

EMIGRATION IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 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, Jeremy Cook—Legal Counsel, Don Barnett--Barnett Intermountain Consulting

Chair Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**1. Consent Approval - Minutes for November 14, 2019**

MOTION: Brent Tippetts made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2019 Trustee Meeting as written. David Bradford 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 pointed out that the legal category will need more funds before the end of the year. He proposed moving \$15,000 from maintenance/repairs and add it to the legal category.

MOTION: Brent Tippetts made a motion to move \$15,000 from maintenance/repairs category to the legal category. David Bradford seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

### **3. Approve Board Meeting Schedule for 2020**

The Board members agreed to continue with the same schedule next year.

### **4. FY2020 Budget Hearing and Approval**

The Board members discussed the proposed budget. Most of the categories don't fluctuate from year to year except legal expenses and maintenance, depending on what happens during the year. The accountant mentioned that if we do radio read meters and telemetry that would come under capitalized development work. The Board members agreed that they would prefer to install the radio read meters first instead of telemetry if they can't do both. The meters will generate revenue sooner and could help pay for the telemetry. They would want to move on the meters in early spring. There is a possibility of doing the meters and then depending on how much they are able to collect in pending legal fees they could look at doing the telemetry. Jeremy Cook discussed the possibility of collecting on fees.

The Board opened it up for public comment. There were no comments.

MOTION: Chair Hughes made a motion to approve the 2020 Budget as written. David Bradford seconded the motion.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

### **5. Discussion of cluster septic systems; master planning of area and types of wastewater systems; EPA Grant for Watershed Study including Stakeholders through Metro-township—Sustainability Alliance—Mindy McAnulty/Willy Stokman**

The Sustainability Alliance had several points of discussion. First of all, Willy Stokman talked about an EPA grant for a watershed study. It would be a framework to protect the water quality in the canyon. Some of their concerns are flood control, drought conditions, habitat protection, and education outreach to the community. Stakeholders would include EID, Emigration Metro Township, Salt Lake County, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake City Public Utilities, Division of Water Rights, and others. Although they liked the concept of doing the study, the Board members were

hesitant about forming an alliance with entities that have conflicting interests. They would like the research and the information, but they are sensitive about forming partnerships with some of the proposed stakeholders. The Sustainability Alliance is working on the application now and will present it to the Metro Township in January. They may hire a consultant to carry out the study. Kirtly Jones from the audience asked if they have examples of other watershed studies from other residential canyons near major metropolitan areas. Salt Lake County has done one for the entire Wasatch Front. Sandy Wingert from the Division of Water Quality is going to be helping with the study. Mrs. Jones said she would reach out to Ms. Wingert. The Sustainability Alliance is seeking EID's support. The EID would like to see what they are going to submit before they can lend full support.

Mindy McAnulty addressed their next point--cluster systems. The Sustainability Alliance asked where things stand for moving along with the cluster system plan. The Board explained that some legislation needs to change some outdated laws and regulations. Mayor Smolka has asked Chair Hughes to get him a written draft of the regulations that need to change. They plan to implement something that can be duplicated in problem areas of the canyon, but it takes time. The progress has been stalled by years of convincing SLCo and DEQ to abandon plans of a canyon-wide sewer system. Upon resolution, the District has focused time and funds towards litigation efforts. They discussed some of the logistics of cluster systems—including easements and properties, grant money, drain fields, and the issues with legislation that need to change.

The last piece of discussion dealt with solutions for getting homeowners to pump their septic systems. Brent Tippets said he has found a lot of materials from the EPA that the District could use: door-hang tags, postcards, and mailers. They would like to put one in their water bill. They can also distribute good information and education through the FireWise event. Discussion was held about assisting the Emigration Canyon Community Council in putting together a welcome packet for new move-ins, including information about being a septic owner. The District would like to have a good business contact for pumping septic systems to recommend to homeowners.

## **6. Water Levels Report**

Mr. Barnett reported on the water usage. November was below the average. The last 3-5 years have shown a marked improvement in per-connection usage. Monitor well reads from a week ago show that none have started to increase since August. They are starting to get ready to respond and go back up. 2019 started off with a good deal of precipitation, but the end of the summer was really dry. Ground water response shows what would be anticipated. Discussion followed about the logistics of putting a gauge back in to the location at the bottom of Pinecrest and monitor it. It's important to the EID to pay attention and to get this data. The District will continue to investigate this possibility.

Mr. Hawkes reported that Well 1 is down 128 feet, Well 2 is down 110 feet. These are good levels, especially considering they have been used a lot all year.

## **7. Maintenance Report**

A report was given on maintenance issues from the previous month. There was a repair on a leak at 100 N Margarethe Ln. In the spring, we'll have to dig it up and redo the patch. There was discussion about the possibility of taking the VFD (variable frequency drive) from the Upper Freeze Creek Well and putting it on Well 2. It would allow them to run the system more efficiently and help with the wear and tear on the equipment. Chair Hughes thought that it would be good to consider in the future.

## **8. Any Items for Discussion from Board and/or from Visiting Public, Dismiss Public**

Willy Stokman asked if the information on lead went out to all the homes. Mr. Hawkes responded that they sent a physical mailer to all EID accounts—more than 500 properties. Then the District sent an email to the list of over 300 people who have signed up. Ms. Stokman would really like to work on getting a list of addresses for the whole canyon. The EID would also encourage everyone to sign up on CodeRed and to sign up for the District's email list. Mr. Joe Smolka said the construction is from power lines going underground.

## **9. Closed Session – Pending Litigation**

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 9:04 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Those present included the Board of Trustees, Eric Hawkes, Jeremy Cook, Joe Smolka, Don Barnett.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor of the motion.

The regular meeting of the Emigration Improvement District adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Minutes Approved