

APPROVED



**Governing Board**

Thursday, March 17, 2022, 7:30 A.M.  
Hybrid Public Meeting held via Zoom and anchor location at  
Central Utah Water Conservancy District  
1426 E 750 N St. 400, boardroom  
Orem, UT 84097

**ATTENDEES:**

Michelle Kaufusi, Chair, Provo  
Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission  
Lon Lott, Alpine  
Brad Frost, American Fork  
Russ Franklin, CUWCD  
Erica Gaddis, DWQ  
Jamie Barnes, FFSL  
Chris Condie, Lehi  
Carolyn Lundberg, Lindon  
Jeff Lambson, Orem  
Tim De Graw, Salem  
Chris Carn, Saratoga Springs  
Shane Marshall, Spanish Fork  
Bill Lee, Utah County  
Julie Fullmer, Vice-Chair, Vineyard  
Kari Malkovich, Woodland Hills

**INTERESTED PARTIES / VISITORS:**

Sam Braegger, Utah Lake Commission  
Isaac Paxman, Provo  
Ben Stireman, FFSL  
Cory Pierce, Spanish Fork  
Soren Simonsen, JRC  
Sullivan Love, Vineyard  
Josh Hermann, Cross Cruiser  
Mike Rau, CUWCD  
Mary Barnes, Lindon City  
Chris Crockett, DWR  
Emma Whittaker, UAG  
Bob Trombly, Provo  
Robert Krejci, SSOA  
Scott Daly, DWQ  
Todd Stonely  
Morgan Faulkner, FFSL

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

**ABSENT:** Cedar Hills, DNR, Highland, Payson, Springville, State Parks

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**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

- A. Chair Kaufusi called the meeting to order at 7:45 A.M. and welcomed everyone. New board members were introduced.
- B. Photo Contest Canvas Prints: The board members that requested prints to be displayed at public offices can pick up their photo canvas with Sam at the end of the meeting.

**2. Action Items**

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- 1 A. Review & Approve Previous Meeting Minutes: Chair Kaufusi asked for a motion to approve the  
2 minutes from the Governing Board meeting January 13, 2022. Bill Lee made a motion to approve and  
3 Lon Lott seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.
- 4 B. Review & Approve Monthly Budget Reports – Jan-Feb 2022: Chair Kaufusi asked for a motion to  
5 approve the Monthly Budget Reports – Jan-Feb 2022. Lon Lott made a motion to approve and Jeff  
6 Lambson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the monthly financial  
7 reports.
- 8 C. Discuss and Review Tentative FY2023 Budget:
- 9 a. Chair Kaufusi introduced the agenda item and asked Eric to provide details. Eric explained that  
10 because of how the Utah Lake Authority bill is set up, funding isn't available for use until April  
11 1, 2023. As a result, the proposal is to carry on with the Utah Lake Commission while the Utah  
12 Lake Authority is being set up over the next year. This way all the typical events, outreach,  
13 projects, etc. are continued. No increase of membership contributions, same as last year.  
14 Anything extra leftover, when Commission dissolves, it is returned proportionately to the  
15 various Commission member entities. Commission will hire one more employee to help with  
16 the transition and continuing Commission efforts during the transition. Also plans to use some  
17 of the savings account to purchase some needed equipment for projects to finalize the dollars  
18 available to the Commission. Bill Lee asked about office space for ULA, as the ULC staff have  
19 been housed at county facility, asked if county contribution included the office space. Eric  
20 reported that the plan is to maintain same offices, with similar staffing expected, and clarified  
21 that the ULC currently pays rent for that space.
- 22 b. Chair Kaufusi asked for a motion to approve the tentative FY2023 budget. Chris Carn made a  
23 motion to approve and Bill Lee seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of  
24 approving the tentative FY2023 budget.
- 25

