



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 9:30 AM
Utah Lake State Park
4400 W. Center Street, Provo, Utah 84601

ATTENDEES:

Richard Nielson, Chairman, Utah County Public Works
Mike Mills, Vice-Chairman, June Sucker Recovery
Scott Bird, Mapleton City
Greg Beckstrom, Provo City
Hilary Arens, Department of Environmental Quality
Jason Allen, Utah Division of Parks and Recreation
Nathan Riley, Vineyard City
Matt Howard, Division of Wildlife Resources
Reed Price, Orem City
Ben Stireman, Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands
Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission
Sarah Carroll, Saratoga Springs City

Jamie Baron, Saratoga Springs City
Kim Struthers, Lehi City
Ann Merrill, Division of Water Resources
Brandon Snyder, Lindon City
Sarah Johnson, CUWCD
Kari Malkovich, Woodland Hills

VISITORS:

Dee Chamberlain, Saratoga Springs HOA
Lee Hansen, Utah National Parks Council
Clayton Wolf, Local Resident
Nathan Ivie, Local Resident

ABSENT: Santaquin City, American Fork City, Utah Lake Water Users, Springville City, Army Corps of Engineers, Springville City

1. Welcome and introductions

Richard Nielson called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Review and approve minutes from the October 14, 2015 meeting

Greg Beckstrom made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2015 meeting. Scott Bird seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.

3. Action Item – Technical Committee Appointments

Greg Beckstrom nominated Reed Price to be the new vice-chair of the technical committee. Greg Beckstrom made a motion and Jason Allen seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of appointing Reed Price as vice-chair. There was a brief discussion about the responsibilities of the vice-chair position. Mike Mills, who had been the previous vice-chair, became the chair of the technical committee.

4. Round table updates from committee members

Hilary Arens gave an update about the communication plan for the water quality subgroup. They are changing from email communications to a blog-style webpage where communications about the study will take place. The website is up

1 and running. DEQ will be hiring a Utah Lake Coordinating position. They are still working out the specific details of the
2 position, but it will be nice to have an employee with DEQ that focuses on Utah Lake.

3 Kim Struthers gave an update a new Lehi City zoning ordinance. About 47 acres will be now permanent open space.
4

5 **5. Brief updates on Utah Lake issues, projects, and priorities**

- 6 A. Lake Level and Ice Depth: Jason Allen gave a report on lake level and ice depth. Ice depth is about 4 inches. With
7 the slightly warmer weather and all the rain, the ice might be a little dangerous. There are “Use at your own
8 risk” signs at the state park.
- 9 B. Phragmites Treatment: Eric Ellis gave the Phragmites report. The planning for the next year is complete. Provo
10 Bay and Powell Slough will be the areas of focus for the next year. The project will almost be \$300,000. There
11 will be a training about Phragmites removal and prevention done by Aaron Eager with the cities. There was a
12 question about Phragmites regrowth. There is some regrowth in a few areas. Follow-up in those areas will be
13 necessary.
- 14 C. Carp Removal: Mike Mills reported on carp removal progress. Ice fishing hasn’t gone very well this year. The ice
15 hasn’t been thick enough for all the equipment. They are going to start open water fishing in some areas where
16 there is no ice. There were some questions about the success of the project so far. Recruitment rates are very
17 low, meaning that the new carp are unable to reach adulthood. The kilograms of carp per hectare has decreased
18 from over 350 to 140. That measurement is helpful based on other carp removal projects that have been done
19 in other parts of the country. Mike McKell and Brian Green are the legislators who will be helping get funding for
20 carp removal this year.
- 21 D. State Grant through ULC and FFSL: Eric Ellis gave an update on the projects that are going to happen with the
22 grants from the state appropriated funds. Spanish Fork City, American Fork City, Saratoga Springs City, and the
23 Utah Lake Commission received portions of the grant. The cities will be using the funds for trail and marina
24 improvements. The commission will use the funds for a site assessment and a site plan for a Utah Lake Nature
25 Center. The only project that wasn’t approved to receive a portion of this grant was the National Parks Council
26 for a scout camp. The main reason was that the land ownership wasn’t finalized at the location they were
27 planning.
- 28 E. Sandy Beach improvements: Improvements will be made at Sandy Beach to make the area more family friendly.
29 There should be a land ownership transfer done soon so that the project can continue. The cost of the project
30 will be split between the county and the state.
- 31 F. Provo Harbor Dredging Project: The project will be put out to bid relatively soon. They are aiming to have the
32 project done in the spring of this year. They need to have a coffer dam in place by a certain date in order to not
33 disturb the June sucker.
- 34 G. Nature Center: A request for proposals is out right now to choose a firm that will do a site analysis and a site
35 plan for a Utah Lake Nature Center. The firm will analyze as many possible locations for a nature center as
36 possible. This analysis is an important step towards determining the costs and feasibility of a nature center at
37 Utah Lake. The firm will help the commission determine the best criteria to be used for determining the best
38 location.
- 39 H. Lincoln Beach: Richard Nielson reported on a proposal by the veterans group that is housed at the Historic Utah
40 County Courthouse. They would like to make some improvements at Lincoln Beach that include a veteran’s
41 memorial as well as an improved beach area, picnic tables, etc. A meeting will be held with the county to discuss
42 funding. Jason Allen recommended that they look into the motorboat access grant as a source of funding.
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45 **6. Video for Phragmites treatment efforts and successes**

46 The Utah Lake Commission and Aaron Eager will be working with a video production company to create a few short
47 videos that highlight the progress that has been made with Phragmites removal. Eric Ellis asked the group to think of
48 people who could potentially be interviewed in the videos.
49

1 **7. Communications Strategy**

2 Luke Allen gave a report on the Utah Lake Commission’s goal to create a strategic communications plan. The
3 commission has met with several public information officers to get advice for the plan. The purpose of the plan will be to
4 guide the commission staff as they communicate with the public and other stakeholders through social media,
5 newsletters, etc.
6

7 **8. General comments from the committee members and the public**

8 There was a brief discussion about the Northern Pike presence in Utah Lake. Based on the amount that are caught
9 during carp removal, Mike Mills explained that the population is very small and the species doesn’t seem to be an issue
10 at this point.

11 Lee Hansen asked if the Utah Lake Commission could create a page on their website that shows potential Eagle
12 Scout projects around the lake. He stressed the importance of finding projects that are helpful for the communities
13 around the lake and also meet the requirements of the Eagle Scout program.
14

15 **9. Confirm next meeting time**

16 The next meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2016 at 9:30 AM
17

18 **10. Adjourn.**

19 The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.