



Governing Board

Thursday, August 28, 2014, 7:30 A.M.
Central Utah Water Conservancy District Board Room
355 West University Parkway, Orem, Utah

ATTENDEES:

Chair/Mayor Bert Wilson, Lehi City
Mayor James Hadfield, American Fork City
Commissioner Larry Ellertson, Utah County
Councilwoman Rebecca Call, City Of Saratoga
Springs
Councilman Mark Seastrand, Orem City
Mayor John Curtis, Provo City
Mayor Jeff Acerson, Lindon City
Mayor Mark Thompson, Highland City
Mayor Randy Farnworth, Vineyard City
Mr. Reed Price, Utah Lake Commission
Mr. Mike Styler, Utah Dept. of Natural Resources
Councilman Dave Russell, Woodland Hills City
Councilman Kim Hancock, Payson City
Representative Mike McKell, Utah State
Legislature
Mr. Tyler Murdock, Utah Division of Forestry, Fire
& State Lands
Mr. Walt Baker, Utah Department of
Environmental Quality

Councilman Dean Olsen, Springville City
Ms. Christine Finlinson, Central Utah Water
Conservancy District

INTERESTED PARTIES / VISITORS

Mr. Richard Tullis, CUWCD
Mr. Jared Hansen, CUWCD
Debbie Vanoy, CUWCD
Mr. Mike Mills, CUWCD
Mr. Gene Shawcroft, CUWCD
Mr. Henry Maddux, JSRIP
Mr. Richard Nielson, Utah County
Mr. Brent Beckley
Mr. Greg Beckstrom, Provo City
Mr. Bob Trombly, Provo City
Mr. Robert Krejci, Saratoga Springs Owners
Association
Mr. Jason Poulson, UVU Student

ABSENT: Alpine, Spanish Fork, Mapleton, Elk Ridge, Santaquin, and Salem.

1 **1. Welcome and Call to Order**

2 Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:35 A.M. and welcomed everyone. He excused Ms. Janie
3 Christensen. He announced that Mr. Walt Baker would need to be excused early from the meeting. He
4 welcomed Mr. Kim Hancock of Payson, and Mayor Thompson of Highland.
5

6 **2. Approve the Consent Agenda**

7 Mayor Wilson asked for approval of the consent agenda including the Governing Board minutes from June
8 19, 2014 as well as the June and July financial report. Commissioner Ellertson moved to approve the consent
9 agenda and it was seconded by Ms. Christine Finlinson. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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3. Report from the Technical Committee.

Mr. Richard Nielson reported that the Technical Committee had met on Monday, August 25, 2014 to discuss private boat docks at Utah Lake. They talked about the Utah Lake Master Plan, the amendment process, and heard a report from Forestry, Fire & State Lands. The Technical Committee identified several issues created a written response to FFSL with their questions and concerns.

4. Report from Reed Price, Executive Director.

Recruitment: Mr. Price welcomed Spanish Fork, Payson, Salem, Elk Ridge, and Alpine to the Governing Board. He welcomed Highland City back to the board. He will continue to work with Pleasant Grove, Cedar Hills, Genola and Eagle Mountain.

Lake Level: Mr. Price said he had received many calls from concerned citizens about the low water level at Utah Lake. It is currently 4 ½' below compromise, and is at its lowest level in 20 years due to the drought cycle. The average depth at Utah Lake is 4 ½' to 5' deep, and 24" to 36" in the harbors. Utah Lake typically increases 1' in the winter and decreases 3' in the summer. Mr. Price expects the lake will be 4 ½' below compromise next summer if we receive an average level of precipitation this winter.

Mayor Wilson asked how much water is necessary to float an average sized boat at Utah Lake. Mr. Price answered saying the amount ranges depending upon the type of boat; typically 18" or more. Ms. Rebecca Call asked Mr. Price to talk about the history of water rights at Utah Lake and how water is distributed to the Jordan River. He said it would be good to have a meeting with the Jordan River Commission to discuss this information. Ms. Call said it appears that northern water share holders receive all of their shares even in low water years. She thought it wise to explain why and how water shares work.

