

Central Iron County Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2021



Board Members

Brent Hunter-Chairman
Tyler Melling
Terri Hartley
David Harris
Joel Myers
Spencer Jones

District Staff

Paul Monroe-General Manager
Mandi Williams-Office Manager
Tracy Feltner-Water Operator
Jeff McKee-Water Operator
Jessica Staheli-Public Outreach
Sommy Achebo-Water Operator Intern
Brianna Fliehmman-Office Intern
David Shinost-Water Operator
Kelly Crane-District Engineer
Curtis Neilson-District Engineer
Justin Wayment-Legal Counsel (online)

Others in Attendance

Joan Meiners-The Spectrum (online)
Robert Herber-Sunset Subdivision
Rachelle Herber-Sunset Subdivision
Dillin Herber-Sunset Subdivision

CALL TO ORDER: •Board Member Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Curtis Nielson lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Terri Hartley offered the invocation. **(1:11)**

SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER TYLER MELLING & ORGANIZATION OF BOARD CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: •Wayment read in the swearing of Tyler Melling **(2:40)**

Joel Myers and Sommy Achebo arrived at 6:37PM.

The Board discussed the organization of the executive committee.

Board Member Harris nominated the Board Member Myers as vice-chair, Board Chairman Hunter as chair, and Board Member Harris as treasurer. Second by Board Member Jones. Motion unanimous at 6:39 PM. (4:59)

DECLARATION OF ABSTENTIONS AND/OR CONFLICTS OF INTEREST BY BOARD MEMBERS: •None. **(5:19)**

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE BOARD MEETING HELD JANUARY 21, 2021:

Board Member Harris moved to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting held January 21st, 2021. Second by Board Member Hartley. Motion unanimous 6:40 PM. (5:45)

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS AND ADJUSTMENTS JANUARY 14, 2021 THROUGH FEBRUARY 11, 2021: •Williams-Went over the payments. We had the semiannual chlorine tablet order from All Chem. There was an invoice to Cedar Valley Pumps for a repair at Parkwest. •Feltner-Said that was to repair a well that went down. The cost was

pulling the well and motor out and putting a new one in. We also found some electrical issues there, so we put in a surge protector to extend the life of that pump. ▪Williams-Said there was a payment to remote control systems for RTU panel for the Sunset Subdivision. ▪Feltner-Said we are using Bradshaw Electrics and Cedar Valley pumps to upgrade the well house. ▪Jones-Asked if Brad is going to do the high voltage and have Bert do the Scada. ▪Feltner-Said that Bert is just working with Jared to get the remote control that does the Scada. ▪*The board members discussed what this Scada system does and what was needed to install it.* ▪Williams-Said there was a payment to SITLA for Quichipa Creek Application and easement permit. There was a yearly office lease paid to Seven Shippis LLC. A yearly payment was made to USPS for billing, etc. There was a payment to Willowsticks for the well locating in Chekshani.

▪Williams-Went over the transaction register. There have been many people sign up for paperless billing again. There were some disconnection/reconnection fees for the month.

Board Member Harris moved to approve the payment of bills and the adjustments register from January 14, 2020 through February 11, 2021. Second by Board Member Myers. Motion Unanimous at 6:47 PM. (12:48)

REVIEW 2021 FINANCIALS: ▪Monroe-Said we are mostly on track. There were some membership dues and trainings early this year, so they look high. The office lease expense did go up based on evaluation of utilities and property taxes. There was also a large insurance payment made at the first of the year. He then went over the capital side of the budget. He highlighted under direct purchases the autos and trucks. We talked about a bid last month, but the company that we were going to go with said that they couldn't order the vehicle anymore. He did offer a 100% buyback option that they do with other entities. We think that it is a good idea, but he is going to come down and talk to us. The downside is possibly that we could make some money if we buy it the way we have been, but that eats into McKee's time while he is working. ▪Jones-Said he'd like to know all the information and then make a decision. (21:16)

CHEKSHANI CLIFFS: CONSIDER APPROVAL AND/OR AUTHORIZATION OF REQUEST FOR OBLIGATION OF FUNDS FROM USDA RD FOR THE CHEKSHANI CLIFFS WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: ▪Monroe-Said USDA didn't get us as much grant as we hoped for, but we made up for it with an interest rate of 1.75%. The loan is for \$560,000 for 40 years at 1.75%, and they gave us a \$150,000 grant. That would be a monthly payment of \$1,624. We do have the proposed breakdown for the Chekshani customers. The cost per lot is estimated to be about \$3,752 and the split is 43% resident's responsibility and 57% the districts. ▪Melling-Asked if this will go on their property taxes. ▪Monroe-Said that we are in the middle of an assessment area. The next thing that we'll do is the board of equalization. Then it will be added as a lien to the property. They could finance through the district at 5% for 10 years or pay it up front.

