

# GRAND WATER & SEWER SERVICE AGENCY

Full Agency Meeting  
August 23, 2000

The meeting was called to order by President Gary Wilson at 8:17 p.m. at the Agency office, 3025 E Spanish Trail Rd, Moab, Utah. Other Operating Committee members present were, Paul Morris, Ned Dalton, Neal Dalton, Karl Tangren, and Dan Holyoak. Absent Operating Committee members: John Keys. Those present established a quorum. The other Agency Board members present were Bill McDougald, Kyle Bailey, and Karla VanderZanden. Absent Agency Board members: George White, and James Walker.

Others present were Dale Pierson; Rhonda Riberia; Marsha Modine; John Chartier – Sunrise Engineering; Layne Kabonic; Dottie Byrd; Robert Muir; and D. Lance.

President Wilson called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the Regular Operating Committee meeting of July 26, 2000 and hearing none, President Wilson declared the minutes approved as circulated to the Board. Ned motioned to accept the minutes. Seconded: Bill. Gary – aye, Paul – aye, Ned – aye, Bill – aye, Karl – aye, Dan – aye, Neal – aye, Kyle – aye, Karla – aye. Motion carried.

Layne  
Kabonic

**Citizens To Be Heard** Layne Kabonic said he was present for constructive purposes to discuss what he felt were errors in the methods of acquiring water for the water project. Layne discussed his reasons with the board, explaining the geology and mineral content of the Moab area, and importance of quality culinary water for the citizens. He noted the cost of a smaller project completed in Kanab City, and discussed several methods of drilling wells citing their pros and cons. After discussion, the Board thanked Layne for his concern and observations.

Robert Muir  
D. Lance

Robert Muir and D. Lance explained they were interested in bidding on excavation, and would like directions to the proposed tank site. They left the room for further discussion with John Chartier.

Dottie Byrd  
1106 LaSal

**Dottie Byrd – Past due for 1106 LaSal Ave** Dottie explained that she was here to discuss the situation with the aforementioned property. She explained that when a previous renter had moved out in February of 1999 the water was not physically shut off. She was not informed of this, and as the electric and gas were physically shut off, the water pipes froze and broke. Dottie stated she felt it was a bad policy to not shut the water off at the meter when anyone moves out of a home. She said the next renter started getting very high bills, \$600.00 one month, then \$180.00 the next and could not afford them. She noted that Agency Staff were unable to tell her what had happened to cause the bills to be so high. Over a period of time she was able to figure out that the pipes broke, but that the break was in a very difficult area to get to. The leak was repaired but broke again. She said the renter left owing a large bill, and the water has been shut off for over a year, losing \$10,000.00 in revenue for her. She said she told the Agency to shut the water off because it still leaks, and she will probably have to use a backhoe to fix it properly. The house is on the market now, and Dottie said she feels she does not owe the past due amounts because the Agency left the water on. She also stated she did not think the policy of owners being responsible for water bills was in place at the time the past due. She also felt it was wrong to place the account in her name if she did not request it be done. Kyle asked if she had checked the house after the first renter moved out. She answered no. Karl asked what current procedure was when a renter wished to terminate service. Rhonda explained a final read was taken, the account terminated, and a new account created in the name of "New Renter". If the bills were returned to the Agency, the billing was changed to the owner's name and they

are resen  
the own  
Gary as

Dottie what she was asking the Board to do for her. Dottie responded she would like the \$600.00 bill deleted from her account as it accrued between renters, and that the policy of property owners being responsible for renters bills be changed.. Paul asked Rhonda to explain the billing for the accounts. Rhonda explained referring to documentation presented in the Board packets [filed with these minutes]. The breakdown is: the first renter paid in full, the second account which covered the time between renters had a balance due for water only of \$26.62 (sewer had been deleted as the home was vacant) and the third account was high as the renter stopped paying. The meter was turned off for non-payment October 4, 1999 and has remained off since then. The \$50.00 reconnection fee and the sewer and penalties for September were deleted as no one was in residence during that month, the renter having already left. The balance of this account is \$614.58. Bill asked if people had to come in and sign a form to have their service terminated. Rhonda answered no, but that the City used that procedure, and a form would provide a paper trail. Further discussion followed noting that the policy stating the owner is ultimately responsible for the bills for their properties has been in place since at least 1981, and that the policy had been revisited on several occasions. The board explained to Dottie that they were sorry, but could not waive the past due amounts. This decision was reached by consensus. A payment plan was offered to Dottie to assist in paying off the past due amounts. Dan asked that the policy of shutting meters off when an account is terminated be placed on the next agenda. He also asked that any suggested forms be presented at that time.