Mr. Jason Allen said State Parks and Recreation recently met with the Sheriff's office to discuss search and rescue responses at Utah Lake. Low water levels have forced them to remove most of their rescue vessels, so they will be using mud buddies or wave runners instead. These changes will slow response time.

Ms. Call asked if the county has access to an air boat. Mr. Allen said the country has ordered one, but it will not arrive until the end of the year. Until then, they will be relying on hovercraft or flat-bottom boats. Mayor Hadfield expressed gratitude for the recent precipitation because it has prevented his community from using their late season storage water for the past month.

Mr. Henry Maddux said some of his family members recently enjoyed wake boarding and tubing at Utah Lake; the water level was not a problem.

Outreach: Mr. Price said a Legislative Event would be held on October 23, 2014 at 6 P.M. Representatives Mike McKell and Deidre Henderson will help invite other legislators to this event. Commissioner Ellertson said the chosen date conflicts with a MAG meeting. Mr. Price said he would contact their committee chair to discuss the matter.

Mr. Price said the Utah Lake Festival Photography Contest and Children's Art Show have been announced. There have been several newspaper and TV spots about Utah Lake in the past few months. The Department of Agriculture showed the legislative subcommittee our phragmites removal video to highlight how their funds are being used. He is trying to finalize a date for the Utah Lake Symposium. The 4th grade field trips are being planned for next spring.

Phragmites: Mr. Price described phragmites to the Governing Board and said that there are approximately 6000 acres of it growing around the lake. Nearly half of it has been treated with the 3 year removal process. A lot of focus will be spent on maintaining previously treated areas; however, approximately 500 acres of phragmites between Eagle Park and Pelican Point will begin first year treatment. The private land owners have been contacted for permission to begin the treatment process.

Carp Removal: Mr. Price said low water levels have made it difficult to get boats onto the lake for carp removal. Even with this obstacle, carp removal has been more successful this year than last year at this time. Funding has been secured through most of 2015. We will approach the legislature to obtain partial funding for this program. Commissioner Ellertson asked if the lower water level at the lake makes it easier to remove the carp. Mr. Price said the low water level forces the carp out of the phragmites and concentrates them into

1 a smaller area. However, low water level also makes it more difficult to get the boats onto the lake for carp
2 removal and processing.

3 **Beach Development:** Mr. Price has been meeting with the Utah County Commission and Mayor Curtis to
4 discuss the development of a beach along the shoreline in Provo near the Utah Lake State Park. The beach in
5 Vineyard gets a lot of use, and Mayor Curtis has expressed an interest in having a beach in Provo as well. A
6 RFP has been issued in partnership with the Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands. Although a Provo
7 location is being considered for the beach, Mayor Curtis said it would be a Utah County asset. Ms. Call asked
8 about the purpose of the RFP. Mr. Price said it is for initial strategic planning. He invited any interested
9 community to participate in the process. Mayor Farnworth and Ms. Call asked to be involved.

10 **Access Points:** There are about 30 access points around the lake. Many of them are unknown and are not
11 very accessible. Mr. Price is working with the Division of Wildlife Resources and the Division of Forestry, Fire
12 & State Lands to prioritize the access points for improvement, determine funding, and create a plan for
13 improvements. Mayor Farnworth asked if the trail is part of the access points. Mr. Price said the trail would
14 tie into access points.

15 **Water Quality:** The state is moving forward with the phosphorus limit of 1mg/liter. Mr. Price said he has
16 been working with the Jordan River Farmington Bay group. This group has been conducting research on
17 Farmington Bay, the Jordan River and will soon join efforts to conduct research on Utah Lake. This will ensure
18 that good water quality decisions are made for Utah Lake.