Monroe-Showed the Board some water we just got from the new Chekshani well. There were some radionuclides that are a little concerning from the last sample. ▪Feltner-Said the guys at ChemTech Ford thought that the sand in that area caused these levels to be higher. We have been pumping to clean up that water and this sample was taken on Tuesday which was just perfect.

▪Monroe-Said the alternative would be to find a way to clean out those radionuclides, but for now we are hoping that it will be cleaned out through pumping out the water.

▪*The Board voiced their approval/authorization for the USDA Contract. (28:48)*

SUNSET SUBDIVISION (HOPE & HENRY'S PLACE): CONSIDER APPROVAL OF

PROJECT AND DIRECTION: ▪Monroe-Went over a presentation that showed details of the Hope/Henry Willowsticks well locating. This is where they locate sensitive areas in the ground. We will need a 100 ft source protection zone which will require an agreement with Cedar City. It looks like a good production zone based on the passive seismic data. He talked briefly with Paul Bittmenn at cedar City, and Bittmenn had a few red flags, but Monroe explained our situation and how usually people are more water concise if they are paying per gallon.

▪Monroe-Said he received a call from Rachele and Robert Herber. They have a well on their property that they may be interested in partnering with us. According to the well log, it is 485ft deep. It is 12 inches diameter, doesn't have surface seal, but is in gravel most of the way. Grimshaw was the driller in 1973. ▪Robert Herber-Said he hadn't ever pumped it. ▪Monroe-Said we would like to camera the well or possibly test pump. ▪Hunter-Asked if the Herbers are already connected with us. ▪Robert Herber-Confirmed that they are connected with us but said that the pressure is very spotty. If someone is doing work or uses even a hose, then they feel the pressure difference at their home. ▪Monroe-Said that with the improvements being made in this subdivision, there will be two pressure zones to improve the pressure in all areas. The fix should be very easy and un-intrusive for the subdivision. ▪*There was some discussion between the board members and the Haber's on these improvements within the Subdivision.* ▪Jones- Said that he would like to know more information before approving this project. ▪Monroe- Asked if the Board is okay with us putting a camera down the well and doing a test pump so that information can be presented back to the board. (49:11) ▪*The Board voiced their approval to do the tests on the Herber's well and keep them updated as soon as they know any information (49:26)*

WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT 2021: CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROJECT

AND DIRECTION: ▪Crane-This is moving through the process and we are excited about where it is going. We are probably going to see some similar loan interest numbers to the Chekshani Improvement Project. ▪Neilson-Said we do have three bids for the biological surveys for the prairie dogs. We will review those and finalize our application with USDA once the survey is done. (51:28)

PUBLIC COMMENT: ▪None. (51:58)

AQUIFER RECHARGE: UPDATE & DISCUSSION

▪Monroe-Said we had a meeting last Tuesday that Marilyn Wood set up for people who were unclear about the Groundwater Management Plan. Nathan Moses was there and explained the process and why they are going through with the GMP. ▪Hartley-Said that it was a good meeting and she felt we had a good turnout. ▪Melling-Said there was good discussion, and it was nice to hear different questions and different perspectives. ▪Monroe-Said we told the irrigators that they were able to adjust where

the water was going since they felt they were not getting their water. We have been wrapping up the Quichipa Project. The water operators have been working hard to get it finished. ▪Feltner-Said that the gate is closed now & if we get water, it will go to the right place in the lake. Everything is done, cleaned up, and ready to go. (59:22)

