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City Council Agenda Information

To: Mayor Steve Miller and City Council
From: Stephanie Fricke, City Recorder
Date: December 31, 2025
Subject: Appointments to the Hyrum Irrigation Board.

Summary: Mayor Miller is recommending appointment of Council Member Craig Rasmussen and Citizen (to be determined) to serve on the Hyrum Irrigation Company Board.

Hyrum Irrigation Company is a local irrigation company that is not a division of, nor owned by Hyrum City Corporation. Hyrum Irrigation Company was established in 1934 and operates as a shareholder-owned irrigation entity responsible for managing, maintaining, and operating irrigation infrastructure and water delivery systems serving agricultural lands in and around the Hyrum area.

The company owns and maintains canals and water delivery systems that transport irrigation water from local sources to farmers and other irrigation users including to Hyrum City's Irrigation Ponds. Hyrum Irrigation Company holds the underlying water rights, and water is allocated to individual users based on the number of shares they own. The company manages these water rights and ensures equitable distribution in accordance with share ownership. Hyrum City is the largest shareholder in Hyrum Irrigation Company.

Hyrum Irrigation Company is governed by a six-member board of directors. Four board members are elected by the shareholders and must hold at least two shares of Hyrum Irrigation Company stock. The remaining two board members are representatives appointed by Hyrum City, with at least one of those representatives being an elected city official. Hyrum Irrigation Company Board members are responsible for setting policies, establishing assessment rates, overseeing water usage and rights, and ensuring fair and consistent water distribution to shareholders. The board also supervises the water master, who is responsible for monitoring water flows and ensuring delivery through the canal and ditch systems. Board members act in the best interests of the shareholders and address concerns raised by water users.

In the early 1990s, Hyrum City installed its pressurized irrigation system. As part of that installation, individuals connecting to the city's system were required to turn in irrigation shares to Hyrum Irrigation Company equivalent to their irrigation use. As a result, Hyrum City now holds a majority of the shares in Hyrum Irrigation Company. During this transition, the Hyrum Irrigation Company and Hyrum City mutually agreed that two city-appointed representatives could serve on the Hyrum Irrigation Company board without being elected by shareholders.

Mayor Steve Miller is recommending the appointment of Council Member Craig Rasmussen to continue serve on the Hyrum Irrigation Company Board. Council Member Rasmussen currently serves on the board and brings valuable expertise due to his engineering background and extensive knowledge of Hyrum City's pressurized irrigation system, water shares, water flow and distribution, and attending meetings on Hyrum Dam and Porcupine Reservoir, and Utah State water regulations, including water monitoring, assessments, and priority administration. Mayor Miller is also in the process of contacting an additional individual to determine their willingness to serve as the second Hyrum City-appointed representative on the board.