26 **3. Open and Public Meetings Training – Emma Whittaker, UAG**

- 27 A. Emma introduced herself, covering OPMA and a few other statutes. She started with the Open and  
28 Public Meetings Act (OPMA), defining public bodies, public meetings, etc. Public notice requirements,  
29 such as when and where notice needs to occur. Electronic meetings and closed meetings, explaining  
30 the difference, requirements for the meeting, such as having a quorum for meeting minutes,  
31 maintain records of the public and closed meetings, etc. Next, she spoke on the Ethics Act and  
32 conflicts of interest. Key points were disclosure, how board members must disclose conflicts of  
33 interest, and prohibitions on actions a board member cannot take. Boards may establish their own  
34 conflicts of interest policy. Last, she spoke on GRAMA. In summation, it details the requirements of  
35 retaining records, and providing public records to persons requesting them. She detailed how board  
36 members interact with GRAMA, mainly, sharing any records they create or GRAMA requests they  
37 receive with ULC staff to ensure compliance. She detailed a few exceptions, such as documents staff  
38 already have access to, and documents not considered public records under GRAMA. Bill Lee asked a  
39 question regarding closed meetings and recording them, Emma will gather info and provide a  
40 response. Eric asked regarding public notice being provided to local newspapers for only budget  
41 hearings or all public meetings, Emma will include details in response to ULC staff.

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43 **4. Utah Lake Commission – Director's Update**

- 44 A. Lake level – Mike Rau, CUWCD: Mike shared the 03/1/22 water supply update. Drought status has  
45 improved slightly from last year, runoff should be slightly better too. He shared the details of the last  
46 few months precipitation with charts. Currently SWE for Provo watershed is about 82%, we could

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- 1 receive a little more snow. Jordanelle is below 60% full, not expected to fill. Deer Creek is higher.  
2 Overall, better than last year, but not our best year.
- 3 B. Marina Camera network: Eric refreshed the board on what the network is. Cameras have been  
4 installed at Utah Lake State Park, the central hub for internet access. All the other marinas will  
5 transmit there. ULC staff will send out the test links for the views; work on formatting the online  
6 feeds is still ongoing.
- 7 C. WRI Grant: Utah Lake Shoreline Restoration: our project was ranked third in our region for funding.  
8 Will find out final decision on funding in May. Grazing program at Walkara Way is a great addition: it  
9 will eventually include approx. 700 acres of the lakeshore efforts to remove phragmites.
- 10 D. Habitat Council Grant: Five Access Improvements: request for enhancing five of the  
11 sportsmen/primitive access points. Project approved, funding undetermined still.
- 12 E. Nature/Research Center Planning: state legislature has DFM looking into a nature center at Utah Lake  
13 again. Considering potential sites currently. Would be a visitor center, a laboratory for research on  
14 the lake, etc.
- 15 F. Provo River Delta Site Tour: we will be scheduling a tour at the project site, over 80% of the delta  
16 work is complete. Chair Kaufusi requested an emailed schedule request; ULC staff will send out to the  
17 board.

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19 **5. DWR Utah Lake Fishing Advisory Committee and Management Plan – Chris Crockett, DWR**

- 20 A. Chris explained that this process has just begun. The advisory committee will help develop a fisheries  
21 management plan for Utah Lake, alongside DWR staff. For the last 30 years, the focus has been  
22 primarily on June sucker, now with the successes with that program, it is still included but focus can  
23 expand to include other fishing interests such as improved access, other sport fish, etc. He detailed  
24 the membership of the committee: anglers, various related state and federal agencies and the Utah  
25 Lake Commission. First committee meeting focused on the purpose, visioning exercises such as a  
26 SWOT analysis, etc. He displayed the rough draft mission statement for the board to understand the  
27 general idea of the direction this effort will go. He expressed that meetings will be monthly moving  
28 forward, and next steps are finalizing the vision of the effort. End goal is to have a draft management  
29 plan by end of June 2023.

