

APPROVED



Governing Board

Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:30 A.M.

Electronic Meeting held via Zoom

ATTENDEES:

Brad Frost, Chair, American Fork
 Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission
 Erica Gaddis, DWQ
 Brian Cottam, FFSL
 Michelle Kaufusi, Provo
 Kari Malkovich, Woodland Hills
 Chris Finlinson, CUWCD
 Lon Lott, Alpine
 Brittney Bills, Highland
 Jeff Lambson, Orem
 Craig Jensen, Vice-Chair, Springville
 Tyce Flake, Vineyard
 Chris Carn, Saratoga Springs
 Brian Steed, DNR
 Ezra Nair, Utah County
 Keir Scoubes, Spanish Fork

INTERESTED PARTIES / VISITORS:

Sam Braegger, Utah Lake Commission
 Renn Lambert, Limnotech
 John Mackey, DWQ
 Jamie Barnes, FFSL
 Cory Pierce, Spanish Fork
 Isaac Paxman, Provo
 Shellie Turnbow, Provo
 Rich Tullis
 Russ Franklin, JSRIP
 Soren Simonsen, JRC
 Legrand Bitter, UASD
 Jeff Denbleyker
 Bob Trombly, Provo
 David Richard, Oreohelix

MEMBERS NOT EXPECTED TO ATTEND: Utah House of Representatives, Utah Senate

ABSENT: Cedar Hills, DNR, Lehi, Lindon City, Payson, Salem City, State Parks and Recreation, Utah County,

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1. Welcome and Call to Order

A. Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 7:32 A.M. and welcomed everyone.

2. Action Items

A. Review & Approve Previous Meeting Minutes: Eric summarized the docs sent out. Chair Frost asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Governing Board meeting on Dec 10th, 2020 and the Work Session Minutes from Jan 21st, 2021. Jeff Lambson made a motion to approve and Lon Lott seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.

B. Monthly Financial Reports: Eric reviewed the monthly reports from Dec 2020 – Jan 2021, highlighted a few transactions. Chair Frost asked for a motion to approve the monthly financial reports from

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1 Dec 2020 – Jan 2021. Lon Lott made a motion to approve, and Chris Carn seconded the motion. Voting
2 was unanimous in favor of approving the monthly financial reports.

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4 **3. Open and Public Meetings Act Training – UASD**

- 5 A. LeGrand Bitter from Utah Association of Special Districts (UASD) introduced the presentation. He
6 provided some background on what the Open and Public Meetings Act. He defined what is an open
7 meeting, stipulations on electronic meetings, and the other basic tenets of the act. He also included
8 updates as of this year, such as SB125 from the 2021 legislative session, clarifying the requirements on
9 policy for electronic meetings. He also covered electronic communications, agendas, annual meeting
10 notice requirements, emergency meetings, etc. A few questions were asked by board members to
11 clarify the law requirements.

12
13 **4. Utah Lake commission – Directors Update:**

- 14 A. Walkara Way Status: \$4.4 million through state legislature this year, \$4 million through MAG for 2023.
15 \$100,000 through WRI grant for fencing at the project. Pilot area for grazing is fully fenced now,
16 parking area for field trips is in process of construction.
- 17 B. Sandy Beach project: boundary settlement occurred in Dec. 2020. FFSL partnering with Utah County
18 will put in a barrier rail along the river, parking, restrooms, picnic pavilions will all be added. Hopefully
19 sand will be raked out as well.
- 20 C. Utah Office of Outdoor Recreation Grant
- 21 D. Phragmites/Invasives: High likelihood of getting full request, over \$700,000. Walkara Way grazing will
22 be the grazing part of that. The original footprint of 8,300 acres is diminishing as we see success and
23 reduced regrowth. We will be purchasing seeds to replace the phragmites this year and next.
- 24 E. Utah County Tourism Funding for Utah Lake projects: Vineyard will be master planning their shoreline,
25 the Commission will be a part of that review process.
- 26 F. Unimproved Access Points Enhancements: 22 primitive access points, reviewing to apply for grant
27 dollars for improvement. Focus will likely be on Swede Lane, Lincoln Point, Mill Race and Mile Post 13
28 access points.
- 29 G. Legislative Funding for Utah Lake: \$9.8 million in one-time funding.
- 30 a. Algae remediation - \$1M
- 31 b. Walkara Way - \$4.4M, a portion for fencing, maintenance facility, trails
- 32 c. Shoreline restoration - \$800k
- 33 d. Marina upgrades - \$2.6M, we will be forming a committee to determine where these dollars
34 will go, the three tourism projects, two of which are marinas, are still needing matching
35 dollars so this may be a good fit to make those happen.
- 36 e. Invasive Species remediation - \$1M, animal feeding operation, developing a tool for
37 implementing grazing management at Walkara and elsewhere across the lake.

