

**OKLAHOMA WATER RESOURCES BOARD  
OFFICIAL MINUTES**

**March 21, 2017**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board was called to order by Chairman Linda Lambert at 9:33 a.m., on March 21, 2017, at the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, at 3800 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The meeting was conducted pursuant to the Oklahoma Open Meeting Law with due and proper notice provided pursuant to Sections 303 and 311 thereof. The agenda was posted on March 17, 2017, at 3:45 p.m. at the Oklahoma Water Resources Board's offices at 3800 N. Classen Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and provided on the agency's website.

Chairman Lambert welcomed everyone to the regular meeting of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, and asked for the roll call of members.

A. Roll Call

Board Members Present

Linda Lambert, Chairman  
Jason Hitch, Secretary  
Stephen Allen  
Tom Buchanan  
Charles Darby  
Bob Drake  
Marilyn Feaver  
Ed Fite

Board Members Absent

Ford Drummond, Vice Chairman

Staff Members Present

Julie Cunningham, Interim Executive Director  
Robert Singletary, General Counsel  
Cleve Pierce, Chief, Administrative Services Division  
Joe Freeman, Chief, Financial Assistance Division  
Kent Wilkins, Interim Chief, Planning and Management Division  
Bill Cauthron, Interim Chief, Water Quality Programs Division  
Mary Schooley, Executive Secretary

Others Present

Steven Jolly, Arbuckle Master Conservancy District, Davis, OK  
Arvil Morgan, Wagoner County Rural Water District #5, Coweta, OK

Rob Stallings, EnviroTech, Enid, OK  
Denette Hughes, Wagoner County Rural Water District No. 5, Coweta, OK  
Jason Snelson, Wagoner County Rural Water District No. 5, Coweta, OK  
Bud Ground, Environmental Federation of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, OK  
Justin Hale, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma City, OK  
Candy Thompson, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma City, OK  
Eddie Rhandour, Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality, Oklahoma City, OK  
Bryce Gallies, OWRB  
John Clink, City of Norman, OK  
Jake Smith, Office of Management and Enterprise Services, Oklahoma City, OK  
Brian Meier, Burns McDonald, Wichita, KS  
Jeri Fleming, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, Oklahoma City, OK  
Shanon Phillips, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, Oklahoma City, OK  
Ashton Carmichael, Office of Management and Enterprise Services, Oklahoma City, OK  
Curtis Daff, Municipal Finance Services, Edmond, OK  
Dean Couch, Gable Gotwals, Oklahoma City, OK  
Mike Mathis, Continental Resources, Oklahoma City, OK  
Carrie Evenson, City of Norman, OK  
Carlos Johnson, Bank of America, Oklahoma City, OK  
Sue Ann Nicely, Oklahoma Municipal League, Oklahoma City, OK  
Charlie Swinton, BancFirst, Oklahoma City, OK  
Jeff Everett, Oklahoma Gas & Electric, Oklahoma City, OK  
Marla Peek, Oklahoma Farm Bureau, Oklahoma City, OK  
Lynda Williamson, Office of Secretary of Energy and Environment, Oklahoma City, OK  
Jade Jones, OWRB

Chairman Lambert introduced special guests Secretary of Energy and Environment Michael Teague and Deputy Secretary Tyler Powell, and Mr. Jake Smith, Office of Management and Enterprise Services who have been invaluable and instrumental in the Board's Executive Director search process. Also, Mr. Rob Stallings, who has been appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate as member of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and will be joining the Board at the May meeting.

Chairman Lambert also introduced the Board's newest member, Mr. Chuck Darby of Broken Bow, representing Region 9 and recreational water use. She said he is a pastor at Faith Christian Center and has served on the Broken Bow City Council and as mayor. She invited Mr. Darby to speak to the Board. Mr. Darby thanked the Chairman and staff for the orientation to the agency, and to Ms. Cunningham for her assistance. He said he is humbled to serve on a Board with such distinguished, accomplished members, is aware of the importance of the Board and is committed to serve for the betterment of the state; and to continue supporting the water plan in place and to developing policies and standards ensuring the citizens a quality and quantity as well as availability of water in the future.

B. Discussion, Amendments, and Vote to Approve Official Minutes of the February 21, 2017, Regular Meeting.

Chairman Lambert asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the February 21, 2017, regular meeting. There were no changes, and Mr. Hitch moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Feaver seconded.

