

**WATER BANKING - LARGE GROUP MEETING
AGENDA AND STATUS UPDATE
FEBRUARY 12, 2019**

AGENDA

- 1) Status Update
- 2) Speaking Engagements Spring 2019 and Organizing “Road Show”
- 3) Completing Educational Materials 2019
- 4) Meeting Schedule for Completing 2020 Legislation

STATUS UPDATE

SUMMARY:

Overall the Water Banking Project is moving along at a fast clip: Senate Joint Resolution-001 and \$400,000 Appropriation Request are moving through the Legislature; we have active Requests for Statement of Qualifications to hire a WaterSMART Marketing Grant writer for a May application deadline; and the public engagement phase of the project has begun.

- **2019 Legislation:**

SJR001 and accompanying \$400,000 Appropriations Request are moving quickly through the Legislative process and have received universal favorable support. Sen. Iwamoto has introduced SJR001 at each committee hearing and Nathan Bracken and Steve Clyde have presented testimony in support of SJR001. Sterling Brown of the Utah Farm Bureau has provided public comment stating support for the continued study of the topic. We also received authorization for our State Agency partners to sign the Letter of Support accompanying the Appropriations Request. In Committee Hearings, Legislators have asked good questions, seemed interested in the topic, and have complimented the group on the collaborative process. SJR001 still requires passage out of the House and the Appropriations Request still requires authorization.

- 1/30/19: Senate Natural Resources, Agricultural, and Environment Committee:
 - [Passed with a favorable recommendation and placed on Senate Consent Calendar](#) (35:57)
- 2/1/19: State Agency partners authorized to sign Letter of Support
- 2/5/19: Senate Floor
 - Senate passed SJR001 and sent to House (11:25 AM)
- 2/8/19: House Natural Resources, Agricultural, and Environment Committee:
 - [Passed with a favorable recommendation](#) (9:25)
- 2/11/19: Natural Resources, Agricultural & Env. Quality Appropriations Sub-Committee
 - [Favorable hearing with positive feedback](#) (55:26)
- Pending
 - Passage in House
 - Approval of Appropriations Request
 - Signature of Governor

- **WaterSMART Water Marketing Grant Application:**

A smaller Pilot Committee Steering group has been meeting to facilitate acquiring a grant writer for the WaterSMART grant and working through the Division of Water Resources Request for Statement of Qualifications (RSOQ) process, which is an expedited procurement process for professional services.

- Timeline for WaterSMART Marketing Grant Application:
 - Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will be released the week of February 25th
 - The Application will be due about 60 days later and will close sometime in May
 - Successful grants announced in June 2019
- Grant Writer:
 - Due to capacity and time constraints it was determined an independent grant writer was needed to complete the Grant Application
 - Division of Water Resources has sent three rounds of RSOQs and has asked for qualifications from the following consultants/engineering firms:
 - Franson Engineering; Sunrise Engineering; Jones & DeMille; WesternWater Research; Crystal Simons & Co.; JUB Engineering; Hansen Allen & Luce; CH2M Hill;
 - This first round of RSOQs did not produce the required three responses
 - The second round produced three responses but additional RSOQs were desired
 - The third round of RSOQs will be due this Friday February 15, 2019
 - Once all RSOQs have been received, the Pilot Group Steering Committee will rank the RSOQs and choose its preferred candidate and then forward the recommendation to State Purchasing for contract negotiations
 - Grant writing funds cannot be recouped from successful WaterSMART grant funding and will need to be shouldered by the working group
- Group Consensus on Content:
 - The full Pilot Committee group will need to meet to discuss content for the WaterSMART Grant Application and work with the contractor
 - The grant content should coordinate with any educational materials

- **Upcoming Speaking Engagements:**

To avoid confusion/conflation with the other 2019 water bills, it was agreed at the last Legislative Sub-Committee meeting to focus all public water banking discussions on the nature of SJR001 as endorsing continued study and collaboration of water banking and to not yet discuss the substance of the DRAFT 2020 Legislation. After the 2019 Legislative Session has concluded, we will move full court into publically presenting and discussing our working water banking concepts and take them “on the road.”

- January:
 - Rural Water Users Association – Legislative Rally (EELewis)
 - Weber River Partnership – Water Banking and Speaker Panel (Candice Hasenyager; EELewis)
 - ENREL Brown Bag CLE – Legislative Preview (EELewis)
- February: groups to reach out to during 2019 Legislative Session
 - League of Cities and Towns - interested in learning more and has scheduled a future meeting
 - Utah Association of Counties - Need to contact
 - Utah Business Coalition - Sterling Brown to place on agenda
- March:
 - March 7th– Rural Water Technology Alliance Annual Training (EELewis)
 - Utah Water Law & Policy Seminar (Sen. Iwamoto; Rep. Hawkes)
 - Utah Water Users Association – Panel (Nathan Bracken; EELewis; Sterling Brown; Candice Hasenyager – moderator)
- April:
 - April 3rd Cache Water Conservancy District Conference
- TBD:
 - Utah Association of Canal Companies:
 - Others?