

Approved

Council Meeting

Minutes

25 January 2000

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25 January 2000

Cache County Council Meeting Minutes 25 January 2000

The Cache County Council met in a regular session on 25 January 2000 in the Cache County Council Chamber, 120 North 100 West, Logan, Utah 84321

Attendance

Council Chairman: Darrel L. Gibbons

Council Vice-Chairman: H. Craig Petersen

Council Members: C. Larry Anhder, Layne M. Beck, Guy Ray Pulsipher, Sarah Ann Skanchy, Cory Yeates

Cache County Executive: M. Lynn Lemon

Cache County Clerk: Daryl R. Downs

The following individuals were also in attendance: Pat Parker, Tamra Stones, Joe Kirby, Scott Wyatt, Jim Smith, Kelly Pitcher, Lorene Greenhalgh, Thad Erickson, Steve Dewey, Joe Maynard, Joel Merritt, May Coover, Merv Coover, Sheryl Eames, Mike Livsey (Cache Citizen), Jenny Christensen (KVNU).

Call to Order

Chairman Gibbons called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Invocation

The invocation was offered by Lynn Lemon, County Executive.

Executive Session Motion

Mr. Yeates moved that the council go into an executive session at the conclusion of the regular council meeting. Mr. Pulsipher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The purpose of the session is to discuss land acquisition.

Agenda and Minutes

Chairman Gibbons asked that item 10 (a) be tabled and moved to the 14 March 2000 agenda. The chairman noted that Jim Smith had been in contact with Shawn Guzman, an attorney and the Risk Manager for the Utah Association of Counties Insurance Mutual, who told Mr. Smith that our current personnel manual is not in harmony with the County Personnel Management Act.

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The chairman suggested that it would be more appropriate to deal with all of the issues on one occasion.

The chairman also said that the council has not received the paperwork for item 11(a), which is Resolution 00-03. The chairman moved this item to the next agenda.

The minutes of 11 January 2000 were reviewed, corrected, and approved.

Report of the County Executive

Appointments

Cache County Planning Commission

Linda Christiansen to fill the unexpired term of Judy Jenson which ends 31 December 2000.

College-Young Township Board

Greg Olsen reappointed to a second four-year term.

Mr. Yeates moved that the council approve Mr. Lemon's recommendations. Ms. Skanchy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Attachment #1

Other Items

There will be a public meeting on 9 February 2000 at North Park Elementary from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to discuss the CMPO projects.

UDOT has recommended building an overpass at 1100 South in Brigham City. They have asked if the council would like to have a representative on a committee to discuss the issue.

No information on cloud seeding.

Mr. Lemon gave the clerk the warrant register.

Mr. Petersen asked Mr. Lemon if the consultant was going forward with the feasibility study. She will be meeting with Mr. Teuscher and other county officials on Thursday, 27 January 2000. She is also planning to meet with Logan City and Nibley City and with those individuals who are within the boundaries, but who want their land removed from the area. Later that day she will also meet with the sponsors.

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Mr. Petersen also asked about the ambulance committee. Mr. Lemon has spoken with Mayor Thompson. The mayor said that they need to make a couple of new appointments, and then the committee could move forward.

Items of Special Interest

Weed Department Report

Mr. Joel Merritt, County Weed Department, wanted to share his purpose and goals for the coming year and to enlist the support of the council. Joel wanted to inform the council about the Weed Department's 2000 Operating Plan. He reported that citizens have concerns about the noxious weeds that threaten areas of the county, stating that many acres of land are lost each year to noxious weeds. Everyone, not just the farmers are affected.

Joel wanted to focus on three goals: education and awareness, mapping and surveying, and control and enforcement.

Managing the weeds in the county can be an overwhelming task. The department has tried to develop some educational guides to help people recognize weeds. They are currently putting together a Utah Noxious Weed Book and have currently raised \$8,000.00 dollars to help publish the book. The book will contain lists of all the noxious weeds in the state. The Forest Service, UDOT, DWR, and State Lands and Forestry have all expressed interest in the book.

Joel is currently vice-chairman of the Utah Idaho Weed Cooperative Management Association. The cooperative currently includes 17 partners from five counties (Franklin, Oneida, Bannock, Cache, and Box Elder) and covers more than 6.5 million acres.

