

APPROVED



Governing Board

Thursday, September 15, 2022, 11:30 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
Jed Muhlestein, Alpine
Gerard Yates, CUWCD
Todd Adams, DNR
Ben Stireman, FFSL
Brittney Bills, Highland
Carolyn Lundberg, Lindon
Terry Peterson, Orem
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
Cory Pierce, Spanish Fork
Morgan Faulkner, FFSL
Soren Simonsen, JRC
W Findlay
Scott Daly, DWQ
Dave Epstein, Jacobs
Renn Lamber, Limnotech
Hartley
Carol-Lyn Jardine, Conserve Utah Valley
Tom Sakievich, Utah County

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

ABSENT: American Fork, Cedar Hills, DNR, Highland, Lehi, Salem, Saratoga Springs, Springville, State Parks

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1. Welcome and Call to Order

A. Vice Chair Fullmer called the meeting to order at 11:34 A.M. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Action Items

A. Review & Approve Previous Meeting Minutes: Vice Chair Fullmer asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Governing Board meeting June 16, 2022. Kari Malkovich made a motion to approve with a minor correction and Bill Lee seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.

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- 1 B. Review & Approve Monthly Budget Reports: Eric detailed the reports, we are on budget for the year.
2 This will be the last as the ULC; things are off to a good start. The ULC will operate until ULA master
3 plan is created; then dissolve ULC. There is a TBD date for an appreciation dinner in the springtime to
4 thank all who've been involved in the ULC. Vice Chair Fullmer asked for a motion to approve the
5 Monthly Budget Reports – Jun-Aug 2022. Bill Lee made a motion to approve and Carolyn Lundberg
6 seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the monthly financial reports.
7

8 **3. Utah Lake Water Quality Study (ULWQS) – Scott Daly**

- 9 A. Scott began by refreshing the board on the purpose of the study: identify role of excess nutrients on
10 use impairments, identify appropriate in-lake nutrient end points and develop comprehensive water
11 quality improvement strategy for all sources. He summarized the study and decision process, the four
12 guiding charge questions for the study, highlighted some of the water quality research projects that
13 have been done as part of this over the last three years. There were a few questions and discussion
14 around topics such as to what degree of “past lake condition” is DWQ wanting to return the lake to
15 pertaining to water quality, etc. Scott also shared what the outcomes of the study will be, several
16 proposed scenarios, with associated costs and expected impacts and allow policy makers to make
17 informed decisions as they strive for a meaningful difference in water quality at the lake. Scott shared
18 the timeline, started in 2015, looking to wrap up and implement the criteria by 2030.

19
20 **4. Spanish Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant Groundbreaking – Cory Pierce**

- 21 A. Cory explained that the SF plant was old, it was nearing capacity, and it cannot reach the nutrient
22 criteria required by the state. It would be more costly to bring the existing plant up to speed. They
23 wanted to plan for expected and potential future changes to treatment needs. He then shared an
24 overview of what the new wastewater treatment plan will be like: the various stages of filtration and
25 cleaning, maintenance of the equipment, etc. Spanish Fork's discharge alone will not change the
26 course of the lake, but small changes in many areas can make a big difference.

27
28 **5. Hutchings Museum – Caring for the Utah Lake Shoreline – Daniela Larsen**

- 29 A. Daniela started with some background on the Hutchings Museum and their various partnerships. They
30 partnered with FFSL and Saratoga Springs to host a field station down at the lake, educating on Utah
31 Lake topics. They partner with National Geographic on iNaturalist, educating on wildlife and
32 vegetation found at the lake. They work with volunteers on surveying and monitoring, as well as
33 habitat restoration for monarch butterflies. The approach they take they like to call environmental
34 diplomacy instead of activism; avoiding pitting development against conservation and instead focusing
35 on educating and working together. Mayor Johnson and Mayor Fullmer and their cities took the
36 Mayor's Monarch Pledge, to create habitat for monarch butterflies in their cities. They are working to
37 find funding sources, community outreach, offer volunteer opportunities, etc.

38
39 **6. JSRIP – 2022 Updates on Recovery Efforts – Russ Franklin**

- 40 A. Russ introduced himself. He played a video that their comms people put together teaching the public
41 about the June sucker and its importance. Spawning 2022 was the largest since the start of the
42 program; he reported on additional details from the spawn. Carp removal is easier in lower lake levels.
43 Loy Fisheries needs additional funding to continue. JSRIP is looking at alternative options: box traps,

1 electro fence, poison bait, etc. Installing signs at the Hobble Creek restoration area, highlighting the
2 restoration work done as a part of the program.

