

APPROVED



## Governing Board

Thursday, June 17th, 2021, 7:30 A.M.  
Hybrid Public Meeting held via Zoom and anchor location at  
Utah County Historic Courthouse  
51 S. University Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor ballroom  
Provo, UT 84601

### **ATTENDEES:**

Brad Frost, Chair, American Fork  
Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission  
Erica Gaddis, DWQ  
Jamie Barnes, FFSL  
Michelle Kaufusi, Provo  
Kari Malkovich, Woodland Hills  
Chris Finlinson, CUWCD  
Jed Muhlstein, Alpine  
Jeff Lambson, Orem  
Laurie Backus, State Parks  
Tyce Flake, Vineyard  
Brady Brammer, Utah House of Rep.

Bill Lee, Utah County  
Brian Steed, DNR  
Shane Marshall, Spanish Fork

### **INTERESTED PARTIES / VISITORS:**

Sam Braegger, Utah Lake Commission  
Cory Pierce, Spanish Fork  
Tom Bruton, CUWCD  
Tdude (Zoom attendee)  
Scott Daly, DWQ  
Soren Simonsen, JRC

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

**ABSENT:** Cedar Hills, Highland, Lehi, Lindon, Payson, Salem, Saratoga Springs, Springville

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12

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

A. Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 7:37 A.M. and welcomed everyone. The action items on the agenda were skipped for the moment, to wait for enough board members to join virtually or in person to have a quorum.

### **2. Action Items**

A. Review & Approve Previous Meeting Minutes: Chair Frost asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Governing Board meeting March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Michelle Kaufusi made a motion to approve and Kari Malkovich seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.

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

APPROVED

1 Feb 2021 – May 2021. Chris Finlinson made a motion to approve, and Tyce Flake seconded the  
2 motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the monthly financial reports.

3  
4 **3. Public Hearing - FY2022 Budget**

- 5 A. Review of the Budget: Nothing has changed from tentative budget presented in March. Eric  
6 highlighted a few of the notable items: capital projects expenses, etc. He explained membership  
7 contributions for the coming year. The most recent US census data was delayed, so it was not factored  
8 into the FY22 budget, it will be implemented in the FY23 budget once it is published. Municipal  
9 populations are a factor in the Commission algorithm for determining membership contributions.  
10 B. Approve FY2022 Budget: Chair Frost asked for a motion to approve the budget for FY2022. Kari  
11 Malkovich made a motion to approve, and Tyce Flake seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in  
12 favor of approving the minutes. Chair Frost requested a roll-call vote, the names of all Board  
13 members were called and those present voted in favor of the proposed budget.

14  
15 **4. Utah Lake commission – Directors Update:**

- 16 A. Annual Report: Eric reported on some of the highlights from the fiscal year. \$27.1 million committed  
17 to the lake, 82 access cleanup events, 5,168 acres of land treated for phragmites, etc. He summarized  
18 the 10 main current projects at the lake, such as: Sandy Beach enhancements, phragmites treatment,  
19 the Walkara Way project, the tourism tax investment projects, etc. Next, he briefly covered the algae  
20 pilot treatments and also sections of trail being completed at the lake. He also detailed the funding  
21 breakdown of the \$27.1M down into the various contributors: Utah County tourism tax, legislative  
22 appropriation, local cities investments, the Utah Lake Water Quality Study, etc. The outreach section  
23 of the report will be covered by Sam, but significant growth in outreach.  
24 B. Lake Levels (Tom Bruton, CUWCD): Tom provided an overview of the watershed area and the Central  
25 Utah Project. He talked about drought, planning for the future and efficient use of water. The  
26 reservoirs can weather a drought of several years. He shared current status on Utah Lake (peaked on  
27 03/25/21 at -2.12 ft below compromise, currently at -3.09 or 68%) , Jordanelle (peaked on 6/8/21 at  
28 75% and currently at 73%) and Deer Creek (peaked on 5/4/21 at 87%, currently at 75%). Tom wrapped  
29 up by sharing historical information about drought in the U.S. He also fielded a few questions from the  
30 board, i.e., recharging aquifers, how the water storage plans interact with reservoirs, etc.  
31 a. \*At this point in the meeting, a quorum was present and Chair Frost moved back to the action  
32 items on the agenda.  
33 C. Walkara Way Project Update: pilot area has been grazed for 2.5 months, no phragmites versus 9 ft of  
34 phragmites on the parcel next to it. The grazing area will expand soon. Nesting towers have ospreys  
35 nesting on them now.  
36 D. Cleanup at Lincoln Point – Utah Valley Chamber of Commerce: The cleanup will happen on July 13<sup>th</sup>,  
37 trimming vegetation at Lincoln Point.  
38 E. Unimproved Access Points Enhancements- Grant Applications for FY2023: The Commission plans to  
39 submit: Lincoln Point, Mill Race, Mosida and Swede Lane or Mulberry Beach access points for grant  
40 dollars to help improve their amenities.  
41 F. Phragmites Work: This topic was covered in the annual report discussion.  
42 G. Legislative Funding for Utah Lake: \$9.8 million in one-time funding. The funding breakdown is: \$850k  
43 for shoreline restoration and improvements. \$5.4M for Walkara Way (fencing, grazing operations,  
44 trails, facilities), \$2.6M for marina upgrades, \$1M for algae remediation (\$400k for algae harvesting,  
45 remaining \$600k for treatments and treatment evaluation for Utah Lake). Representative Brammer  
46 asked that reports be well organized to show the before/after of where this funding went, showing in  
47 detail what was accomplished in order to demonstrate that the funding worked and increase odds of  
48 receiving additional funding. Erica Gaddis detailed what the \$600k will go towards for algae  
49 remediation and evaluation.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47