When combating weed, the first task is to identify the weed management problem and to develop an extensive mapping system. The department now has a new computer and GIS/GPS technology that will help them identify where the weeds are located. They also obtained grant money which allowed them to spend \$3,000.00 more on mapping software. The computer and software cost \$6,000.00 and came from outside funding.

Joel said the purpose of all this work is to go after the weeds. Medusahead rye has reduced grazing from 40 to 70% in infested areas. The plant, which is native to Asia, has infested 260 acres between Avon and Paradise. The weed department was successful in getting \$1,500.00 from the State Steering Committee on Grazing Lands to help with the effort. The group has also approached the Blacksmith Fork Soil Conservation District about a sponsorship. The district agreed that this is a serious problem and agreed to help. The district is trying to obtain funding and if successful will give that funding to private land owners.

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Joel is also aware of a second project to help keep rangeland viable and productive. A group of private landowners has applied for a \$7,414.00 Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grant. \$10,230.00 has been donated as matching funds and in-kind. This effort will also have long lasting effects. The department will also be working with Steve Dewey to find additional state money for a research grant to combat the Medusahead rye.

To conclude, Joel mentioned that he would like to see a Coordinated Resource Management Group created. Such a group, he said, would be useful in making resource related decisions and resolving these problems on a large scale. He asked for the support of the council in this process.

Joel said much time and effort is put into his job and that the job is a year-round task and requires a variety of professional skills in management, botany, organic chemistry, and soils. The work also requires a great deal of planning, much persistence, and commitment.

Ms. Skanchy asked for a description of the book that was to be published. Joel noted that the book will include color photographs and information about each type of weed.

Mr. Lemon asked if the Medusahead rye sightings had been entered into a computer database. Joel said that they have been entered. They are also working on developing methods to destroy this noxious weed, but it is an extensive and a difficult process. Some areas will need to be burned and others will be sprayed and then the areas will be re-seeded with good seed.

Mr. Yeates asked if the same weeds are listed for the different areas in Idaho and in Box Elder County. Many of the weeds are common to all areas and spread from one county to another. The cooperative is more successful at dealing with this problem than a single county would be.

Mr. Anhder asked about the prognosis for Dyers Woad. They are managing the problem, but Joel is not optimistic that it will be eradicated, although they have had some success with a rust. Efforts need to be refocused so that its range is at least controlled and does not expand.

Mr. Lemon mentioned that he had heard that Bear Lake and Rich County are putting together a cooperative.

Joel has not found a great deal of support for the noxious weed program in Utah. He thinks the weed problem is not recognized as being a serious one. Money is normally given to higher priorities. Most of the weeds that infest our county have been introduced from outside our state and often outside our country.

Chairman Gibbons told Mr. Merritt that he had the support of the county in this matter.

Attachment #2

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Pending Action

Resolution 00-01

This resolution was tabled until the 14 March 2000 council meeting.

Water Policy Discussion

Mr. Gibbons said that during the budget process the council allocated money for the Water Advisory Board's projects, but they did not specifically identify the highest priorities.

The chairman invited Mr. Anhder to tell the council where the board currently stands. Mr. Anhder said that until the board gets some additional direction from the council they do not intend to meet again. The current members believe there is a need for a new focus. They also think that a different type of representation should be available. They have recommended a .0001 tax rate increase. They appreciate the budgeted money, but feel that more is needed. Mr. Anhder recommends continuing with the recommendations of the advisory board with the exception of creating a Department of Water Resource Management.

The board's recommendations are listed in attachment #3.

The board last met in June 1999. Mr. Gibbons asked how many of the terms have expired. Mr. Lemon responded that about ½ had expired and that about ½ would expire in 2000.

The Wise Water Planning Group, after the defeat of the Water Conservancy District in 1999, recommended to the council that more professionals and technical people be appointed to the board. Mr. Anhder thinks that the members should be water users and owners and not technocrats who are not stakeholders. He also said they have often asked for help from these professionals, but, he said, such individuals are not inclined to offer their help for free.

