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**Wyoming Water Development Commission Meeting**  
**Water Development Office, 6920 Yellowtail Rd.**  
**Cheyenne, Wyoming**  
**May 18, 2018**

1. Chairman Sheridan Little called the meeting to order at 8:35am.
  
2. Roll Call – Recognition of Members present to establish a quorum  
Commission attendance:  
Sheridan Little, Chairman  
Nick Bettas, Vice-Chairman  
Rodney Wagner  
Karen Budd-Falen  
Larry Suchor  
David Evans  
Gerald Geis  
Kellen Lancaster  
Jeanette Sekan  
Clinton Glick – absent

Advisors in Attendance:  
Daniel Solish, Attorney General's Office

**3. Election of Officers**

Gerry Geis made a motion to nominate David Evans as Chairman, Kellen Lancaster seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Kellen Lancaster made a motion to nominate Larry Suchor as Vice-Chairman, Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

Gerry Geis made a motion to nominate Rodney Wagner as Secretary, seconded by Kellen Lancaster. Rodney Wagner declined the nomination. Gerry Geis withdrew his motion.

Larry Suchor made a motion to nominate Kellen Lancaster for Secretary, seconded by Gerry Geis; motion carried unanimously.

Kellen Lancaster made a motion to nominate Karen Budd-Falen for Vice-Secretary, seconded by Rodney Wagner; motion carried unanimously.

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#### 4. Approval of Agenda

Director LaBonde indicated he added the approval of Chapter 8 of the Rules to the agenda after the agenda had gone to the public, but a new notice was provided to the public at least a day in advance.

Jeanette Sekan made a motion to approve the agenda; Sheridan Little seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

#### 5. Approval of Minutes

Rod Wagner made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 15-16, 2018 workshop and meeting. Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

#### 6. Audience Introductions

#### 7. Closeout Memos

- Rolling Hills Well 2-2R Ground Water Exploration Grant  
Kevin Boyce, Project Manager, provided a brief summary of the project findings. The closeout memo recommends acceptance of the Rolling Hills Well 2-2R Ground Water Exploration Grant project report as final.

Larry Suchor made a motion to accept the closeout memo, Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- UW Irrigation Water Supply Study, Level II  
Keith Clarey, Project Manager, provided a brief summary of the project findings. The closeout memo recommends acceptance of the UW Irrigation Water Supply Study, Level II project as complete and further, makes the following findings relative to this project:
  1. That the Commission recommend terminating further consideration of the proposed project.
  2. Based on the findings in the final report, the project is determined to be in the public interest.
  3. The project functions and services cannot realistically be provided by any person, association or corporation engaged in private enterprise.

Jeanette Sekan made a motion to accept the closeout memo, Nick Bettas seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

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## 8. Planning Amendments

- Goose Creek Watershed Study, Level I, Amendment No. 1

An interim amendment to the engineering contract with EnTech Inc., was presented. The amendment serves to extend the term of the Contract from June 30, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The Contract amount is not changed by this amendment.

Gerry Geis made a motion to approve the Goose Creek Watershed Study, Level I, Amendment No. 1. Sheridan Little seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

## 9. Construction Amendments

- Gillette Madison Pipeline Agreement, Amendment Eight

An interim amendment to the Project Agreement with the City of Gillette was presented. The amendment serves to modify the Project Agreement by changing the conditions for the management of the completed project.

Larry Suchor made a motion to approve the Gillette Madison Pipeline Agreement, Amendment Eight. Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

## 10. Idle State-Owned Wells

Director LaBonde provided the Commission with a list of Idle State owned wells. The Commission questioned whether the Sponsors were aware of the obligation to purchase the wells at completion of their projects and also requested a list of the costs of the wells.

## 11. Water Service Contract Renewal

- Aladdin Water District

The original contract was executed on October 22, 1999, renewed April 3, 2012 and the 2012 contract has expired. The Aladdin Water District would like to continue buying water from the State so a new contract is needed. Discussion followed regarding the current rate.

