



Iron County Water Stewards

Recognizing Central Iron County Water Conservancy District Board of Directors

The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District, formed by a petition of residents in 1997, is tasked with conserving, developing, and stabilizing the Cedar Valley water supply for the benefit of all current and future water users, but none of those responsibilities could be met without the seven-member Board of Directors that governs the District.

The Board is busy creating solutions, and on June 17 it passed a resolution urging stakeholders to implement conservation measures and resolving to take certain water-saving actions. The resolution acknowledged that Iron County had experienced its driest 18-month period on record, and the governor had declared a state of emergency because of the drought. It urged community members and stakeholders including Cedar City, Enoch City, Kanarraville Town, the Iron County School District and Iron County to take action, and outlined ways the District would work with stakeholders and the community.

Board members are appointed by the Iron County Commission, with a goal of representing various water interests and all communities in the basin's limits.

Brent Hunter chairs the Board and represents agriculture, Tyler Melling and Terri Hartley represent the Cedar City Council, David Harris represents the Enoch City Council, Tyler Allred represents the Kanarraville area, Spencer Jones represents the development and agriculture aspects of the county, and Joel Myers is an engineer by trade.

Paul Monroe, District General Manager, said these dedicated board members bring a variety of perspectives and expertise as they discuss current challenges and solutions, and work to protect Iron County's future. They meet monthly as a Board, attend related meetings, do their own research and visit projects to make sure they are able to understand and advocate for the valley's water needs.

"Each person on the board has a background that is valuable to our discussions and decisions," Monroe said. "We have members who understand finance, engineering, development, agriculture, and their specific communities. It is a great group of people who are looking out for Iron County's future."

As part of the drought response resolution the Board passed, stakeholders were asked to follow the state recommendations and







limit water usage to two times each week on turf. It also asked water users to focus first on trees, then shrubs, then perennials, with annuals and turf grass at the bottom of the priority list.

The resolution urged stakeholders to create a drought response committee and review water ordinances and landscape ordinances such as eliminating turf in park strips, creating water-smart landscapes during development, and utilizing tools such as LocalScapes and rebates. It also committed to District staff members working with stakeholders to identify areas of turn that are not "played on, or laid on" and can be converted to xeriscape.

The District and the USU Extension's annual free water check program is a focus this year, and community members are encouraged to use the service to ensure they are using the appropriate amount of water for their landscapes. To schedule a water check, visit https://cicwcd.org/water-wise-landscaping/ or call (435) 865-9901.

Over the years, Board members have made recharge projects possible, explored water import options, attended meetings for the state's Groundwater Management Plan for Cedar Valley, met with state and local leaders and organizations to ensure the future of the Pine Valley Water Supply project, and so much more. The Board also oversees the District's water systems, which service many areas of unincorporated Iron County.

"Our Board members are invested in Iron County now and into the future," Monroe said.

The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District Board of Directors has a public meeting the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Cedar City Council Chambers. For more information, visit <u>www.cicwcd.org/meetings</u>.

The purpose of the Iron County Water Stewards program is to recognize community members for contributing to the effort to optimize every drop of water in Iron County. The Central Iron County Water Conservancy District (CICWCD) is actively engaged in education, conservation, reuse and import projects to meet the growing demands on local water supply.

For every effort you make to conserve, we consider you a water steward, too. To Get to Know Your H2O, visit <u>https://cicwcd.org/</u>.

