

Utah Lake Study Committee Meeting
May 27, 2004
Utah County Commissioners Conference Room
7:30 a.m.

ATTENDEES:

Mayor Lewis K. Billings, Provo City
Robert West , Provo City
Bruce Chesnut, Orem, Technical Co.
Mayor Bernell Evans, Payson City
Quentin Francom, Genola City
Dan Nelson, MAG
Mayor Jerry Washburn, Orem City
Jarret Whicker, Envision Utah

Greg Beckstrom, Provo City
E. Fritz Boyer, Springville City
Mayor Larry Ellertson, Lindon City
Chris Finlinson, CUWCD
Ray Loveless, MAG
Stan Postma, Montgomery Watson
Dale Wills, SUVMWA/Salem City
Steve White, County Commissioner

EXCUSED:

Mayor Rulon Gammon, Vineyard City

Review and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of April 22, 2004, were approved amending Page 3 to reflect a Utah State “lake management plan” rather than a “land use plan.” The committee title, “Utah Lake Advisory Committee” (page 3) was discussed. Since the committee expects to be more than “advisory,” the title “Utah Lake Study Committee” was discussed. No amendment to the minutes was made on this point.

New Information Sharing

Mayor Billings said he is getting phone calls from many people who are interested in this issue; some would like to make a presentation to this committee.

Continuing Discussion: Guiding Statements Outlining Committee Purpose and Mission

Mayor Billings invited Commissioner White to present his ideas regarding Statement 2 on providing a clearinghouse for Utah Lake issues.

The following points were made during the discussion:

- The State will prepare a Utah Lake plan; does the committee want input on that or just the area surrounding the lake?
- What is the nature of the committee? Advisory or something more?
- The statement should define who the committee is.
- The State is asking the mayors to address land use activities they can control.

- There are on-going issues beyond the plan review regarding future efforts and direction for the Lake which the committee wants to participate in—not just review.

After discussion, Statement 2 was approved to read as follows:

As representatives of Utah County Cities and Utah County Government, we want to participate in the planning process, review all issues concerning Utah Lake and ensure that “local concerns” are addressed in all planning and management implementation.

Statement #1 was approved to read as follows: “We believe that Utah Lake is one of Utah’s great natural treasures.” The “underutilized” and “misunderstood” concerns will be added under #3, Issues To Be Studied, and will be viewed from public perceptions about the Lake.

Statement #3 will include public perception as noted above. Otherwise, it remains the same.

Statement #4 was amended to read “We want to engage all stakeholders and interested parties in this discussion.” A definition of “stakeholders” could be “anyone who has an interest,” “someone with a vested interest” or everyone since the Utah Lake bottom is owned by the State of Utah.

An additional statement was approved: We will be proactive in providing input and helping in the creation and direction of public policy.

It was moved, seconded and approved to renumber the statements in a more logical order. A copy of the amended, renumbered statements is attached to these minutes.

Technical Committee Report and Recommendations

Bruce Chesnut, Chairman of the Utah Lake Technical Committee, said that the first meeting of the group was held and those on the committee from the different communities come with strong technical skills to help as requested. The number and diversity of interested entities, regulatory issues, water quality and water rights relative to the Lake are areas the Technical Committee will investigate, along with other issues requested from the Study Committee. The next meeting is June 21, 7:30 a.m. in Orem and anyone interested is invited to attend. Mayor Billings asked that the Technical Committee to review the Utah Lake Study Committee Guiding Statements and give any input or insights.

Presentation and discussion by Walt Baker, Utah State Department of Environmental Quality.

Mayor Billings introduced Walt Baker and David Wham from the Department of Environmental Quality and added that the timing is right to work with the State on conditions and future of Utah Lake. Mr. Baker presented a slide show which addressed issues such as population projections, the history of water quality in Utah over the years, criteria for use and integrity of water supplies (whether or not the quality was good enough to support the uses of the water), and standards set for those uses. A non-supporting water source is one considered

not adequate to support it's uses. He said the TMDL monitoring at Utah Lake was initiated because it is considered a non-supporting water source and does not adequately meet its uses. He said the State is dealing with the "point sources" of pollution, but the "non-point sources" are more difficult to address. Examples of non-point sources are feedlot runoff, pesticides from a golf course, and erosion of stream banks. Restoration plans identify impaired waters and implement measures to restore the water to beneficial uses.

The State has accomplished many things, but still has challenges to address, i.e., storm water Phase II, non-point sources of pollution, population growth, the drought, and nutrient problems.

David Lamb made a presentation; a copy is attached to these minutes. For additional questions or information, his phone number is 538-6052 and his e-mail address is Dwham@utah.gov.

Other Business

Mayor Billings said he reported the activities of the Utah Lake Study Committee to COG and added that shoreline property owners have asked to make a presentation at the next committee meeting. A presentation on the June Sucker will probably be made in July.

Set date, place, and time for next meeting.

The next meeting will be held on June 24, 7:30 a.m. in the Commission Conference Room. The fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 a.m., will be the standing date and time for this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.