

EMIGRATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2019

EMIGRATION CANYON FIRE STATION
5025 EMIGRATION CANYON ROAD
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Regular Meeting

Board Members in Attendance: Mike Hughes – Chair, Brent Tippetts – Co-Chair, David Bradford – Secretary/Clerk

Ex Officio: Eric Hawkes—District Manager, Don Barnett – Barnett Intermountain Consulting, Jeremy Cook—Legal Counsel

Chair Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Consent Approval - Minutes for March 14, 2019

MOTION: David Bradford made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2019 Trustee Meeting as written. Brent Tippetts seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

2. Financial Considerations & Report

Mr. Hawkes gave a summary of the monthly financial considerations and reports. He reported the current bond obligations, operating income and expenses to date. Mr. Hawkes then gave the first quarter 2019 transparency report.

3. Sustainability Alliance Presentation – Willy Stokman

Willy Stokeman, from the Emigration Canyon Sustainability Alliance, delivered a power point presentation. The Emigration Canyon Sustainability Alliance is a group of canyon residents who formed in March 2019 in response to concerns about the future of water in the canyon. Their goal is to protect the natural environment of Emigration Canyon and work towards a sustainable source of water for all residents. They felt it was time to reach out to all stakeholders to promote implementation of a long-term water strategy based on science, stream flow data and monitoring of the groundwater system to ensure a sustainable future for water in the canyon. They would like EID to adopt sustainability principles in water management decision. In speaking with the State Engineer, they discussed a need to have a monitoring well close to the Upper Freeze Creek well. They also discussed the need to have well driller reports, measure Emigration Creek, water dating, among others. Utah Geologic Survey is working on a proposal for a hydrogeologic study, after which Emigration Canyon Sustainability Alliance will begin looking for funding partners. Ms. Stokeman emphasized two main components: 1. Groundwater and surface water need to be evaluated on a system-wide basis and 2. Decisions on limits to well development need to be made with input from the community. Among their recommendations to EID: base water management decision based on data collected on streamflow, incorporate the cost of sustainability plans and groundwater monitoring in the yearly budget, implement actionable sustainability goals etc. They recommended that the District set aside water to supply all existing canyon residents before committing water for any undeveloped lots. Consider a freeze on water rights for undeveloped lots until more data is available on the groundwater system and its effect on surface water. She encouraged residents to be educated, get involved, and refer to their website (www.emigrationsustainability.org). Mr. Bradford asked Ms. Stokeman for a copy of her recommendations.

Jani Iwamoto from the Utah State Senate briefly spoke to the Board about a state legislature water task force. Senator Iwamoto explained that this water task force is looking at the possibility of doing water banking. She encouraged anyone to attend their meetings. The next meeting is May 7th at the Department of Natural Resources. Her email for more information is jiwamoto@le.utah.gov.

4. Public Relations Discussion

There was a discussion about adding the word “canyon” to the name of the District. To change the name to Emigration *Canyon* Improvement District would add consistency with Emigration Canyon Metro Township and Emigration Canyon Community Council. It would also designate the geographical area. The Board asked audience members for feedback; Mr. Tyler Tippets was hesitant about it. Discussion held and the Board decided to look at legal fees and costs and make a decision next month.

Eric has met with Bill Cutting and they are in the process of a creating a new website. A member of the audience asked if the Board would be able to change the \$19 online payment fee. Mr. Hawkes responded that it would mean completely changing the system that they use but that it is a possibility to investigate. Another mentioned that she would like to see pumping levels from

the wells and the water quality report. Rin Harris would like to see an outline of what wells there are and the current status of each well. The Board agreed that it was a good idea. Mr. Hughes would like the website to include education about why this is a unique geology, what laminated means, and what tipping beds means. The Board explained the relationship with Mr. Cutting, that he has contracted to help the District. He has been very generous in offering his expertise in this area for a manageable fee. Mr. Tippetts pointed out that this is a small community and resources need to be managed wisely. EID is trying to balance costs with designing a new website that includes a lot more education. Mr. Cutting will help with the initial phase, after which the Board will manage the content.

There was an update on the plan to provide private well testing. The District needs to narrow down a date and a lab. Mr. Barnett said they were working on the price list but needs to follow up on that. Mr. Tippetts clarified that EID is offering bacteria testing for anyone interested in knowing the quality of their private well. The monitor wells are tested for levels, not quality. Due to a question in the audience, the District reviewed the process that the District's wells are tested. Aqua Environmental Systems tests the District's wells three times a week. In addition, there are other tests that occur at other various times. Some are done every three years or 5 years. There are standards the District must meet being a public water supplier.

To promote sustainability, the District has been working on sponsoring a conservation landscape class through Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District. They discussed the details and potential dates in May to hold the event.

5. Water Levels Report

Mr. Barnett gave the water levels report. The good news is that this is a great water year and the canyon is well above average. The creek is forecast to be 125% of normal. In response to a question from an audience member, the District explained why they allow residents to use more than .75-acre feet. First, the District's rate schedule is so aggressive (far more aggressive than other water districts in the state) that it is extremely cost prohibitive to do so. There is data to prove that it has greatly impacted conservation. However, some residents live on a slope in the wind and they need more water. Likewise, the first year they are required to put in landscaping and that means they use a lot more water the first year to get things established. The average use is half of the .75-acre feet, typically. Don Barnett showed data that shows that in the last five years, due to education, the consumption has gone markedly down. There was discussion on the history and use of the monitoring wells. Mr. Tracy asked details about the monitoring wells. The monitoring wells are all showing high levels.

6. Maintenance Report

Mr. Hawkes stated that Well 1 is out of service-- it is suspected that the motor needs repair. Peterson Drilling will be out next week to pull the motor. The District has stopped using Brigham Fork well because of mechanical issues, not contamination.

A fire hydrant at the top of Killyon's needed to be repaired. Someone had opened it, put a rock in, and damaged it. The District may want to consider putting a lock on some of the hydrants that are less visible.

SL County is installing a culvert by Pioneer Ridge Road. EID capped off the meter box and moved it so they could put the culvert in.

There was a leak on Red Hill Lane, which the District repaired. Kate Winters, from the audience, said that a truck fell through the road several months ago. (This was a repair patch done by Century Link west of the EID leak.)

7. Any Items by Visiting Public, Dismiss Public

Steve Hook asked for an update on the Brigham Fork Well. Chair Hughes responded that the District has explored many options over the past 10 months. Currently, the expense of getting the tool out is too much. EID may develop redundancy other ways, and they are looking at doing that.

Mr. Tracy asked questions about the location of Boyer Well 1.

Suzanne Plumb asked whose decision would it be if we wanted to say no more water hook ups. Chair Hughes replied that the EID does not have any control over zoning. You could do a moratorium, but the District is tasked to provide water to the people within the district.

9. Closed Session

MOTION: Board Member David Bradford made a motion to convene in closed session to discuss pending and imminent litigation. Brent Tippets seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Board of Trustees met in closed session from 9:05 p.m. to 9:51 p.m. Those present included the Board of Trustees, Eric Hawkes, Don Barnett, Joe Smolka.

MOTION: Board Member Bradford made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Hughes seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of the motion

The regular meeting of the Emigration Improvement District adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Minutes Approved