Nick Bettas moved to table the discussion until June, Jeanette Sekan seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

## 12. 2019 Planning Level I and II Project Applications

Director LaBonde recommended handling the applications separately.

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- *Evanston Water Master Plan*

The Director's recommendation was to proceed with the Level I Planning Study of the City's culinary water system to prepare for current and anticipated development in two residential/business pressure zones of the community.

Gerry Geis made a motion to approve proceeding with the selection process for the Evanston Water Master Plan, Level I Study. Nick Bettas seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- *Salt Creek-Edgerton-Midwest Water Master Plan*

The Director's recommendation was to proceed with the Level I Planning Study to evaluate the current condition of the water system(s) and to provide the tools and guidance necessary to assist in the planning, rehabilitation, upgrading, and managing of the system(s).

Gerry Geis made a motion to approve proceeding with the selection process for the Salt Creek-Edgerton-Midwest Water Master Plan, Level I Study. Larry Suchor seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- *Torrington Water Master Plan*

The Director's recommendation was to proceed with the Level I Planning Study to evaluate the current condition of the water system(s) and to provide the tools and guidance necessary to assist in the planning, rehabilitation, upgrading, and managing of the system(s).

Gerry Geis made a motion to approve proceeding with the selection process for the Torrington Water Master Plan, Level I Study. Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- *Bluff/Upper Bluff Irrigation Districts Master Plan*

The Director's recommendation was to proceed with the Level I Planning Study to assess structures on their system, investigate conveyance losses, and identify capital improvement projects for financial planning.

Gerry Geis made a motion to approve proceeding with the selection process for the Bluff/Upper Bluff Irrigation Districts Master Plan, Level I Study. Sheridan Little seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

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- Big Horn Regional Southern Water Supply

The Director's recommendation was to not proceed with the Level II Reconnaissance Study.

Jeanette Sekan made a motion to not proceed with the Big Horn Regional Southern Water Supply, Level II Study. Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- Buffalo Groundwater Supply

The Director's recommendation was to not proceed with the Level II Reconnaissance Study.

Larry Suchor made a motion to not proceed with the Buffalo Groundwater Supply, Level II Study. Sheridan Little seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- Hog Island Water Supply

The Director's recommendation was to not proceed with the Level II Reconnaissance Study.

Rodney Wagner made a motion to not proceed with the Hog Island Water Supply, Level II Study. Larry Suchor seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- Sundance West Water Supply

The Sponsor withdrew the application prior to the meeting.

- Boulder Irrigation District Rehabilitation

The Director's recommendation was to proceed with the Level II Reconnaissance Study to explore options available to the Boulder Irrigation District to improve efficiency and reduce seepage on their main canal, and assess the condition of their reservoir spillway.

Kellen Lancaster made a motion to approve proceeding with the selection process for the Boulder Irrigation District Rehabilitation, Level II Study. Karen Budd-Falen seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

- LaPrele Irrigation District Rehabilitation

The Director's recommendation was to proceed with the Level II Reconnaissance Study to build on the Level I Master Plan that is inventorying

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and assessing their storage and transmission system, investigating conveyance losses, and identifying and prioritizing capital improvement projects for financial planning. The focus of the Level II study should be to identify mitigation options for the loose boulders on the cliff walls that threaten the LaPrele Dam.

Larry Suchor made a motion to approve proceeding with the selection process for the LaPrele Irrigation District Rehabilitation, Level II Study. Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

### **13. Approval of Consultant Selection**

- Bedford Master Plan, Level I Project

Nick Bettas made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Bedford Master Plan, Level I Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed.

1. Sunrise Engineering
2. Rendezvous Engineering
3. Forsgren Associates.

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *Negotiate a reasonable cost reduction to Tasks 3, 4, and 6 relative to the Sponsor's recent expenditures on GIS, the Hydraulic Model, and Leak Detection of system losses, respectively.*

The motion was seconded by Kellen Lancaster. The motion carried unanimously.