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31 **6. Utah Lake Authority – Transition from Utah Lake Commission – Eric Ellis**

- 32 A. Basic facts and timeline. The ULC will work to setup the ULA over the next 20 months. The \$1.5M  
33 becomes available after July 1<sup>st</sup>. The ULC must be dissolved by May 2023, the ULA management plan  
34 can't go into effect until April 2023. First steps will be ULC staff working with Utah Attorney General's  
35 office to form bylaws, and other governing documents. ULA governing board must be formed by June  
36 1<sup>st</sup>. ULC staff have reviewed HB 232, identified steps needed to form ULA and get it running, will work  
37 to do so while simultaneously carrying out all planned ULC duties, events and activities. ULC will hire  
38 one additional employee to assist during transition period. FFSL has already begun partnering with  
39 ULC to assist in transition. Eric asked for questions from the board. Discussion about the removal of  
40 the taxing portion of the bill. Eric detailed that we could ask for larger appropriations in the future or  
41 taxing. How it stands now, it has improved upon how the ULC functions because the ULA can directly  
42 receive funding from the state, whereas the ULC couldn't. ULC budget is approx. \$350,000, so the  
43 ULA budget will be \$1.5M. Eric discussed the board makeup for the ULA. Other clarifying questions  
44 from board members included how the rotation of member cities works, other budget questions.

45

46 **7. Utah Lake Water Quality Study – Erica Gaddis / Scott Daly**

- 47 A. Erica reported on progress. Science Panel met yesterday to consider another round of scientific  
48 studies. Major focus this year will be integrating all the field work done into the computer modeling to

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1 predict how it will all impact the lake into the future. Steering Committee will meet soon to discuss  
2 implementation of the nutrient reductions, economic analysis, etc. as we prepare to enter the  
3 implementation stage of the study. She reported that the legislature appropriated \$30M to DWQ for a  
4 Utah Lake preservation fund. Working on building out the program over the following months. Initial  
5 thoughts for the program include: competitive infrastructure grant program (wastewater and  
6 stormwater infrastructure), in-lake water improvements (such as protecting marinas from harmful  
7 algal blooms) and outreach and education.

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

- 10 A. Winter Fishfest: he detailed that the event is more of a fishing challenge than a traditional  
11 tournament. It is online, done at the angler’s convenience by submitting photos. He hit on a few  
12 improvements demonstrated in this year’s Fishfest versus last year, greater participation, an increased  
13 Net Promoter score, etc.
- 14 B. Life Jacket Loaner Program: ULC has selected a handyman to start construction on the loaner stations  
15 this month; 5 built to start, with goals of adding more later. 400 life jackets donated to start the  
16 program. Sam displayed the educational signage that will be at each loaner station location.
- 17 C. Water Safety Awareness Month: Kickoff of the life jacket loaner program, raise awareness about  
18 water safety and several events. Paddle with Care, May 7<sup>th</sup>, paddling across a section of the lake to  
19 fundraise for the program, honor the families who’ve lost loved ones and raise awareness around  
20 water safety. Utah Lake Photo Club is partnered with ULC to do a photo exhibit, selling photos as a  
21 fundraiser for the loaner program as well. All the donated life jackets will be inspected to verify they  
22 are safe for use. Mayor Kaufusi mentioned the Provo Airport grand opening; keep an eye out for  
23 invitations.

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

- 26 A. June 16, 2022  
27 B. September 15, 2022  
28 C. December 8, 2022  
29 D. Discussion on meeting time: Mayor Kaufusi suggested a later meeting time of 9 am and asked for  
30 input, in order to increase attendance. Board discussed, some members were concerned about 9 am.  
31 Group agreed on a 11:30 time, a lunch meeting. Mayor Kaufusi offered to provide lunch.

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

- 34 A. Josh Hermann, looking forward to changes coming to the lake. He worked on Lake Travis previously,  
35 wants to see what kind of recreation come. He is working to provide barge tours on Utah Lake, wants  
36 to help make marina accessible, despite remote locations.  
37 B. David Richards, he is working on a fisheries food model, hopes to have that help the fisheries  
38 management plan.

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40 **11. Next Governing Board Meeting**

41 Chair Kaufusi reminded the board that the next Governing Board Meeting will be on March 17, 2022 at  
42 11:30 AM in the CUWCD District Offices.

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44 **12. Adjourn**

45 The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 A.M.