

**MINUTES OF THE
GRANGER-HUNTER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Granger-Hunter Improvement District was held Thursday, September 1, 2020, at 3:00 P.M. at the District office located at 2888 S. 3600 W., West Valley City, Utah.

This meeting was conducted electronically in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act (Utah Code Ann. (1953) §§ 52-4-1 et seq.) and Chapter 7.12 of the Administrative Policy and Procedures Manual (“Electronic Meetings”).

Trustees Present:

Debra Armstrong	Chair
Corey Rushton	Trustee
Russell Sanderson	Trustee

Staff Members Present:

Jason Helm	Interim General Manager
Kim Coleman	Chief Financial Officer
Kristy Johnson	Executive Assistant
Michelle Ketchum	Director of Administration
Dustin Martindale	Director of Water Systems
Ricky Necaise	Director of Wastewater
Todd Marti	Director of Engineering
Justin Gallegos	Director of Information Technology
Austin Ballard	Controller

Guests:

Brent Rose	Legal Counsel – Clyde Snow & Sessions PC
Roger Nordgren	Former GHID Board Member/West Valley City Resident
Robert Burke	West Valley City Resident – Left at first closed session

(Electronically):

Ian Bailey	GIS Specialist/IT Specialist, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Adam Spackman	System Administrator, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Derrick McMichael	Valve Technician, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Nathan Farrer	Safety Coordinator, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Shawn Ellis	Water Systems Division Manager, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Teresa Higgs	Customer Service Representative, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Marinda Miller	Customer Service Representative, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Idanely Orosco	Customer Service Representative, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Brooke Peterson	Customer Service Representative, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Debra Harvey	Customer Service Representative, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Steve Starr	Water Systems Division Manager, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Brody Lauer	Systems Operator, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Kasey Newbold	Foreman, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Kelly Robison	Fleet Maintenance, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Jace Bush	Meter Technician, Granger-Hunter Improvement District
Tom Thompson	Member of the Public
Sammy Coleman	Member of the Public

Guests Cont.

Larry Miller
Christina McMichael
Gary Ashdown
Andy Garland

Member of the Public
Member of the Public
Member of the Public
Member of the Public

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 P.M. Debra Armstrong called the meeting to order and recognized all those present.

Public Comments

Robert Burke: Stated that his son, Kenneth Burke, is a former employee of GHID. Robert spoke of an anonymous letter that was sent to the Board and requested a copy of the letter so that he may read it. Mr. Burke specified that his son, Kenneth denies writing the letter, and he mentioned a retirement luncheon that took place a day prior to this board meeting. He said that after the luncheon there was a conversation involving the financial officer and one of Kenneth's friends, who is still employed at GHID, in which the financial officer implied that Kenneth and this friend "started all of this." Mr. Burke asked about the closed session on the agenda and asked what the Board has to hide. Debra Armstrong explained the closed session guidelines and the purpose of a closed session. Ms. Armstrong explained that the anonymous letter does exist and that it was only sent to Russell Sanderson and Corey Rushton. Mr. Burke reiterated that his son, Kenneth Burke did not write the letter. After further discussion with Brent Rose, the District's legal counsel, Mr. Burke was encouraged to submit a GRAMA request for a copy of the anonymous letter. Mr. Burke spoke further about his son's termination from GHID.

Roger Nordgren: Referenced the agenda item of selecting the General Manager. Mr. Nordgren discussed the lack of transparency regarding the change in the General Manager and the placement of an Interim General Manager. He referenced the board meeting minutes since March and their lack of information regarding these changes. He also referred to the repeating Special Meetings and closed sessions with limited information about the reasoning behind them. Mr. Nordgren expressed his interest in hearing how the Board feels about the concept and the principal of transparency and openness with the public. Debra Armstrong took responsibility for the lack of announcement regarding Clint Jensen's resignation as General Manager and the appointment of Jason Helm as the Interim General Manager. She explained the unusual nature of the circumstances and apologized for the lack of information. Corey Rushton and Russell Sanderson also discussed the uniqueness of the situation and the multiple personnel issues that required discussion within open and closed board meetings. Mr. Nordgren clarified that his concern wasn't about closed sessions or the amount of meetings but the lack of announcement regarding the change in General Manager personnel. Mr. Nordgren expressed his gratitude for the Board's service.