19 Ms. Call asked about dredging in the lake and the possibly of it stirring up phosphorus levels. Mr. Price did
20 not believe it would change phosphorus levels. Mr. Walt Baker said they are developing phosphorus limits on
21 a case by case basis for all the water bodies in the state of Utah. Although Utah Lake may be laden with
22 temporary impacts of dredging, it wouldn't have effect on wastewater treatment plants. He said the board
23 passed a 30 day public comment period for technology based limit for phosphorus. It may go into effect by
24 October 15th. Nitrogen is more controversial and is further from being implemented. Municipalities will have
25 to implement a monitoring regime to monitor both influent and effluent nutrients. Ms. Call asked if
26 wastewater standards will be put in place for storm water. Mr. Baker said they would not.

27 Mr. Price asked if there were any other questions, and there were not.

28 Mayor Wilson said he recently held an annual review with Mr. Price. He complimented Mr. Price for doing
29 a great job as the director of the Utah Lake Commission. Mayor Wilson asked for a round of applause. Ms.
30 Call also recognized the ULC staff for assisting Mr. Price.

31 32 **5. Presentation on the Role of the Central Utah Water Conservancy District**

33 Mr. Price expressed appreciation to the Central Utah Water Conservancy District for providing the location
34 and breakfast for this board meeting. Mr. Richard Tullis gave a brief explanation of how the CUWCD is
35 involved with the Central Utah Project.

36 He said the CUWCD was organized in 1964 as the sponsoring agency of the Bonneville Unit of the Central
37 Utah Project. In 1992, the completion of the CUP was turned over to the CUWCD, including construction,
38 operation, and maintenance. They are currently completing the Utah Lake system of the CUP. They are also
39 completing the CWP. (Central Water Project) They purchased water shares from Geneva Steel for nearly
40 \$90M.

41 He said many communities did not sign up for water shares when the Provo River Project came along at
42 \$2.85 A-F because it was thought to be too expensive. When Jordanelle came along in 1994 with the CUP, the
43 cost for water shares was \$200 A-F. As the ULS is completed, it will be about \$300 A-F. CWP will have a
44 required payment of \$7000 A-F for the first use, with each subsequent year at \$400/year per A-F, escalating
45 4%. He said there is not much water left in Utah that can be developed. We will have to use drastic water
46 conservation measures to meet water needs in Utah.

47 The CUWCD operates and maintains the CUP, which includes major and minor dams, reservoirs, many
48 miles of large diameter tunnels/pipelines, canals and pump stations, many valve stations/turnouts. They also
49 maintain the CWP, which has 65,000 A-F of groundwater and surface water for delivery to CUWCD customers.

1 They also maintain the 13 megawatt hydroelectric plant at Jordanelle and CUWCD water treatment plants in
2 Utah, Duchene, and Ashley Valley.

3 The CUP - Bonneville Unit Water Deliveries include: 157,750 A-F of M&I (culinary) water, 62,000 A-F of
4 irrigation water, and 44,400 A-F of instream flow (Uinta Basin). This totals 254,150 A-F delivered. Over
5 100,000 A-F of non-CUP water is delivered through their systems as well.

6 He displayed a CUP water right exchanges map to show the scale of the Bonneville Unit. Part of the
7 reason the CUP was created was to develop Utah's share of the Colorado River. They deliver this
8 supplementary water to over 1 million people along the Wasatch front. An aqueduct system starting at Upper
9 Stillwater Reservoir moves and collects water from a variety of locations and is delivered after a complicated
10 series of exchanges and return flows.

