

## SLC "buys" Cahoon & Maxfield Irrigation.

SLC Water Dept. to Council: "The Company owns about 20 percent of the rights in Little Cottonwood Creek amounting to 9,500 acre-feet of water on a 30-year average."

SLC Water Department to Cahoon & Maxfield: "water you indicate is available . . . is inaccurate and greatly misleading." The reliable volume is approximately 5,100 AF of which some is not useable because of the high volume associated with the spring runoff."



51-"Under the terms of the exchange agreement Salt Lake City is entitled to use the Company's rights in Little Cottonwood Creek and in return is obligated to deliver . . . 11,400 acre-feet."

Dear Council Members,

Let's talk about the myth that the water department is a "money maker" which is the reason Council does not act. Where are all the non-profit "profits"? The public sees chronic rate increases, high water rates, high water taxes, and high over head. The water department isn't really a "money maker" is it? It's a money pit.

Many Council members don't know how any gallons are in 100 cf, yet the Council authorizes 1 million water bills a year using 100 cf units. In the retail markets this is known as "short sizing."

Can you trust a water department with a double standard? The water department tells the Council the City is buying 9,500 acre-feet of water at the same time the water department tells the Company they are selling 5,100 acre-feet of water.

The water department tells the Council 1 acre-foot of water's fair value is \$164 in 1988. In 1996, the water department tells the Public 1 acre-foot of water's fair value is \$10.

In 2002, the water department buys Beartrap Canyon land from a watershed property priority list. In 2008, the water department says there is no such list.

In 1997-98 Strategic Plan and Study, the water department was to centralize and computerize the City's water rights. In 2007, the water department claims there is no water inventory.

A Public Utility Advisory Committee member asks, "Where does the extra \$1.8 million go?" In 2007, the water department claims it makes no profit on \$20 million of "surplus" sales.

In 2008, the non-profit, GREEN water department is against RAIN BARRELS. The SLC Water Department now claims to own the rain. Is there anything the water department does not claim to own? Will there be RAIN BARREL meters, patrols, and permit fees?

1988 SLC Water dept. tells the City Council their fair market value of 1 acre-foot of Utah Lake Water is \$164 for the City's \$4.1 Million "water exchange."  
1996 SLC water dept. tells the Public the fair market value of 1 acre-foot of Utah Lake/Big Cottonwood Creek water is worth \$10.



80-June 1996 SLC pays \$375 for 7.5 Big Ditch Shares.

## CENSORED



Why are public utility records secret?

"This purchase provided the City ownership of the right rather than rights through an exchange agreement."

121-1997-98 Strategic Initiatives & Workplan (July 25, 2008 GRAMA)

"contributions donated by developers of \$9.2 million are now included in the net revenue."

Developer Santa



\$9.2 Million in "Gifts"

123-November 30, 2006 Salt Lake City Public Utilities Advisory Committee Minutes.

July 25, 2008 SLC GRAMA Response for priority list of watershed properties: "No record."

March 28, 2002 SLC PUAC minutes: "This parcel of land is on Public Utilities' priority list of critical watershed properties earmarked for acquisition."



Monopoly is an addiction.

122-March 28, 2002 Salt Lake City Public Utility Advisory Committee Minutes.

How absurd must the water department become before the Council acts?

The SLC is one of the very few cities in Utah using “short sizing” water billing. Consumers don't know what 100 cf means. The clear and understandable water billing unit of 1,000 gallons like Orem City's makes it clear to the consumer what they are buying and how to better manage their water use.

Because the Utility Department is not transparent, a lay Council can not provide effective oversight. The lack of effective oversight has lead to the current big waste, inefficiencies, chronic suing, protesting, and crony ism.

SLC water rates are up to 6 times Orem's. SLC water district tax is 8 times Orem's. SLC has 1 water employee per 346 connections while Orem has 1 water employee per 833 connections.

Laura McIndoe, a water employee, is supervised by Director Neirmeyer. Director Neirmeyer is supervised by Laura McIndoe, a SLC Public Utility Advisory Committee member.

How could this circular oversight be effective?

SLC water cronies pack the Public Utility Advisory Committee. How could such a committee provide effective oversight? Rubber Stamp Committees ill serve the City. What will the Council do to change the current crony/employee culture on the PUAC?

SLC's water department has effectively taken over the Town of Alta which has spawned numerous costly lawsuits. Alta's Planning Commission is packed with SLC water cronies.

Historical Public Utility records which don't support the current water department story are censored. Executed public contracts which have been paid are kept from the public.

At my GRAMA appeal hearing, 3 of the 4 members were City employees. Even the Public Records Access appeal process has been corrupted. How could this circular oversight be effective or fair?

Developers pay “contributions donated” or “gifts.” Honestly, no believes that. What has happened to Salt Lake City?

The water department is going to spend \$500,000 to sue my company for water valued at \$73,000 in 1996 and try to grab a legal title to get the City no more water. Did the Council authorize this?

This does not make any sense? There is no soundness in the water department. If the water department plays the public, then how do you know when the water department plays the Council?