**5. Utah Lake Authority Bill – Sent to Interim – Interim Committees and Water User Task Force Sub-Committees**

- A. Eric detailed the review by the 10 sub committees, a member of the group stated that with all the members of the Water User Task Force they represent over 600 years of experience with Utah Lake. Their review is very detailed in its effort to care for the lake. Representative Brammer added that he thinks the reviews are going well.

**6. JSRIP Update – Russ Franklin**

- A. In the interest of time, this agenda item was postponed until the next Governing Board meeting.

**7. Erica Gaddis / Scott Daly – ULWQS updates**

- A. Erica started with a brief summary of the study and what has been accomplished so far. The management goals for Utah Lake are: recreation, agriculture and aquatic wildlife. The Numeric Nutrient Criteria Framework is the process the Steering Committee will be voting on in the coming weeks: using multiple lines of evidence-based approach to determine the level of nutrients the lake can handle, combing the lines of evidence for uncertainty and risk probability, etc. She then updated the board on the research involved in the study. She reviewed the high-level charge questions from the Steering Committee to the Science Panel, for which the research is being completed to provide answers. The sediment-water nutrient interactions study is working to determine the impact of the lake bed sediments on nutrient levels in the water. The bioassay study is studying how algae blooms react to different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus. The carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus budget study is determining nutrient and water levels leaving and entering the lake on an annual basis. The phosphorus binding study will determine how phosphorus molecules interact with other molecules in the lake. The paleoecology study will research the historic conditions and nutrient concentrations at Utah Lake and how major events impacted those levels. The littoral sediment study studies how the wetting and drying of sediments due to changing lake levels affects nutrient cycling. The Wasatch Front Water Quality Council is also conducting an atmospheric deposition study to provide estimates of the wet and dry deposition of nutrients to the surface of Utah Lake from the atmosphere. Timpanogos Special Service District is doing a study on lake mesocosms, studying the effects of carp on nutrient cycling and their effect on several other elements of the lake.
- B. Tetratech, technical consultant to the study, is compiling all research to create a in-lake and watershed model. Erica detailed some of the upcoming initiatives. The Science Panel will perform an interim assessment of the charge questions of the ULWQS. The Steering Committee will be preparing a recreation survey for residents to provide input on what they want the lake water quality to be like. The Committee will also work on scenario development and begin implementation planning in an effort to reduce lag time from when the research and modeling are complete and implementing the recommendation’s from the study.

**8. Utah Lake Commission Staff Report – Sam Braegger**

- A. Utah Lake Regatta 2021: The event was held this year, record attendance. The Commission hired a videographer to create a highlights video.
- B. Scavenger Hunt 2021: A fun and educational way to get to know the lake. Sam detailed how the event worked: 140+ missions at the lake, at home or online. Challenges to do activities, read educational blog posts, etc. JSRIP, AI’s Sporting Goods and Bonneville School of Sailing were valued sponsors. Many of our partners contributed missions to the hunt to help residents learn more. Sam shared some of the post-event feedback received.

APPROVED

- 1 C. Outreach updates: The life jacket loaner program continues to move forward. Station design is  
2 completed. The Commission is awaiting signatures on the agreements from marina access managers.  
3 The Commission recently partnered with Saratoga Springs Owners Association to acquire  
4 UtahLake.org as a website domain name for the Commission’s website. UtahLake.org will become the  
5 primary domain, but the Commission will retain ownership of utahlakecommission.org and  
6 utahlakecommission.com. Sam also highlighted a couple of potential video ideas in the works with  
7 partners at the lake to increase community outreach efforts.  
8 D. Chair Frost added that American Fork City will be signing the mentioned agreements in the near  
9 future.

10

11 **9. Governing Board Meeting schedule for the year**

- 12 A. September 16, 2021  
13 B. December 9, 2021

14

15 **10. General comments from board members and the public**

- 16 A. Soren Simonsen, Jordan River Commission, commented two things. He reported that the Golden  
17 Spoke event is going well, an effort to raise awareness of the network of trails across the communities  
18 of Utah County and Salt Lake County. Grassroots effort, Love Your Watershed, to help residents learn  
19 more about their watershed and share it with others.  
20 B. Chair Frost asked for opinions from the board on maintaining the hybrid meeting offering moving  
21 forward. Jeff Lambson spoke in favor, as did Jamie Barnes and Kari Malkovich.

22

23 **11. Next Governing Board Meeting**

- 24 Chair Frost reminded the board that the next Governing Board Meeting will be on September 9, 2021 at  
25 7:30 AM in the Utah County Health and Justice Building, Room 2500.

26

27 **12. Adjourn**

- 28 The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 A.M.