Highland  
Utility  
District  
Sewer Lag

**Highland Utility District Sewer Lagoon** Dale explained that he had requested a letter from Grand County Council outlining their latest proposal for construction of the retention pond. He added that Dave Warner had said that he was unsuccessful in obtaining the access ROW's to the property from adjacent property owners. GCC was now requesting an easement on the property for the area where the dam would be build. Dale noted GCC had approved the water project encroachment permits being granted. Contingent upon the easement for the retention pond being granted. Ned motioned to grant the easement to Grand County for construction of the retention pond dam. Seconded: Neal. Gary – aye, Ned – aye, Bill – aye, Dan – aye, Neal – aye, Kyle – aye, Karla – aye. Paul – nay, Karl - nay. Motion carried. Dan asked to be put on record as voting aye not because he was blackmailed, but because he felt it was appropriate.

**Board Governing Regulations** Dale explained that this was on the agenda per Ned's suggestion of reviewing Board members contracting for the Agency and out-of-state travel policies. Dale noted there are several other Board policies that the Board may also wish to look at. He suggested a committee be formed to create and recommend a Board Governance Policy document. Discussion followed with Gary suggesting that possible guidelines might be looked at for some items, for example where is the line drawn? Purchasing several bales of hay or a ten million dollar project. Discussion followed resulting in Karl, Ned, and Dan volunteering to work on the Committee.

Board  
Governing  
Regulation

**Seven States Interim Surplus Guidelines** Dale explained that for many years California has been using Colorado River water that has passed through Utah, Colorado, and Arizona. This is a concern that as Utah and Colorado have not fully developed their water rights and California might demand that undeveloped water was rightfully theirs due to years of usage. The Seven States has developed guidelines to lower California's water usage. Larry Anderson has offered to speak to the Board to discuss these guidelines. Dale added that copies of Larry's letter had been sent to the San Juan County Commission, Grand County Council and the City of Moab. San Juan had expressed interest in Larry doing a presentation, but as yet a response had not

Seven Sta  
Surplus  
Guidelines

been  
received fr  
GCC or  
City of Mo  
The Bo

asked Dale to get with Larry to set up a date and time for a presentation.

**John Keys – report on meeting with San Juan & Grand County** As John was not present, Kyle reported that they had toured the Sewer Plant and would be meeting with the City Engineer shortly. Dale added that Alton Anderson and Al Anderson had met August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**North Corridor Development** Dale referred to a letter received from Donna Metzler, City Manager, noted the Moab City Council had approved construction of the north area trunk line that would replace the line running from the plant to the Palisades area. Dale met with Donna and Brent Williams to discuss oversizing the line to cover the NCD area. Dale noted that John Chartier had been asked to look into the cost of this as a separate item. John noted that his figures and Al's were close, and that it would certainly be more cost efficient to go this route, as the higher cost was always for the one actually laying the pipe. Discussion followed regarding how to finance the project if there are no revenues coming in from that area. Dale noted that two options had been discussed with Donna and Brent, 1) If monies are paid up front but the line never used, those monies should be reimbursed; 2) nothing is paid up front, but is paid at time of actual usage. Dan suggested speaking to the NCD land owners to see what they would like to do. Staff was requested to send a letter to the NCD land owners requested they attend the September 27<sup>th</sup> Agency meeting at the Agency office to discuss options.

North  
Corridor  
Developmen

**Water Project** John reported on the Pre-Bid Tour held August 21<sup>st</sup>, with 12 contractors attending. He noted there was considerable interest in the project. Dale noted the bid opening would be August 30<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m. at the Agency office. Time and date for awarding the bid was discussed resulting in 8:00 a.m., August 30<sup>th</sup> at the Agency office.

Water  
Project

The results of Andrea Castellanos well were presented. John discussed the next steps that would be taken with the wells, noting the original well would be left in production for agriculture to fulfill agreement stipulations. The culinary well would be drilled 100' north. John discussed the well construction options with the board. John said he hoped to have everything ready by possibly early October for this part of the project.

**Financial Statement** The financial statement for July was presented to the Board.

**Check Approval** Motion by Bill to approve the checks from August 9<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Seconded: Paul. Gary – aye, Paul – aye, Ned – aye, Bill – aye, Karl – aye, Dan – aye, Neal – aye, Kyle – aye, Karla – aye. Motion carried.

### **Items from Board**

**Bass Fishery in Ken's Lake** Karla mentioned she was on the board for the Division of Wildlife. A question had come up as to the status of the fishery for Ken's Lake, and why it wasn't being pursued. Division of Wildlife was interested in seeing a bass fishery go forward. Discussion followed.

Bass  
Fishery  
Ken's Lake

**Irrigation Agreements** Neal noted he had been approached by several irrigation customers asking why the water usage could be reduced when it had been prepaid in full. Dale explained the Irrigation agreement signed by all users explained that in a drought year reductions in usage were possible.

Irrigation  
Agreement

**Items fr**  
**Staff**

**Irrigation Report** Dale reported that his projections for the irrigation system was that sufficient water would be available for the remainder of the season if customers continued to use at 80% of normal.

President Wilson declared the meeting adjourned. Hearing no objections the meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary N. Wilson, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale F. Pierson, Secretary/Treasurer