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39 **5. Tentative ULC Budget FY22 Review**

- 40 A. Action Item: Approve Tentative FY2022 Budget
- 41 a. Eric summarized the three documents for the tentative budget. Small contribution to capital
42 projects, \$10k, budgeting \$10k in equipment purchases, \$30k in access enhancements, etc. In
43 the general fund, 5% increase in the budget. Small increases in wages/benefits, increase in cell
44 phone, insurance, invasive species control. Membership contributions, just under 5% increase,
45 total budget went up from \$305k to \$320k. Eric detailed the ROI for how many dollars (grants,
46 legislative appropriations, private dollars, etc.) are brought to the lake compared to the
47 Commission annual budget expense.

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- 1 b. Chair Frost asked for a motion to approve the tentative budget for FY2022. Ezra Nair made a
2 motion to approve, and Lon Lott seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of
3 approving the tentative budget.

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5 **6. Utah Lake Authority Bill – Sent to Interim: Follow Up**

- 6 A. Eric summarized the bill process; many iterations, it did not pass committee and was sent to interim.
7 Rep. Brammer is revising the bill over the next year to resubmit next year. He is working with the
8 water community, one of the concerned groups, to address questions and concerns.
9 B. Chair Frost expressed his thoughts on the bill and felt there were some issues with the bill and that it
10 was moving too quickly. He is proud of the work the Commission has done, we will see what happens
11 in the future with the bill.
12 C. Kari Malkovich, also expressed appreciation for Commission staff and the work being done.
13 D. Chris Carn, expressed thanks to the work involved in providing edits and feedback on the bill.

14
15 **7. JSRIP Update – Russ Franklin**

- 16 A. Russ introduced himself as the new program coordinator. On Feb 3rd, 2021, the June sucker was
17 downlisted from endangered to threatened; only the fifth fish species to ever be downlisted. In 1997
18 only 300 June estimated at the spawning run, now the runs average in the tens of thousands. He
19 briefly covered the history of the recovery efforts since the 1980's, membership of the program (DNR,
20 DEQ, etc.) The program has focused on an ecosystem approach, benefiting the lake and all its species
21 as a whole instead of just the one species. He summarized past carp removal efforts; in the future they
22 will be targeting more juvenile carp while they research novel control strategies. They are also
23 working on efforts to understand northern pike and prevent an issue there. The Provo River Delta
24 restoration project is ahead of schedule and going well; 10,198 feet of channel excavated so far. He
25 also shared that the Skipper Bay Trail northern half was closed earlier than planned, due to safety
26 concerns. The reroute of the trail will not be open until 2024.

27
28 **8. Erica Gaddis / Scott Daly – ULWQS updates**

- 29 A. Erica provided a quick update on the study. She explained the overall timeline from 2015 through
30 2030, the various phases from data gathering all the way to implementation. The study has hired a
31 new facilitator; Peak Facilitation Group. Erica reviewed the various committees and groups, including
32 the Utah Lake Commission, and how they play a role in the study review process. She covered the
33 original four charge questions that guide the study. She shared the upcoming meeting schedule, the
34 beneficial uses of Utah Lake and the evaluation of management goals (providing multiple reduction
35 scenarios for policy makers to consider in implementing the study outcomes). She shared updates on
36 some of the studies being done to fill data gaps, i.e. bioassay study, paleolimnology study, littoral
37 sediment study, phosphorus binding study, lake mesocosms study. She wrapped up by going over the
38 study timeline again. David Richards added a comment about the mesocosms will take several years,
39 he also made comments about the sediment cores and the absence of mollusks in certain layers.

40
41 **9. Utah Lake Commission Staff Report – Sam Braegger**

- 42 A. Board pocket guide: Sam detailed what's included in the guide. Relevant info for the board:
43 commission membership, current chair and vice chair, current projects, required trainings, annual
44 meeting schedule, ULC staff goals for the year, contact info for board members and the Commission
45 social media and other online outreach resources, etc. The guide will be updated annually.
46 B. Communications updates: A lot of positive feedback on the Utah Lake Podcast, now have 49 episodes
47 published on a variety of topics. The life jacket loaner program is moving forward. The donation drive

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1 went well last year. Staff are working on the station designs. Wilkinsons agreed to sponsor the
2 commemorative plates in honor of the two girls who died last year. We are working on finding
3 partners for the materials and construction of the stations. Working on agreements with marinas. We
4 plan to seek donations again once things are closer to being built and running. Chair Frost expressed
5 excitement in participating in the program at the American Fork Marina.

6
7 **10. Governing Board Meeting schedule for the year**

- 8 A. June 17, 2021 (Budget Hearing)
9 B. September 16, 2021
10 C. December 9, 2021

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12 **11. General comments from board members and the public**

- 13 A. David Richards said the Commission is doing a great job.
14 B. Eric Ellis spoke about membership contributions and the census. FY22 would have been adjusted
15 according to census results, but the results have not come out so we will wait to make those changes
16 until the next fiscal year, FY23.
17 C. Kari Malkovich asked if hybrid meetings will continue. Chair Frost expressed support for the idea, as
18 did Chris Condie and Jeff Lambson.

19
20 **12. Next Governing Board Meeting**

21 Chair Frost reminded the board that the next Governing Board Meeting will be on June 17, 2021 at 7:30
22 AM in the Utah County Health and Justice Building, Room 2500.

23
24 **13. Adjourn**

25 The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 A.M.