Mr. Anhder said that there is currently talk in favor of organizing water companies. He indicated that this may be due to a perception that the council is not moving forward on the issue. He mentioned the concern of irrigation company leaders who worry about liability if storm water management does not work and a canal fails due to excessive runoff. He said that there are two basic groups of water users in the valley—those who own the water, the farmers, and those who need the water, the cities. Mr. Anhder thinks that we will gain more by working together on the issue than by working individually.

Mr. Petersen asked what function the new board would serve. He noted that the composition of this board is similar to that of the proposed Water Conservancy Board. Mr. Petersen thinks that the purpose of this board is more advisory in nature and that it lends itself to having more technical people as board members. This board would function differently according to Mr.

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Petersen than the one proposed for the Water Conservancy District.

Mr. Anhder disagreed with Mr. Petersen.

Chairman Gibbons said that one of his frustrations with the prior board was that the old board could never come to a consensus when a recommendation needed to be made. The chairman would be more comfortable with their decisions if they were in agreement.

Mr. Anhder wants to be as inclusive as possible. He thinks this is less problematic. Mr. Anhder thinks the council will help avoid a variety of problems by including a larger group of stakeholders.

Mr. Lemon said he thinks they would represent their own interests first.

Mr. Gibbons said that the canal companies are very concerned about rights being sold to municipalities without the canal companies having the first right to purchase them. He has a neighbor who recently sold his share to another entity for \$20,000.00 per share . At the very least, the board would create a forum for discussion. Mr Anhder said that increasingly the land does not get sold with its water rights. If the county gives up all of its water, the valley would be brown by July.

The water will increasingly become more valuable than the land.

Ms. Skanchy would like a reiteration of the feelings of the other groups who have an interest in this issue. Mr. Gibbons thinks that the council needs to make a decision on the creation of a new board. He would like to go on record saying that he is in support of creating a new advisory board. Mr. Lemon said that money has been appropriated and some priorities need to be set. If a board is not going to be appointed, the council should make a decision about which projects need to be implemented. Mr. Gibbons suggested that the budget process identified the priorities. Mr. Lemon restated that if a board is not going to be appointed, the council should move forward with its priorities on these water issues.

Ms. Skanchy moved that the council appoint a new board. She also indicated that the council could identify what needs to be done and could make a decision. The projects that were originally identified were listed by priority during the budget hearings.

The council asked Mr. Erickson to briefly identify the projects that needed funding. Mr. Erickson said that a letter of support for the monitoring proposal suggested by the Utah State University Water Research Laboratory would be sufficient for now, and that it would not require any financial commitment on the part of the county initially.

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Mr. Petersen moved that the council support the letter prepared by Mr. Erickson. Mr. Beck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Erickson said that over a three-year period the county had more or less committed money to the Aquifer Classification program. The EPA has spent \$80,000.00 and the county \$2,000.00 on Aquifer Classification, and another \$20,000.00 is needed to complete the work. Mr. Erickson felt that it is necessary that the county spend the \$20,000.00 and keep its commitment to this project. The remaining \$10,000.00 should be used for aquifer storage and recovery research.

Mr. Petersen felt that at some point the composition of a new Water Advisory Board needed to be addressed. Mr. Gibbons scheduled a time for the second meeting in February, which would allow all of the interested parties to offer their suggestions about the appropriate composition of the proposed Water Advisory Board. Mr. Petersen said that he hoped the two major groups could come together with some agreeable compromise that suited everyone.

Mr. Anhder said that the existing advisory board had already listened to all of the involved parties and had given a recommendation for the creation of a new Water Advisory Board. He said that the council should now follow or at least consider the current recommendation. He asked why the council now needs to listen to all of the parties again. Mr. Petersen said that the nature of the board's responsibility has changed since the defeat of the Water Conservancy District. Mr. Anhder asked if this is the new pattern. Will the council allow others to make a recommendation after the recommendation of other appointed boards?

Ms. Skanchy also felt that it would be appropriate to hear the various parties again. She felt that some of the contention could be resolved by hearing all of the concerns about the barrens reservoir, etc.

Attachment #3
Attachment #4

Initial Proposal for Consideration of Action

Resolution 00-03

Consideration for adoption of a Resolution authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Cache County, Utah, Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes, in the aggregate principal amount of approximately \$4,100,000.00, awarding and confirming sale of the notes, entering into certain covenants and making certain representations in connection therewith; approving the form of the notes; and related matters.