Chairman Lambert called for the vote.

AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Buchanan, Drake, Fite, Lambert

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Darby  
ABSENT: Drummond

C. Interim Executive Director's Report

Ms. Julie Cunningham, OWRB Interim Executive Director, began her report welcoming Mr. Darby. She had attended the confirmation hearing, and then met with both Mr. Darby and Mr. Stallings to provide an orientation to the OWRB.

Continuing, Ms. Cunningham noted Water Appreciation Day is ongoing at the Capitol with 30 exhibits of water resource agencies and organization; the members are encouraged to attend if time allows. She referred to the Water Resources Bulletin and current drought conditions. The OWRB is hosted the 2017 Canadian River Commission meeting on March 7 and Ms. Cunningham was appointed Oklahoma Commission in 2016 by Governor Fallin. There are no controversial issues in this compact and she updated the Commission on state activities in the basin. Ms. Cunningham said that the Texas delegation reported the Texas Farm Bureau challenged the Texas Council on Environmental Quality drought rules regarding curtailment of water rights which the court declined to hear on appeal resulting in a roll-back of rules that gave municipal power generators more senior rights during drought and junior users having the purchase water. Mr. Bill Andrews of the USGS presented information on earthquakes and Oklahoma seismic activity.

Ms. Cunningham updated the members on the Produced Water Working Group's well-attended meeting March 10 which reviewed the recently released preliminary recommendations. The members discussed the structure of the group, the oil and gas industry and user groups and identifying areas that would benefit from technical assistance. Mr. Owen Mills, director of water planning for the OWRB, spoke to the members about the meeting which Mr. Michael Dunkel, H2M representative and the group's main researcher, had led the development of the draft report that should be finalized within a few weeks. He mentioned some of the recommendations in the report including moving water to areas where it is needed, applying for the Bureau of Reclamation grant for determining cost-effective water treatment needs and distribution systems to lower conveyance costs, and desalination treatment and evaporation technology as alternatives to disposal. The report is available on the OWRB website. Ms. Cunningham noted there were several funding entities interested in providing matching funds for the Bureau of Reclamation grant and offering opportunity to partner with others working on this issue. She said the executive summary of the report was provided to members and she noted there is legislation for needed changes regarding state primacy for permitting water discharge of water treated to an acceptable level and meeting beneficial uses of the water body, and to clear up ownership issues. The legislation is included in the Board's legislative report.

Ms. Cunningham reviewed the state legislative report noting upcoming deadlines, the agency is closely watching for additional budget failure, gross production tax revenues, fees, etc. associated with the oil and gas industry that come to the agency which are at 75% currently. She said there are no water-related bills active, but she informed the members of HB 1537 by Rep. Dunnington regarding implementing block rate water structures for municipal water use, and charging a surplus water rate which communities have the opportunities to offer both initiatives. The original bill mentioned Water for 2060, but the language is now gone; staff is watching the measure. Regarding the Congressional report included in the packet, staff is working on the US Corps of Engineers National Water Supply rulemaking and the deadline for comment has been pushed back. The goal was to provide clarity on the Corps' authority over the definition of surplus water and the states are concerned about state jurisdiction over water appropriation; clarification is needed that the Corps is not appropriating water but appropriating storage capacity. Ms. Brittnee Preston attended the National Water Supply Alliance Group representing the country and particularly eastern concerns and is preparing a joint comment letter with Secretary Teague's office; hopefully, the rule will be pulled back giving an opportunity to

meet with the Corps of Engineers prior to full rulemaking. Ms. Cunningham said President Trump signed an executive order creating a task force directing federal agencies to identify recommended changes to unnecessary, burdensome, and harmful rules, and directing EPA to review the Waters of the State rules. There are plans to cut the EPA budget significantly which would affect the state revolving fund and water quality standards and monitoring programs, which Secretary Pruitt has vowed to protect those funds coming to states. President Trump released his FY'18 budget blueprint with proposed cuts to various agencies which is very preliminary, and she highlighted agency budgets that would affect state programs including the Department of Interior 12% decrease and investment of over \$1 million for the reliable management of water resources to the Western United States, i.e., the Bureau of Reclamation for water planning projects utilized by the Choctaw and Chickasaw Tribes. She said there was a proposed cut of 3,200 positions at the EPA and 31% decrease from the FY17 budget, but there is concentration on the enforcement of violations regarding programs that are not delegated to the states while providing oversight to maintain consistency and assistance across state, local and tribal programs.

