is about \$37,000. There is a buffer build into that. ▪Hunter said if the District took them over; there would be a profit of \$37,000. Hunter also said he agrees that the State Engineer will not shut them off. He suggested they be charged more for inferior water rights.

▪Monroe asked if they should be subscribing to West Desert water. ▪Stratton agreed that the State Engineer would not take away their water, but he asked what would happen if he did. He asked if CICWCD has enough water to continue to supply them. ▪Monroe-Said they are only currently using 48 water rights and the District has enough senior water rights to supply them. ▪Stratton-Said it makes sense to take over the system because the District would get \$100,000, plus \$37,000 a year, and water rights above of what the subdivision uses. (25:30)

▪Stratton suggested setting some money aside for the depreciation of the system. ▪Hunter said the total costs need to be looked at, including the labor done by the Water Operators. ▪Monroe- Said the system is a newer system, the well probably is not worth much, but the subdivision's system is already connected to CICWCD. ▪Cozzens asked if it is fair that the District accept their water rights when other need to transfer 1935 water rights to connect. ▪Monroe said the policy is that anyone can come to the Board to ask if they can transfer junior water rights. ▪Cozzens said it would make sense financially to take over the system and buy water rights each year to cover the subdivision just in case. (30:55) ▪Stratton asked if their system has been modeled.

▪Crane said it has not, but that would be a good idea. The system was built to CICWCD standards. ▪Monroe said he has looked at the water rights and there are 12,700 acre feet of depleted water rights that would be cut before the Cross Hollow Hills rights would become in jeopardy. He said in the Beryl Groundwater Management Plan has cuts every 20 years, so there would most likely be some time. (34:30) ▪Watson asked what the District charges per 1,000 gallons and if they would have a different billing rate. ▪Monroe said they would not have a different billing rate and they would be on the same tiered schedule with a base-rate fee. ▪Hunter asked what Monroe would like to do. ▪Monroe said he would like a consensus. ▪Stratton said yes. ▪Melling said the District will be working with them anyway, so it makes sense to take over the system.

Watson motioned to move ahead with negotiations with Cross Hollow Hills. Second by Cozzens. Motion Unanimous at 7:05pm (39:20)

▪Monroe- Explained the draft policy for developers. It is a policy where developers can transfer less water rights for more conservation. The enforcement is through a CC&R. ▪Watson

said he opposed the policy because CC&R's do not work for enforcement. ▪Cozzens said it is a good concept, but unless there is a HOA that is active, it will not work. (42:25) ▪Monroe said the District has a hard time policing these types of policies. ▪Hunter suggested that customers who do not listen should be charged more for their usage. ▪Cozzens said he would like to have it researched what can be done and it can be brought back next month. Discussion continues for several minutes. (47:00)

▪Monroe brought up putting together a CIRPAC. ▪Cozzens introduced Carl Mazur who is a local photographer. Cozzens thinks he could add a lot by helping out with PR and social media for CIRPAC. ▪Mazur introduced himself and gave a background of what he has done. ▪Monroe asked what he is currently doing in Cedar City. ▪Mazur said he is doing photography and YouTube. He does fluid art through YouTube. He said he is able to track views, length of views, country, age, etc. (53:30) Mazur has learned a lot from these statistics. ▪Monroe said the District could use some help in the project coming up. He would like to stay in touch.

▪Cozzens said the District will need a lot of help as the West Desert project moves forward. (55:20) ▪Mazur said it is best to let the public know about things early. He said selling the public requires a soft approach. People respond best to that. He suggested a PSA. Mazur said he has had over ten million viewing minutes. ▪Cozzens said Mazur could be a really good asset. (58:30)

▪Monroe asked that the Board review the names on the list and give their suggestions. He said he would like the first meetings to happen in May or June. (59:50)

▪Monroe brought up some vehicle policies and truck models on a sheet put together by Williams. Monroe said local preference will be given to local dealerships bidding. ▪Cozzens suggested reviewing Cedar City's Policy and mirroring it. (1:03:40)

PUBLIC COMMENT: ▪ None 7:30 pm (1:03:50)

AQUIFER RECHARGE: UPDATE AND DISCUSSION: ▪Monroe- Said Hunter and Monroe have been discussing the project up the canyon. ▪Hunter said he spoke with the owner of some of the gypsum property in that area and he is interested in doing business. ▪Cozzens said he would like to meet with that owner when the meeting is scheduled. ▪Monroe said they did a few presentations at the Utah State Capital and they were well received. (1:06:10)

AQUIFER BALANCE & REUSE PROJECTS: ▪Monroe- Said Cozzens and he made some good contacts at the legislature to start chaining and clearing watersheds. (1:09:10)

SUBSIDENCE MONITORING: ▪None

WAH WAH AND PINE VALLEY: ▪Monroe turned the time over to Cory Dow of Carollo Engineers. ▪Dow thought the Board might be interested in an informal technical presentation on some lessons they have learned from projects like the West Desert Pipeline. He suggested Carollo could give the District some ideas of what to expect from the permitting phase until ground is broken. ▪Monroe suggested they could present to the Board after the Tuesday night of the Water User's Conference. Dow said he will check the availability of his colleagues and could squeeze the presentation into about an hour. (1:21:25) Some board members asked for a different time, maybe a presentation during the lunch break that day. Monroe will be in touch with days and times. (1:23:50)

WATER CONSERVATION: ▪Monroe- Said he was able to present on efficient pivots at the legislature. There was a man who was looking for funding for research on pivots. Monroe asked if that was what Senator Vickers was trying to do. Vickers said he has looked at the research and Iron County is ready to start converting pivots to see how effective it is. **(1:11:30)** ▪Monroe said Chad Reid is introducing bio char. It is where vegetation is taken and charred so it becomes a soil additive. It gives plants more nutrients and holds more water. ▪Cozzens said he was at the Beryl/Enterprise water meeting and met a farmer, who said pinyon juniper is ground up to mix with the cattle's feed as roughage. **(1:13:40)** Cozzens said he really likes Chad Reid's presentation on clearing the watersheds. He would like to have it filmed and put on social media. **(1:15:10)** ▪Monroe said the Fourth Grade Water Fair is March 12th and 13th at the Heritage Center. **(1:17:50)**

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN AND LOCAL WATER RIGHTS CHANGES:

▪Melling said there is a new Groundwater Commissioner for Cedar Pumps. The Groundwater Management Plan Committee did not meet in February. **(1:27:40)**

LEGISLATIVE BILLS: ▪Monroe- Said there are a couple of bills that will help the State Engineer do a better job in adjudication. There is an oversight bill Monroe has been watching closely that is a step to look at the governance of Boards. Monroe thinks it is redundant and a waste of funds because it creates an auditor of boards when the District already has an audit every year. **(1:31:30)**

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT: ▪Monroe- Thanked Hunter and Cozzens for coming to the legislature.

Next meeting date: March 15, 2018

ENGINEERING REPORT: ▪Crane- Said they are moving forward with the BLM for the West Desert Project. **(1:33:50)**

**Board Member Watson motioned to close the regular session and go into a closed Session.
Second by Board Member Stratton.
Motion unanimous at 8:00pm**

Roll Call as follows:

Cozzens-Aye

Watson-Aye

Melling-Aye

Hunter-Aye

Stratton-Aye (1:36:10)

Board Member Watson motioned to adjourn the closed session and resume regular session board meeting. Second by Board Member Melling. Motion Unanimous at 8:27 PM

**Board Member Cozzens motioned adjourn the regular meeting. Second by Board Member Stratton.
Motion unanimous at 8:28 PM**