**What can the Council do to improve the City's Utility Department?**

- **Estimated excess water costs to Salt Lake County due to SLC water monopoly—up to \$20 million per year.**
- **SLC water rates are up to 6 times Orem's water rates.**
- **SLC's water district tax is 8 times Orem's water district tax.**



- SLC has 1 water employee per 346 connections. Orem has 1 water employee per 833 connections.
- SLC residents pay over \$10 million in water district taxes on top of high water rates.
- SLC water cronies pack Alta Planning Commission and Variance Board.
- Alta, Utah is controlled by the SLC Water Dept..
- Active Alta Voter Fraud case—Allegations of stuffing the ballot box.
- Alleged Alta Mayor who appoints Alta Planning Commission members is a Sandy City resident where he lives with his wife and children.
- Alta lifted the 13 year ban on residents serving on Planning Commission on July 12, 2008—Planning Commission still packed with water cronies.
- 1.5 miles of Little Cottonwood Creek de-watered.
- Alleged Cecret Lake water in Alta, Utah sold for snow making without approved change application (illegal).
- SLC's \$53 Million water department won't produce a water inventory.
- 140,000 Salt Lake County residents with no voice, no choice, no elected oversight protection .
- SLC's Utilities Department censors public records.
- Classifies developer fees (millions) as “contributions donated.”
- SLC's water district has active water application to build a 410' dam in Big Cottonwood Canyon, and a 370' dam in Little Cottonwood Canyon.
- SLC has active water applications to build 20 hydro-electric dams in Salt Lake County.
- SLC water dept. bans Alta Hot Tub request.
- SLC owns mine dump sites in the canyons polluting the watershed.
- SLC water dept. opposes sewer extension to stop leaky septic tanks in Alta while spending \$1 million a year for watershed patrol to tickets dogs.
- SLC's water dept. is Utah's top suing and protesting water user.
- SLC controls MWD Salt Lake & Sandy, and Deer Creek (PRWUA) which opposed improvements to the Clean Water Act.
- SLC's MWD Salt Lake & Sandy's Deer Creek (PRWUA) told the Federal government of its need for title to bond for public water improvements, and hired lobbyists to change state law to bond without title.
- \$20.4 million in “surplus” water sales outside SLC corporate boundaries.
- In Public, claims SLC makes no profit on \$20.4 million in “surplus” water sales. In PUAC meetings, “Where does the extra \$1.8 million go?”
- Built water infra-structure for 400,000 to 800,000 people, yet SLC's population will max out around 200,000.
- SLC will not be Utah's largest city in a few decades.
- Tells the Council one thing. Tells the Public another.
- Tells Congress one thing. Tells the Utah Legislature another.
- Tells the Council in 1988 the fair value of 1 acre-foot of Utah Lake water is \$164. Tells (buy paying) the Public in 1996 the fair value of 1 acre-foot of Utah Lake/Big Cottonwood Creek water is \$10.
- Tells the Court one thing. Tells the Public another.
- Uses “short sizing” to sell water by a publicly misunderstood unit of 100 cf instead of the standard, understandable 1,000 gallon unit.

- Uses watershed protection funds to buy canyon land, then turn the land into picnic, hiking, and mountain biking sites.
- It is unclear whether “customers” are Noticed of proposed Rate Increases and Public Hearing dates on Utility Bills in a timely manner if at all.
- SLC’s Water Dept. goes into an Alta approved and recorded subdivision with water, takes over Little Cottonwood Water Company providing water to the subdivision enabling the lots to be recorded, dissolves the water company and source of water for the lot owners, then offers to buy up the dry lots for 10 cents on the dollar directly or indirectly through a “charitable foundation.”
- Paid the City Utility Director a salary higher than the Governor’s salary.
- Used water monopoly litigation to deprive an estimated 250,000 irrigation shareholders their 90 year old right to directly file water transfer applications. (Artificial restriction on trade.)
- SLC’s Water Dept. banned 2002 Winter Olympic events in Salt Lake County Canyons and forced the events onto Summit County and Wasatch County watershed which was still a Salt Lake City drinking water source.
- Opposed the Ski-Interconnect which could make Utah a Ski Capitol of the world, improve the economy, decrease road congestions, etc. to “protect the watershed” which is not the primary source of SLC’s drinking water.
- Packs the SLC Public Utility Advisory Committee with employee(s) and water cronies.
- Hired the court appointed Creek Commissioners overseeing water distribution in canyon creeks.
- Offers the State free land and water to relocate the capitol, the SLC’s water dept. sues the State to renege on providing free water. Later, provides the Capitol with a “water conservation” plan and touts its water stewardship.
- Sues 2,400 Utah Lake water users in one case only to later declare a portion of the water “surplus” and sell the water via an exchange with its alter ego, MWD Salt Lake City.
- Used its alter ego, MWD Salt Lake City to file for 36,189.75 acre-feet of free State deep well water on Salt Lake County’s east side, only to later declare a portion of the “future need” water “surplus” and sell it.
- Used its Water District’s water subsidiary Deer Creek (PRWUA) to sue Payson city a second time over an approved 5,000 acre-feet approved sewer effluent re-use application while proposing to re-use 5,000 acre-feet of sewer effluent themselves.
- Got \$500,000 of free State money for the City’s water district by using water cronies on the Board of Water Resources.
- Opposes water transfers up the canyons, but transfers water up the canyons themselves.
- Charges storm drain fees to take rain water off property through expensive storm drain piping to the Jordan River and Great Salt Lake, yet opposes Rain Barrel water recycling.
- Why would a Non-Profit, GREEN, Water Conserving ”slow the flow” water department oppose Rain Barrel water recycling? There is no “profit,” so its not about money. Then what is it about?
- Will there be RAIN BARREL meters, patrolmen, and permits fees?
- SLC employee(s) acting as director(s) on City water subsidiaries have monthly meetings with other employees from other cities. The minutes of these meeting are not open to the Public. There is no Public oversight.
- SLC employee(s) acting as director(s) of City hire legislative lobbyists. The lobby contracts are not open to the Public. There is no Public oversight.