Mr. Buchanan asked about HB 1537 and the language regarding commercial irrigation systems and Ms. Cunningham responded that language is no longer included in the bill. The original bill had mentioned the requirement for metering but has been removed from the bill.

There were no other questions, and Ms. Cunningham concluded her report.

#### D. Financial Update

1. Budget Report. Mr. Cleve Pierce addressed the members and stated the budget report regards financial information for the month ending February 2017. During this reporting period, the agency has expended 61% of the appropriated budget, has expended 39% of the revolving fund budget, and expended 45% of federal dollars. Overall, the total budget remaining is 55%, with 33% of the fiscal year remaining. He said compared to last year, the agency had spent 51% so the agency is currently holding back 4%. The revenue failure reported is going to impact the agency by about \$27,500 of appropriated dollars, and the revision has not been received from OMES but he is looking at how the money will be taken from the divisions.

Mr. Pierce said the House of Representatives asked the agency to respond to how it would weather a decrease of 14.5% or \$800,000.00 and he explained how the division chiefs responded by recommending the normal fashion of limited seasonal personnel, underfill current or vacated positions, reduce professional services, equipment and travel, and the REAP program.

Ms. Cunningham said the cuts to the REAP program amount to about four water and sewer grants, and the personnel and travel would be scaling back, impacting the monitoring program.

There were no questions by the members, and Mr. Pierce concluded his report.

## 2. **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE DIVISION**

A. Consideration of and Possible Action on a Proposed Order Approving Clean Water Funding Application for Oklahoma Conservation Commission. Recommended for Approval. Mr. Joe Freeman, Chief, Financial Assistance Division, stated to the members this item is a \$300,000.00 funding request from the Oklahoma Conservation Commission. He said the Commission is requesting funds for four projects that will restore beneficial uses in four water bodies listed as impaired in Oklahoma's Clean Water Act 303(d) List which are impacted by nonpoint source pollution. The first project regards a wetlands on the shores of Lake Eufaula to capture storm water runoff from the City of Eufaula reducing nutrients when the lake elevations are up. The Commission will partner with the City of Eufaula and Team Up to Clean Up, a local nonprofit organization. The second project is for the

construction of a pervious parking lot at Lake McMurtry near Stillwater and built in conjunction with the City of Stillwater and the Friends of Lake McMurtry. The use of pervious payment will increase infiltration and reduce runoff that contributes to downstream water body impairment. The third project, also at Stillwater, will be the installation of the pervious parking area at the Stillwater Municipal Airport. And, the fourth project is for a bio detention cell at the Grand River Authority Ecosystem and Education Center which will capture and treat runoff from the parking lot area at the center to protect Grand Lake water quality.

Mr. Freeman stated the loan will be funded through the principal forgiveness portion of the 2016 EPA Capitalization Grant. Staff recommended approval.

Representing the Conservation Commission was Shanon Phillips Water Quality Division Director, and Jeri Fleming, Environmental Programs Manager at the Commission.

Ms. Phillips addressed the members and expressed her appreciation to the Board for consideration of the loan. She said it is an opportunity to work with communities across the state to implement innovative green infrastructure projects that will address water quality impairment in the watershed. These projects demonstrate what is necessary to address these impairments and are also practices that the Commission is currently unable to fund. The partnership will allow the communities to contribute toward the implementation of these practices, and will help in developing watershed plans, and to use 319 nonpoint source dollars to continue this work in the watershed.

Mr. Hitch asked how the change in the parking lot will result in improvements. Ms. Phillips answered that rather than water and pollutants running off the surface of the parking lot and then overland reaching the downstream water supply, they will infiltrate into the soil where the soil will act as a filter and capture and treat the pollutants before reaching the water body. He asked if the entities are prepared for the higher maintenance of a pervious parking lot, and Ms. Phillips explained the cities are aware of the requirements. Ms. Cunningham asked Ms. Phillips to explain the water bodies listed as impaired and that the projects will assist in removing them from the list. Ms. Phillips explained through the OWRB's monitoring it is determined these water bodies are not meeting water quality standards and are placed on the 303(d) list which results in regulations for any permitting in the watershed but can be addressed. Ms. Cunningham added the goal is de-list the water bodies, reduce regulations, and clean up the water.