The council moved this item to the next council meeting.

Proposed Change in Voting Precinct Boundaries

The Clerk explained that the council is given authority to establish, divide, abolish, and change voting precincts. Mr. Downs noted that in 1999 the prior Clerk, Mr. Stephen Erickson had proposed the division of one precinct in Smithfield. At that time, many other precincts could have been split due to their size, but they were not. Mr. Downs believes that it would be more advantageous to do the entire process at one time. The 2000 Census will begin shortly, and, after the 2000 Census is completed, the legislature will be working on redistricting legislative boundaries. Each of these projects will have an effect on the process of splitting precincts. Mr. Downs would like to begin work on a plan that would provide for looking at all of the precincts within the county. Then at the appropriate time, after a complete review of the situation, every precinct that needs to be established, divided, abolished, or changed could be dealt with.

Mr. Downs quoted a memorandum from Mr. Erickson dated 22 January 1999. This memorandum indicated a need to do some splitting, but also said, "So we will hold off on any further precinct changes until January 2001."

Ms. Skanchy moved that the council wait to split precincts until after the 2000 Census and legislative redistricting. Mr. Pulsipher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Other Business

Ms. Skanchy moved that the council move item 12(a) and 12(b) to the next agenda and that the council meet with the Logan City Council on the 5th Tuesday of appropriate months.

Council Member assignments to various boards and committees

Rather than move this item, as suggested by Ms. Skanchy, the chairman asked the council members if any of them would like to change assignments. All members were content with their current assignments. The chairman mentioned that Layne Beck had been appointed as chairman of the BRAG Board earlier in the day.

Council member concerns and /or goals for the year 2000

The chairman asked if any of the members had concerns or goals for the year 2000. Ms. Skanchy said that she thought there were concerns, but she would like to take more time on another night to articulate her goals and concerns.

The chairman also asked Mr. Yeates and Mr. Petersen to list any goals or concerns that they might have in writing and to submit those to the council for the next meeting.

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Cache County Council joint meeting with Logan City Council on 5th Tuesday of the appropriate months in the year 2000.

It was agreed that this would be a good idea and the first meeting was suggested for the 5th Tuesday in February 2000.

Council Member Reports

No reports were given.

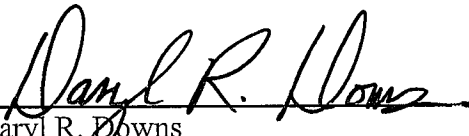
Executive Session

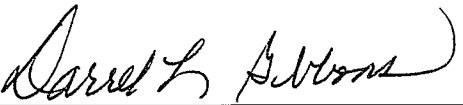
Mr. Petersen moved that the council go into an Executive Session. Mr Yeates seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

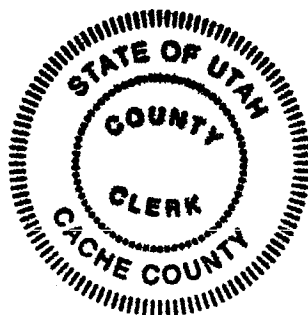
The executive session began at 6:43 p.m. and ended at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Adjournment

Chairman Darrel L. Gibbons adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.


Daryl R. Downs
Cache County Clerk


Darrel L. Gibbons
Chairman, Cache County Council



January 25, 2000

Appointments

Cache County Planning Commission

**Linda Christiansen, 6600 South 1800 West, Hyrum, UT 84319 (435) 245-3725
to fill unexpired term of Judy Jenson which expires on December 31, 2000**

College Young Township Board

**Greg Olsen, 1221 South 3200 West, Logan, UT 84321 (435) 753-0207
Reappointed for a second four year term. (Until Petition issue is settled)**

Weed Department Summary of Events 1999-2000

- ❑ **Currently vice-chairman of the Utah Idaho Weed Cooperative Association** - Includes 17 partners, five counties which includes Franklin, Cache, Bannock, Oneida, Box Elder and covers 6.5 million acres of land. Goals are to coordinate on public relations, education and training. Cooperate on weed eradication and resource protection. Help to foster sound and desirable weed control.