- Big Laramie River Oasis Ditch Diversion, Level II Project

Karen Budd-Falen made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Big Laramie River Oasis Ditch Diversion, Level II Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. S E H
2. WWC Engineering
3. Anderson Consulting Engineers, Inc.

The motion was seconded by Rodney Wagner. The motion carried unanimously.

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- Big Sandy Watershed Study, Level I Project

Nick Bettas made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Big Sandy Watershed Study, Level I Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Rio Verde
2. Confluence
3. Biota Research

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *Accept scope alternate of additional mapping task, but without the \$400.00 additional cost.*

Gerry Geis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- Cheyenne Municipal Storage, Level II, Phase I Study

Gerry Geis made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Cheyenne Municipal Storage, Level II Phase I Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Trihydro
2. HDR
3. AECOM

Jeanette Sekan seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Green River – Rock Springs – Sweetwater County Joint Powers Water Board Pump Station and Transmission, Level II Study

Karen Budd-Falen made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Green River-Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Joint Powers Water Board Pump Station and Transmission, Level II Study in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Sunrise Engineering
2. Keller Associates
3. Forsgren Associates

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *Negotiate a cost for the aerial survey only as a scope alteration.*

Larry Suchor seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

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- Hanover Irrigation District Bighorn Flume Replacement, Level II Study  
Jeanette Sekan made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Hanover Irrigation District Bighorn Flume Replacement Level II Project:
    1. Inberg-Miller Engineers

Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Horse Creek Watershed Study  
Rodney Wagner made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Horse Creek Watershed Study, Level I Project accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:
  1. Anderson Consulting Engineers, Inc
  2. Adaptive Resources
  3. Olsson Associates.

Larry Suchor seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Lander Test Well, Level II Study  
Larry Suchor made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Lander Test Well, Level II Study Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:
  1. Wyoming Groundwater
  2. Wenck Associates
  3. Weston Engineering

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *1. Negotiate with the Consultant to add a Task to Phase I with no increase in Cost: Phase I, Task 1 – Project Meetings, Task 2 – Definition of Water Supply Objectives (New Task), Task 3 – Geo-Hydrologic Investigation & Well Siting*

Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Little Snake River Valley Municipal Water Supply, Level II Project  
Karen Budd-Falen made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Little Snake River Valley Municipal Water Supply, Level II Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:
  1. Wenck Associates



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2. Western Engineering and Geologists

3. Engineering Associates

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *1. Accept the scope alternate to update the existing Baggs GIS to reflect the 2018 as-built drawings, create a Dixon GIS (reflective of 2018 conditions), and to work with the towns of Dixon and Baggs in the maintenance requirements of the GIS by providing a one-day course for the Towns' operators, clerks, and other pertinent staff.*

Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Lower Laramie River Watershed, Level I Study

Jeanette Sekan made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Lower Laramie River Watershed Level I Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Anderson Consulting Engineers
2. Golder Associates

Larry Suchor seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Middle Big Horn River Watershed, Level I Study

Gerry Geis made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Middle Big Horn River Watershed, Level I Study in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Y2 Consultants
2. Woodard & Curran
3. Confluence

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *1. Incorporate the proposed scope alternative regarding the Lower Hanover Canal into the contract using the discretionary funds provided in the proposed budget. 2. Integrate the proposed scope alternative on Climate Science into the scope of work with funding being absorbed from other proposed task budgets.*

Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Osage Water Master Plan, Level I Study

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Larry Suchor made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Osage Water Master Plan, Level I Study in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Jorgensen Associates
2. James Gores & Associates
3. Dowl

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *1. Accept the scope alteration, \$5,000.00 to hydro-vac valves.*

Sheridan Little seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- *Popo Agie Watershed Study, Level I, Phase II*

Gerry Geis made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Popo Agie Watershed Study, Level I, Phase II Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Olsson Associates
2. Strike Consulting Group
3. Golder Associates

Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- *GIS Data Model Implementation*

Kellen Lancaster made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the GIS Data Model Implementation, Level I Study Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Confluence Consulting, Inc.
2. GDA
3. Ecology and Environment, Inc.