Chairman Lambert asked if there were other questions. There were none, and Mr. Fite moved to approve the \$300,000.00 CWSRF loan to the Oklahoma Conservation Commission. Mr. Buchanan seconded.

AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Buchanan, Drake, Darby, Fite, Lambert  
NAY: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: Drummond

B. Consideration of and Possible Action on a Proposed Order Approving Clean Water Funding Application for Norman Utilities Authority, Cleveland County. Recommended for Approval. Mr. Freeman stated this request for Clean Water SRF loan funds of \$304,625.00 by the Norman Utilities Authority will utilize the funds for a portion of the project to plant trees and shrubs, install diversion logs, pervious pavement, reinforced vegetation systems, stabilize Brookhaven Creek stream bank, increase the downstream creeks, and reduce the amount of erosion occurring. He said the loan will be funded through the principal forgiveness portion of the 2016 Clean Water SRF Capitalization Grant. In addition, in updated announcement last week, there will be \$2,060,865.00 in local funds from Norman's 2012 General Obligation bond issue, and \$4,714,146.00 through the US Department of Transportation Service Transportation Program for Urbanite Areas, through the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments. He noted provisions of the loan agreement, and said Norman has been a long time customer of the Board's and currently has three loans with the Board with a combined principal

balance of \$28.6 million dollars. Norman's debt coverage ratio stands at 1.94-times. Staff recommended approval of the loan request.

Representing Norman UA was Ms. Carrie Evenson, Stormwater Engineer for the City of Norman. She described the project that will adding green infrastructure to the improve an existing roadway project replacing a bridge over Brookhaven Creek.

Chairman Lambert asked if there were comments or questions. There were none and she asked for a motion.

Mr. Drake moved to approve the CWSRF Loan to the Norman Utilities Authority, and Mr. Allen seconded.

AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Buchanan, Drake, Darby, Fite, Lambert

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Drummond

C. Consideration of and Possible Action on a Proposed Order Approving Drinking Water Funding Application for Rural Water District No.5, Wagoner County. Recommended for Approval. Mr. Freeman stated this item is for a \$3,965,000.00 Drinking Water Loan request from the Wagoner County Rural Water District No. 5. He said the District is requesting the loan to lay approximately 30,000 feet of 18-inch water line, 9,000 feet of 16-inch water line, and install 10 fire hydrants. Mr. Freeman said the loan will be funded through the Drinking Water SRF loan program, and he noted provisions of the loan agreement. Wagoner County RWD #5 is a long time customer of the Board's and currently has three loans outstanding with the Board with a combined principal balance of \$4.8 million. The District's water connections have increased approximately 11% over the last ten years, and the debt coverage ratio stands at approximately 1.37-times. Staff recommended approval of the loan request.

Representing the District was Mr. Arvil Morgan, Manager; Denette Hughes, Office Manager; and, Jason Snelson, District Distribution Manager.

There were no comments or questions, and Chairman Lambert called for a motion.

Mr. Fite moved to approve the DWSRF loan to Wagoner County RWD #5, and Ms. Feaver seconded.

AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Buchanan, Drake, Darby, Fite, Lambert

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Drummond

### **3. SUMMARY DISPOSITION AGENDA ITEMS**

Any item listed under this Summary Disposition Agenda may, at the requested of any member of the Board, the Board's staff, or any other person attending this meeting, may be transferred to the Special Consideration Agenda. Under the Special Consideration Agenda, separate discussion and vote or other action may be taken on any items already listed under that agenda or items transferred to that agenda from this Summary Disposition Agenda.

A. Requests to Transfer Items from Summary Disposition Agenda to the Special Consideration Agenda, and Action on Whether to Transfer Such Items.

There were no requests to transfer items to the Summary Disposition Agenda.

B. Discussion, Questions, and Responses Pertaining to Any Items Remaining on Summary Disposition Agenda and Action on Items Listed.

Chairman Lambert stated there are two items to be withdrawn from the Board’s consideration, H.2., City of Clinton, #1993-618, and J.1., Dierksen Family Trust, #2016-021, both due to notice issues. There were no other items to be deferred or deleted, and Chairman Lambert asked for a motion to approve the Summary Disposition Agenda as amended.

Mr. Buchanan moved to approve the Summary Disposition Agenda, and Mr. Darby seconded.

Mr. Buchanan asked if an application to amend a regular permit to use groundwater required notification. Mr. Kent Wilkins explained it would depend upon the amendment as to whether notice is required, i.e., well replacement did not require notification, or if adding a well in a studied basin that meets the requirements, it could be amended administratively. If adding a well in a non-studied basin and/or adding more water, it would have to go to notice.