11 He said the surface area of Utah Lake is 94,311 acres when the lake is at compromise elevation of
12 4,489.045'. The lake's volume is 870,000 A-F at compromise. In July, the average evaporation is 9.33 inches
13 or 1,000 cubic feet per second. The inactive storage elevation is at -8.7'. Mr. Price asked how far the
14 elevation drops in July due to irrigation. Mr. Tullis displayed a graph illustrating the lake's water balance in
15 answer to his question. The image showed inflow from groundwater, precipitation, evaporation, gaged and
16 ungaged inflow. It showed outflow and evaporation as well. Mayor Thompson asked what sediment does to
17 lake capacity. Mr. Tullis responded that because of the large surface area, sediment does not create an issue
18 with lake capacity. It was asked if diking Utah Lake was being considered. Mr. Tullis said it is not being
19 considered. He said in 1980's the plan was to dike both the Provo and Goshen Bay to save over 100,000 A-F
20 to make an exchange to Jordanelle. There are many technical and cost issues with building and maintaining a
21 dike system. He is not promoting the idea but perhaps someday it would be considered because of the high
22 levels of evaporation each month. Diking reduces the surface area, thus reducing the amount of evaporation.

23 He then displayed a graph showing Utah Lake levels from 1929 to August 21, 2014. It showed the natural
24 patterns of wet and dry cycles at Utah Lake. Since Jordanelle was created, we do not see the extreme peaks
25 or dips in the lake level. The CUWCD does not control or set Utah Lake levels; it is mostly controlled by wet
26 and dry cycles. The CUWCD uses its water rights in priority order to store and deliver CUP water to its
27 customers.

28 Primary water storage rights in Utah were established in 1870 totaling 189,307 A-F. They cannot be
29 altered. Utah water doctrine is "first in line, first in right." Secondary storage rights established between
30 1908-1012 total 302,046 A-F. The CUWCD and the USBR own 27% of Utah Lake water rights. The average
31 CUP import water is 43,972 A-F.

32 The Utah Lake Distribution Plan was developed at the state engineer's office. The distribution plan
33 provides for "conversion" and "exchange" of water stored upstream. It provides a conversion of "system
34 storage" to "priority storage" when Utah Lake is (1) high, (2) when impairment of prior water rights can be
35 avoided, (3) when exchange water has already been conveyed to Utah Lake.

36 Mayor Thompson asked about Geneva's water rights. Mr. Tullis said Geneva had 87,000 A-F of water
37 rights but actually only used 42,000 A-F. It was purchased for \$89M, including infrastructure, easements,
38 pipeline, and right of ways.

39 Mr. Styler asked who owns the remaining water rights of Utah Lake. Mr. Tullis said Kennecott, SLC, Jordan
40 Valley, and individual stock holders, etc. He reemphasized the reason why SLC is able to use the water during
41 the drought, is because of the "first in time, first in right" and they are ahead of most users. He said that
42 many people think that Salt Lake is taking Utah County water, but much of the 302,000 A-F, moves back into
43 Utah County.

44 Ms. Call had a question about the calculation of volume, water rights, and the current lake level. Mr. Tullis
45 said her calculations did not consider evaporation or incoming water. Mr. Seastrand asked where additional
46 water would come from in order to meet the projected population growth in Utah County. Mr. Tullis said
47 conversion and conservation practices will make it possible to provide water to the growing population.

48 Mayor Acerson asked if Mr. Tullis would give recommendations or guidelines to cities for implementations
49 for conservation. Mr. Tullis said many communities are already placing rules for their communities. He said
50 he continually sees changes in conservation taking place.

1 Ms. Call asked if any studies are available to the public to show the negative effects of xeriscaping and the
2 positive effects of green landscaping. Mr. Tullis was not aware of any. Mayor Farnworth asked about average
3 water use in Utah. Ms. Call said Saratoga Springs uses four times the Utah average. Someone said those
4 numbers are skewed because they do not factor in precipitation that some states get. Ms. Call said the
5 studies compared usage in similar circumstances.

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7 **6. Other Business or Public Comments.**

8 There were no comments from the public.
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10 **7. Next Governing Board Meeting.**

11 Mayor Wilson said the next Governing Board Meeting would be held at the Historic Utah County
12 Courthouse Ballroom on Thursday, September 25, 2014, at 7:30 A.M. FFSL will discuss amending the Master
13 Plan to allow private boat docks at Utah Lake.
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15 **8. Adjourn.**

16 Mayor Hadfield motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Ms. Call. Voting was unanimous
17 in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 A.M.