WAH WAH AND PINE VALLEY: UPDATE & DISCUSSION: ▪Monroe-Said we are currently in the cooperating agency review process. Those agencies are reviewing and giving comments to the BLM on the draft EIS. The official draft EIS is expected to go out in April. Hopefully by November we may have a decision on the EIS. There may be some delays with the new administration. We would not to be surprised if it is not finalized until early 2022. (1:01:10)

WATER CONSERVATION: UPDATE AND DISCUSSION: ▪Monroe-Said we are doing our Localscapes class on March 23rd and March 30th. We are also getting ready for the virtual 4th Grade Water Fair. We are hoping to get Dr. Wiggins from SUU. He has interesting research on how water is formed within universes, he has a good background, and this will help us a lot. (1:03:22)

GROUNDWATER MANGAGEMENT PLAN AND LOCAL WATER RIGHT

CHANGES: ▪Monroe-Said we already spoke about this with the Marilyn Wood meeting. ▪Jones-Said he was at the Cedar City Council meeting and a few geologists presented. They have some information and think there may be conflict between what the State Engineer's office is accepting and some prior studies were done. We may want to look at that. ▪Monroe-Said that the same calculations were brought to us in 2015 and that was brought to the USGS to review their calculations. There is a disagreement between these two parties. Nathan Moses mentioned that he would not discredit either of them because he is an engineer. ▪Melling-Said that the key difference that was discussed in council has to do with the safe yield that has been determined by the State. Those men provided written resources that show their research, and he will send that out to the other Board Members. ▪*The Board discussed that the geologists want to file a lawsuit about how the safe yield has been calculated. They also discussed the initial report made by the USGS that was paid for by the District and that it is one of the reports that the State Engineer used to calculate the safe yield.* ▪Monroe-Said that the USGS initially said there was a 5,000-acre foot deficit, but the UGS reported there was a 9,000-acre foot deficit. The Division of Water Rights took those, and their own model based on depletion and actual usage and they came up with a 7,000 deficit and 21,000-acre foot safe yield. Nathan said the other night that they did their best estimate of what it was. (1:18:27)

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: OPERATIONS & PUBLIC EDUCATION: ▪Monroe-Said he had a conversation with Rob Dotson about upsizing a irrigation pipe in Settler's Square in Enoch. There were some issues with this, so they proposed to put in two 12-inch pipes. Dallas Buckner from GoCivil Engineering called with a quote of \$33,123 for the fully installed project, including the pipe. There are some contingency lines from the previous year's budget that would allow us to contribute to this project. He asked for the Board Members' opinions for us to participate in the funding of this project. ▪*There was discussion between the board members deciding if this is a smart decision for the district to take part in.* ▪Monroe-Said that if we cannot

get a grant for all of it, we will be able to get others to help with the remainder of the project.

▪Harris-Said that he will do his part to encourage Enoch City to partner with this. ▪Jones-Asked when a decision will need to be made. ▪Monroe-Said that we can set up a meeting if needed to request approval by the Board for this. The total install cost will be \$33,000 which will be split up between all entities that want to partner together. ▪*There was more discussion of what would be included with this project and how much it would cost. They decided to find out who is involved and how much it would cost and then hold a meeting to let the Board approve.*

▪Monroe-Said the public education process is going well. We just met with the Enoch Economic Development Committee to discuss water issues within their community. We are getting a good feel about what people know about water. We went over the strategic plan in detail this morning. We are excited for the plans that are coming with videos and educating the community about what is going on with water in Iron County. (1:35:52)

BOARD MEMBER REPORT: ▪None. (1:36:02)

ENGINEERING REPORT: UPDATE AND DISCUSSION: ▪Crane-Said we already touched on most of the projects. (1:36:29)

Next meeting date: February 18th, 2021

Board Member Jones motioned to close the regular session and go into a closed session for contracts, imminent litigation, or acquiring real property and/or water rights. Second by Board Member Hartley. Motion unanimous at 8:11 PM. (1:36:54)

Roll Call as follows:

Hartley-Aye

Harris-Aye

Myers-Aye

Jones-Aye

Melling-Aye

Hunter-Aye

Board Member Harris motioned to adjourn the closed session and resume regular session Board Meeting. Second by Board Member Jones. Motion unanimous at 9:04 PM.

Board Member Jones motioned adjourn the regular session Board Meeting. Second by Board Member Hartley. Motion unanimous at 9:04 PM.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:04 PM.