There were no other questions, and Mr. Hitch asked for a spelling correction on item on 3.D.4. Chairman Lambert called for the vote.

- AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Buchanan, Drake, Darby, Fite, Lambert
- NAY: None
- ABSTAIN: None
- ABSENT: Drummond

The following items were approved:

C. Consideration of and Possible Action on Financial Assistance Division Items

1. Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) Grant Applications:

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Entity Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount Recommended</u>
EODD				
a.	FAP-14-0023-R	Hanna Public Works Authority	McIntosh	\$99,999.00
NODA				
b.	FAP-16-0012-R	Jet Utilities Authority	Alfalfa	39,900.00

D. Consideration of and Possible Action on Contracts and Agreements:

1. Grant and Cooperative Agreement between OWRB and United States Geological Survey (USGS). OWRB will collaborate with USGS in data collection, management and methodology for the Water Use Data and Research Program.

2. Land Use Agreement for use of land in Ottawa County for the construction, operation, monitoring, and maintenance of an observation well.

3. Land Use Agreement for use of land in Cherokee County for the construction, operation, monitoring, and maintenance of an observation well.

4. No-Cost Extension Agreement between OWRB and USGS for the North Fork of the Red River hydrologic investigation through September 30, 2017.

5. Agreement between OWRB and the Oklahoma Ground Water Association for the oversight of continuing education for Well Drillers and Pump Installers.

E. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications for Temporary Permits to Use Groundwater:

1. Chau Tran and Donna Nguyen, Delaware County, #2016-539

2. Ha T. Nguyen & Luan Hoang Ly, Delaware County, #2016-561
  3. Tong & Mimi Nguyen, Delaware County, #2016-564
  4. The City of the Village, Oklahoma County, #2016-570
- F. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications to Amend Temporary Permits to Use Groundwater:
1. Purcell Public Works Authority, Cleveland County, #1984-658
  2. Town of Ringwood, Major County, #1993-500
- G. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications for Regular Permits to Use Groundwater:  
None
- H. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications to Amend Regular Permits to Use Groundwater:
1. City of Elk City, Beckham County, #1974-044
  2. *City of Clinton, Custer County, #1993-618* *Item withdrawn*
  3. Jeff & Jeri Slatten, Beaver County, #2008-569
  4. Town of Seiling, Major County, #2010-565
- I. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications to Amend Prior Rights to Use Groundwater:
1. Town of Seiling, Major County, #1965-527
- J. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications for Regular Permits to Use Stream Water:
1. *The Derald D. Dierksen Family Revocable Trust U/T/A – 12/23/2015, Logan County, #2016-021*  
*Item withdrawn*
  2. Chandler Maass, Kingfisher County, #2016-025
  3. Lottawater, L.L.C., Kingfisher County, #2016-029
  4. George Raymond Biggs, Canadian County, #2016-031
- K. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications to Amend Permits to Use Stream Water:
1. Earl Allen Pierce, Garfield County, #2014-037
- L. Consideration of and Possible Action on Dam and Reservoir Construction:
1. Wilson C. Dam, Pottawatomie County, #OK20735
  2. Relay Creek Dam, Blaine County, #OK30514
- M. Consideration of and Possible Action on Well Driller and Pump Installer Licensing:
1. New Licenses and Operators:
 

a. Licensee: Southwest Windmill & Water Well Service Inc.	DPC-0977
1. Operator: David Enns	OP-2189
b. Licensee: Building and Earth Sciences, Inc.	DPC-0979
1. Operator: Herbert Christian	OP-2190
2. Operator: Hunter Christian	OP-2191
  2. New Operators, Licensee Name Change, and/or Activities for Existing Licenses:
 

a. Licensee: Whitetail Services, LLC	DPC-0463
1. Operator: Jesse Cordray	OP-2188
- N. Consideration of and Possible Action on Proposed Consent Order between the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and Aqua Well Drilling, Inc., DPC-0708, Operator Certificate No. OP-1473 of Beau Baker, and Operator Certificate No. OP-1605 of Blaine Baker.