- ❑ **Woad Task Force Committee member** - Goals are to reinitiate efforts in control of Dyer's Woad using both chemical and biological control methods and to refocus an education emphasis in the five county area. Committee members include Jim Hull, Franklin County Weed Supervisor; Jerry Hobson, Bannock County Weed Supervisor; Jack Evans, Utah State Professor of Plants and Soils; and Steve Dewey, Utah State Extension Weed Specialist.

- ❑ **GLCI Grant** - Initiative set up by Mike Ralphs (a private landowner) and the County Weed Department. A survey conducted by Rangeland students from Utah State University involving a five-mile vicinity in the Avon and Paradise area for Medusahead rye. Forty-two sites have been found averaging 100 feet square to four acres involving ten landowners and more than 260 infested acres. This information was then used to compile reports that went to the State Steering Committee over grazing lands where they provided \$1500.00 to go toward help in fighting this invasion.

- ❑ **Blacksmith Fork Conservation District** - After the initial survey by the Rangeland students, Mike Ralphs and the Weed Department also approached the BSFCD for sponsorship to control Medusahead rye. They accepted the sponsorship and are now in the process of establishing a proposal that will be submitted to see if money can be funneled down to private landowners who participate through the NRCS which will receive funds from the Equip program.

- ❑ **Sustain Agriculture Research and Education Grant** - Organized by five private landowners to pursue state monies for the help in establishing suitable and sensible techniques in the control of Medusahead rye. Landowners include the following: Guy Ray Pulsipher, Mike Ralphs, Phil Olsen, Wayne Gibbs, and Tony Ward. Technical Advisors will include Steve Dewey, Extension Weed Specialist; Roger Banner, Extension Range Specialist; Blair Waldron, Geneticist; Jeff Barnes, NRCS Range Conservationist; Joel Merritt, Cache County Weed Officer; Kelly Pitcher, Cache County Fire Marshall.

- ❑ **Utah Noxious Weed Field Guide** - Project undertaken by the County Weed Department along with Steve Dewey to compile and create a statewide handbook containing the noxious and invading weeds of the state of Utah. Self-funded by the efforts of the Cache County Weed Department. Also, compiled and completed at the Weed Department. This book will be distributed throughout the entire state and be used to educate and inform many people.
- ❑ **Mapping and Survey** - The County Weed Department is currently in the process of doing some extensive mapping of certain noxious weeds. This project was made possible by the help of the Utah & Idaho Weed Cooperative and by a grant obtained from ESRI. This information will be made available to any interested parties. It will also be used to plan and evaluate projects that may be completed in the coming year. Also, with this technology, we can now become more productive and have information available to continue to seek outside help in this effort to control noxious weeds.
- ❑ **Coordinated Resource Management Group** - This is an organization established at the county level to help bring together resource planning or management in situations where mixed land ownership or multiple resource management issues are involved and to focus on a common problem with which concerns and issues may be addressed and solved.
- ❑ **Work Groups and Service Projects** - This year we have been approached and will be conducting educational meetings with volunteers that wish to help in the effort to educate and carry out service projects in their area.
- ❑ **Five County Wide Essay Contest** - This is an annual contest sponsored by the Utah & Idaho Weed Cooperative. It involves all the schools in the five county area and money is awarded as prizes. Each participant is responsible for writing a 500-word essay on "Why Noxious Weed Affects Me." The first place winner receives \$150.00, second place receives \$75.00 and third place receives \$25.00 in each school. A grand prize winner is then selected by the steering committee to receive a \$300.00 cash award. We had four winners in the Cache County area in 1999.
- ❑ **Spurgefest '99** - I was asked to represent the five counties (U & I) at the Spurgefest Symposium in Medora, ND from June 29 to July 1. I was able to see first hand the overwhelming problems that are now facing this state in the control of Leafy Spurge. I was amazed at the acreage that was consumed and even more amazed at the amount of money lost due to the loss of production that comes when weed problems are not addressed and taken seriously early on. Leafy Spurge is present in Cache Valley and we are taking the needed steps to make sure that we can contain and control it.