Robert Burke: Stated that there was mention of \$1 million lost in the District's financial audit. Mr. Burke asked if that's why Kim Coleman, the Chief Financial Officer was leaving the District. Debra Armstrong explained that the \$1 million loss was a rumored amount and that Mr. Coleman was not leaving due to the loss. Mr. Burke asked if the District will be interviewing General Manager candidates from outside of the District. Ms. Armstrong explained that there were 25 qualified applicants and the second closed session on the agenda was to discuss that process.

Conflicts of interest

Brent Rose asked the reasoning behind this agenda item. Corey Rushton explained that it's to remind the Trustees, prior to voting on agenda items, to check for conflicts of interest that may occur with any items listed on each meeting's agenda. When asked if there were any conflicts of interest, Mr. Rushton explained that he had sent a letter to the Board in August which will be a conflict of interest with items D. and E. on the agenda regarding a closed session and the discussion of the General Manager selection. Roger Nordgren asked if the referenced letter is public record. Mr. Rose had not seen the letter yet and was not sure if it was public record. Mr. Rushton explained that it could be public record and would have to be requested through a GRAMA request.

Amend District Policy

The Board considered approval of Resolution 09-01-20 amending the District Administrative Policy. Brent Rose explained that Resolution 09-01-20 would amend the District Administrative Policy 4.3 – B to read “By majority vote, the Board shall appoint the General Manager...” Russell Sanderson made a motion to approve Resolution 09-01-20 as noted. Following a second from Debra Armstrong, the motion passed as follows:

Armstrong – aye Rushton – aye Sanderson – aye

At 3:31 P.M. a brief recess took place to discuss the nature of the first closed session on the agenda. Russell Sanderson and Brent Rose left the room briefly discuss the matter. At 3:33 P.M. the meeting reconvened and it was decided that a closed session was necessary.

CLOSED SESSION

At 3:34 P.M., Debra Armstrong made a motion to enter into a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. The Board members and Brent Rose remained present during the closed session. Following a second from Corey Rushton, the motion passed as follows;

Armstrong – aye Rushton – aye Sanderson – aye

At 3:48 P.M., Corey Rushton made a motion to end the closed session and enter back into an open session. Following a second from Debra Armstrong, the motion passed as follows;

Armstrong – aye Rushton – aye Sanderson – aye

BOARD DISCUSSION
Discussion of Proposed Strategic Plan

Corey Rushton discussed the proposed Strategic Plan. Mr. Rushton noted that a copy of the proposed Strategic Plan was given to each of the members of the Board. Russell Sanderson requested more time to review the proposed plan. Debra Armstrong discussed a potential Strategic Planning meeting. Mr. Rushton suggested that the Strategic Plan be finalized prior to approving a District budget.

CLOSED SESSION

At 3:57 P.M., Russell Sanderson made a motion to enter into a closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Debra Armstrong, Russell Sanderson and Brent Rose remained present during the closed session. Following a second from Debra Armstrong, the motion passed as follows;

Armstrong – aye Rushton – *Recused himself from voting* Sanderson – aye

At 4:12 P.M., Ms. Armstrong made a motion to end the closed session and enter back into an open session. Following a second from Russell Sanderson, the motion passed as follows;

Armstrong – aye Rushton – *Was not present for closed session* Sanderson – aye

BOARD DISCUSSION
Discuss General Manager Selection

Debra Armstrong explained that the Board would interview the internal applicants for the General Manager position on Thursday, September 3, 2020 beginning at 8:00 A.M. A Special Board Meeting will follow the interviews at 9:00 A.M. in which, the Board will make the decision on who will be the General Manager.

ADJOURNED

Inasmuch as all agenda items have been satisfied, Corey Rushton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Following a second from Russell Sanderson, the motion passed as follows and the meeting adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Armstrong – aye Rushton – aye Sanderson – aye

Debra K. Armstrong, Chair



Austin Ballard, Clerk