- O. Consideration of and Possible Action on Permit Applications for Proposed Development on State Owned or Operated Property within Floodplain Areas:
  - 1. Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Delaware County, #FP-16-64
  - 2. Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Woods County, #FP-16-65
  - 3. Frontier Windpower, L.L.C., Kay County, #FP-16-66
  - 4. Okmulgee Municipal Authority, Okmulgee County, #FP-16-67
  - 5. Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Beckham County, #FP-17-01
  - 6. Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Washington County #FP-17-02
  - 7. Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Delaware County, #FP-17-03
- P. Consideration of and Possible Action on Applications for Accreditation of Floodplain Administrators:
  - 1. Sybil Alien Rahn, Noble County, #FPA-706

**04000 4. QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION ABOUT ITEMS OF INTEREST OR OTHER AGENCY MATTERS** **Chairman Lambert**

A. No items. There were no items for the Board’s consideration.

**5. SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**

A. No items. There were no items for the Board’s consideration.

B. Consideration of and Possible Action on Items Transferred from Summary Disposition Agenda, if any. There were no items transferred from the Summary Disposition Agenda.

**6. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION** **Chairman Lambert**

As authorized by the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act in Section 307(B)(1) of Title 25 of the Oklahoma Statutes, an executive session may be held for the purpose of discussing the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of any individual salaried public officer or employee.

*Pursuant to this provision, the Board proposes to hold an executive session for the purpose of consideration, discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of a new permanent Executive Director, including consideration and discussion of the Search Committee’s recommendations, interviewing candidates Julie Cunningham and Teena Gunter, selection of a new permanent Executive Director, and any terms and/or conditions of employment.*

A. Vote on whether to hold Executive Session. Before it can be held, the Executive Session must be authorized by a majority vote of a quorum of members present and such vote must be recorded.

Chairman Lambert read the statement for the proposed Executive Session, and stated she would entertain a motion from a Board member to move that the Board go into Executive Session in the OWRB Executive Conference Room pursuant to 307(b)(1) of the Open Meeting Act, for the purposes described in agenda item 6., and that Secretary Teague, Mr. Jake Smith of the Office of Management

and Enterprise Services, Robert Singletary, and Mary Schooley attend the Executive Session, with Mrs. Schooley being designated to keep written minutes.

Mr. Buchanan so moved the Board enter Executive Session, and Mr. Allen seconded.

Chairman Lambert called for the vote.

AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Buchanan, Drake, Darby, Fite, Lambert

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Drummond

B. Designation of person to keep written minutes of Executive Session, if authorized. Executive Secretary Mary Schooley kept the written minutes of the Executive Session.

C. Executive Session, if authorized.

The Board voted to enter Executive Session at 10:15 a.m.

The Board moved to the OWRB Executive Conference Room, and the Executive Session was convened by Chairman Lambert at 10:24 a.m.

Mr. Buchanan departed the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

D. Return to open meeting and possible vote or action on any matter discussed in the Executive Session, if authorized.

At 11:43 a.m., Mr. Hitch moved to return to Regular Session, and Mr. Darby seconded.

AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Drake, Darby, Fite, Lambert

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Drummond, Buchanan

Possible consideration, discussion, and action on the appointment of a new permanent Executive Director, including any terms and conditions of employment.

The Board returned to the second floor Board Room, and Chairman Lambert reconvened the regular session of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board at 11:50 a.m.

Chairman Lambert called on Mr. Allen. Mr. Allen stated that based upon the result of the search process, the interviews conducted, and Board deliberations, he moved that the Board offer the permanent Executive Director position to Julie Cunningham at a base salary of \$120,000.00. Mr. Hitch seconded the motion.

Chairman Lambert asked if there were comments. There were none, and she called for the vote.

AYE: Allen, Hitch, Feaver, Drake, Darby, Fite, Lambert

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Drummond, Buchanan

Chairman Lambert expressed the Board's congratulations to Ms. Cunningham. Ms. Cunningham thanked the Board for its support the past five months and she said looked forward to being the future of the Oklahoma Water Resources.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

Under the Open Meeting Act, this agenda item is authorized only for matters not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting the agenda or any revised agenda.

There were no New Business items for the Board’s consideration.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Lambert adjourned the meeting of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board at 11:51 a.m. on March 21, 2017.

**OKLAHOMA WATER RESOURCES BOARD**

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda P. Lambert, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
F. Ford Drummond, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Edward H. Fite

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn Feaver

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Darby

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Drake

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Buchanan

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen B. Allen

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason W. Hitch, Secretary (SEAL)