March 16, 1999

RECOMENDATION TO THE CACHE COUNTY COUNCIL

1. Disband the present County Water Policy Advisory Board.
 2. Create a Cache County Department of Water Resource Management.
 3. Appoint a Cache Water Resource Management Board.
 4. 11 Member Board:
 1. Cache County Council Member (Living outside of Logan)
 2. Logan City Elected official.
 3. Logan City recomended Board Member.
 4. One recomended by Cache Mayors Council.
 5. One at large Business person.
 6. One irrigator } North end Large
 7. One irrigator } South end Small ?
 8. Farm Organization, one.
 9. One from Soil Conservation Districts.
 10. Two- at large members from citizens:
Hydralogists, Engineers, Housewife, Economist.
- Total 11
5. 1 - 2 - 3 Year terms to start out, 3 year terms after.
 6. 1 mill tax levy.
 7. Hire a director, manager.

CACHE COUNTY WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT:

The purpose of the department is to coordinate water resources planning and management to insure a safe, secure, economical supply of a sufficient quantity of water of adequate quality to meet the domestic, agricultural, environmental, and industrial needs of Cache County through the year 2050.

*Currently a part of the Cache County Countywide Comprehensive Plan Adopted January 27, 1998

PRIORITIES:

1. Protect existing water rights.
2. Insure that the 60,000 acre-feet/year of Bear River water legislatively apportioned to Cache County is available for use in Cache County.
3. Keep existing perfected water rights in Cache County as water uses change and transfers occur.
4. Protect (and improve as needed) the quality of surface and ground waters.*
5. Develop a regional storm water management plan.*
6. Protect and enhance natural and wildlife resources through coordinated management.*

ACTION ITEMS FOR PRIORITY IMPLEMENTATION:

1. Inventory ground and surface waters* and develop conjunctive use strategies.
 - a. Identify and gather available data.*
 - b. Utilize test/observation wells.*
 - c. Estimate canal seepage.
 - d. Estimate evapotranspiration.
 - e. Conduct geochemical/isotope studies.
 - f. Calibrate models for stream/aquifer systems management.
2. Determine sources and potential sources of ground and surface water contamination.*
3. Develop source delineation and protection plans for culinary wells and springs.*
4. Utilize a coordinated Remote Sensing/GIS system for planning and management.
 - a. Identify existing digital data layers
 - b. Categorize existing digital data layers.
 - c. Determine data needs.
5. Gather, develop (as needed), and disseminate water education materials.
6. Coordinate with municipalities and irrigation companies* through interlocal agreements.
7. Coordinate with State and Federal agencies and departments to achieve priorities.*
8. Project, plan, and coordinate with cities to meet future Cache County water development needs.*
9. Assess storage alternatives (including aquifer storage and recovery) for the Bear River.*
10. Determine availability and quality of potential sources of water for ground water recharge.*

Support for Proposal for Monitoring and Analysis of Cache Valley Water Resources by the
UTAH WATER RESEARCH LABORATORY / UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Prepared by Thad Erickson

January 25, 2000

Yesterday I met with an engineering class at USU to discuss current water issues and problems. Attached is an outline of topics discussed. Last on that list is a UWRL proposal for research that will address water issues in a way intended to be a prototype for all areas of the state of Utah. This proposal grew out of meetings I attended with folks from UWRL, and Utah Water Rights and Water Resources divisions. Page 2 of the attached proposal gives a list of agencies, water purveyors, and stakeholders. Cache County is included. It is not necessary that we make any firm commitments for financial support of this project. In order to meet deadlines of USU it is necessary that we provide a letter of support from Cache County by 31 Jan. 2000. Following is a suggested letter for Lynn Lemon's signature:

Dr. Mariush Kemblowski
Utah Water Research Laboratory
Logan, UT 84322

Dear Dr. Kemblowski;

Cache County encourages water related research and supports it financially where possible within the limits of our resources. In the current calendar budget year 2000, Cache County will spend \$30,000 in direct support of water programs. Further support is provided through assigning county staff to duties involving development of water policy and coordination of water research planning. We welcome your proposal, Monitoring and Analysis of Cache Valley Water Resources. You have our strong support in moving forward with this proposal. Modern information management techniques and additional data collection called for in your proposal are essential to best management of our County water resources.

We recognize that this project is intended to be a prototype that should find great usefulness in areas beyond Cache Valley statewide. Nevertheless we value greatly our unique geographic relationship with UWRL and hope to be able to provide financial support in future budget years as the County Council approves.

Sincerely,

M. Lynn Lemon

County Executive.