Larry Suchor seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- *Water Supply Index Level I Study*

Rodney Wagner made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Water Supply Index Level I Study Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. WEST Environmental & Statistical Consultants
2. GDA

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### 3. WWC Engineering

Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Saratoga Water Master Plan, Level I

Karen Budd-Falen made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Saratoga Water Master Plan, Level I Study Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Forsgren Associates
2. WLC
3. North Fork Engineering

Gerry Geis seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Sheridan Municipal Watershed Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Assessment, Level I Study

Sheridan Little made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Sheridan Municipal Watershed Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Assessment, Level I Study Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Anchor Point
2. SWCA
3. Y2 Consultants

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *1. Accept the scope alteration of extending the fire behavior model to include the HUC 10 watersheds of Fool Creek and South Piney Creek at no additional cost.*

Rodney Wagner seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- Sheridan Water Master Plan, Level I Study

Larry Suchor made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Sheridan Water Master Plan, Level I Study Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. DOWL
2. EnTech
3. Woodard & Curran

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Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *1. Integrate DOWL's proposed no-cost alternatives into the contract scope of work.*

Sheridan Little seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

- *Silver Lake Dam Rehabilitation, Level II Study*

Nick Bettas made a motion that the Director be instructed to begin negotiations for consulting services on the Silver Lake Dam Rehabilitation, Level II Study Project in accordance with the following ranking of the firms interviewed:

1. Rio Verde Engineering
2. S E H
3. Golder Associates

Further, the Selection Committee offers the following suggestions to the Director during the negotiations: *1. Revise the cost itemization to include the cost associated with the additional overall cost of the project due to its location and limitations which will be imposed by the Forest Service.*

Larry Suchor seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

#### **14. Construction Project Progress Report**

Bryan Clerkin gave an update on the following Level III Construction projects:

- Boulder Flats Water Supply
- Buffalo Main Street Pipeline
- Buffalo Tank Valve Project
- Cowley Tank 2017
- Manville Well Connection
- Northwest Rural Water System Improvements 2018
- Rock River Transmission Pipeline Replacement
- Shoshone Transmission Pipeline 2016
- Thermopolis Pipeline 2017

#### **15. Proposed Chapter 8 Rules – Approval and recommendation for adoption**

Director LaBonde informed the Commission no comments were received during the public comment period on Chapter 8 – Delegation of Duties.

Karen Budd-Falen made a motion for final approval of Chapter 8 and to proceed with the final rule submittal to the Secretary of State and Governor's Office.

Larry Suchor seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

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## 16. Discussion

Review of Survey questions for Gillette area water districts: Bryan Clerkin presented the Commission with the draft survey.

Director LaBonde provided an update on the Pathfinder Proposal in the Platte River Recovery Program. He informed the Commission the State supports the proposed extension of the PRRIP, but not the Pathfinder Proposal at this time.

Director LaBonde provided an update on the negotiations for Lake DeSmet Water Assets. There will most likely be a consideration for purchase agreement presented in June to the Commission and Select Water Committee.

Director LaBonde also provided the Commission with a list of the interim topics to be discussed by Joint Ag, and Select Water Committees.

## 17. Future Meetings Schedule

The next meeting is a joint meeting with Joint Ag and SWC in Pinedale, WY on June 14-15, 2018.

A groundbreaking will be scheduled most likely in July for the Middle Piney Reservoir Rehabilitation. Director LaBonde will keep the Commission informed as to the details.

The August meeting will be held in Gillette. Room reservations have been made and details will be forthcoming.

Kellen Lancaster made a motion to adjourn at 12:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kellen Lancaster, Secretary