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4 **7. HABS Monitoring Efforts on Utah Lake – Hannah Bonner, DWQ**

- 5 A. Hannah introduced herself. She manages the recreation water body monitoring program. Their goal is
6 to help the public make informed decisions before they visit a waterbody. Harmful algal blooms
7 (HABS) is their primary focus. She provided some background on what HABS are. Harmful algal blooms,
8 worldwide, are increasing; it's not just a Utah Lake problem. Utah Lake is one of 20+ priority
9 waterbodies, visited on a weekly basis proactively checking for blooms. She detailed the proactive and
10 reactive monitoring and sampling processes, and the associated advisory levels. She shared details on
11 how the 2022 season has gone, with increasing presence of HABS over the summer. She detailed some
12 of the communications work as well; HABS.utah.gov website, maps for advisory locations, signs at
13 Utah Lake popular access points, etc.

14
15 **8. Utah Lake Commission – Director's Update**

- 16 A. Drought Conditions - Water Situation heading into fall – Central Utah Water Conservancy District –
17 Mike Rau: 6.1 ft below compromise, projected to hit close to 7.5 ft below compromise. Utah Lake
18 currently has 1.5 ft in depth that is imported from the Colorado River, as a part of the Central Utah
19 Project.
- 20 B. Utah Lake Shoreline Restoration: Phragmites treatments and responses: 3,170 acres aerielly treated, a
21 3rd Marsh Master has been ordered, FFSL helping with the purchase. This years treatment was 393
22 lakeshore parcels, the most ever in a single year. Sandy Beach improvement and restoration is going
23 well.
- 24 C. Access Enhancements: Saratoga Springs South marina is almost fully constructed, dredging around
25 jetty is progressing well, its looking great.
- 26 D. Nature/Research Center Planning: site selected is next to the incoming Saratoga Springs north marina.
27 Acres of restored wetlands next door too. Funding to be requested in upcoming legislative session;
28 hopefully funded in the next 1-3 years.
- 29 E. Walkara Way project update – FFSL
- 30 F. ULA update: ULA board is in place. RFP for creation of master plan will go out shortly. Upcoming
31 meeting: adopt by laws, a planning budget. Working with DNR AG's office to hire an attorney.
- 32 G. Councilman Terry Peterson said someone contacted him saying that Eric did a presentation stating the
33 ULC was in support of the islands project and asked for clarification. Eric responded, islands project
34 has been discussed before our board several times over the years, the group has presented as well.
35 The ULC is neutral, signed a resolution stating such earlier this year.

36
37 **9. Utah Lake Commission Staff Report – Sam Braegger**

- 38 A. 9/11 Day of Service: We'd like to see it grow next year. We had a lot of families sign up for an
39 individual access point, versus last year it was large groups. We had a lake-wide effort: 10 access
40 points, 24+ volunteers. We also partnered with Vineyard City and Conserve Utah Valley to clean up all
41 4 Vineyard lakeshore access points, 125+ volunteers.
- 42 B. Field Trips for 4th Graders: Starting field trips again. Oct 11-12 this fall. 5 elementary schools likely, so
43 +/- 500 students. There are 11 presenters. Sam provided an overview of how the field trips function.
44 He thanked all the presenters and other partners who make this event happen.

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- 1 C. Life Jacket Loaner Program: 7 stations operating. Volunteers have been aiding with monitoring and
- 2 restocking stations. Stations are in regular use; volunteers often find the life jackets wet when they
- 3 visit stations.
- 4 D. Ben Stireman updated board on Walkara Way project: lots of moving pieces, in final design stages,
- 5 finalizing trail alignments. As part of due diligence item, FFSL engaged with a title company to give an
- 6 ownership report on the lands within the project area. There were a few surprises, so it is not finalized
- 7 yet. Some families are claiming land that BLM had title to in that research and report. FFSL is
- 8 facilitating meetings to come discuss those discrepancies.

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

- 11 A. September 15, 2022
- 12 B. December 8, 2022
- 13 C. March 16, 2023

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

- 16 A. No public comment was made.

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18 **12. Next Governing Board Meeting**

- 19 Vice Chair Fullmer reminded the board that the next Governing Board Meeting will be on December 7,
- 20 2022 at 11:30 AM in the CUWCD District Offices.

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22 **13. Adjourn**

- 23 The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 P.M.