

Approved



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, July 19, 2017, 9:30 AM

Utah Lake State Park

4400 W. Center Street, Provo, Utah 84601

ATTENDEES:

Reed Price, Vice Chair, Orem
Sheldon Wimmer, Alpine
Scott Daly, Division of Water Quality
Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission
Rebecca Andrus, Provo
Jeff Atterman, Saratoga Springs
Sullivan Love, Vineyard
Kari Malkovich, Woodland Hills
Dale Fonken, DWR (Aquatics)
Victoria Kemp, Lehi
Brandon Snyder, Lindon
JD Shepherd, Mapleton
Brad Clawson, Salem
Juan Garrido, Springville
Mike Rau, CUWCD
Ben Stireman, FFSL
Matt Howard, DWR (Habitat)
Mike Wilson, Utah Water Users
Ben Winn, Spanish Fork

VISITORS:

Sam Braegger, Utah Lake Commission
Neal Winterton, Orem
Aaron Hone, Utah Lake State Park
Mark Ogren, Provo
Ann Merrill, Div. of Water Resources (DNR)
David Barton, TSSD
Jon Adams, TSSD
Jeff Denbleyker, CH2M
Brian Selck, Provo
David Richard, OreoHelix
Theron Miller, WFWQC
Jacob Olsen, WFWQC
Ben Holcomb, DWQ
Jason Garrett, UCHD

ABSENT: American Fork, Highland, DNR, Payson, Utah County, JSRIP

1. Welcome and introductions

Vice Chair Reed Price called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Review and approve minutes from the March 15, 2017 meeting

- 1 A. Reed Price asked for a motion to approve the April 19, 2017 minutes. Kari Malkovich made a motion to approve
2 the minutes. Sullivan Love seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.
3

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

5 A. Eric Ellis:

- 6 i. Lake Levels: Levels have been fantastic, about 2.8 feet below compromise currently. Close to 6 feet
7 higher than last year's low point.
- 8 ii. Fall Field Trips (October 3-4th): We are looking forward to the various presenters help once again. We
9 expect approx.. 700 students to attend once again. Eric answered questions on the selection process.
- 10 iii. 2018 Utah Lake Festival (Saturday, June 2nd) – Additional State Funding (\$10K for education)
11 i. Eric solicited ideas for improvements so that we can implement them next year.
- 12 iv. Permanent Stations for Wind Sensors on Utah Lake – Sam Braegger:
13 i. We've made contact with Mesowest, they are providing further help in completing the process
14 of purchasing and installing the stations. Possible mobile app for use with viewing the data.
- 15 v. Access Points - Web and Social Media – Jocelyn Romanick, ULC: Sam and one of our interns are filming
16 all of the access points around the lake. Videos will show driving instructions, descriptions of the access
17 points, and what activities can be done there.
- 18 vi. National Park Service – Recreation, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program Grant Application: Many
19 of the agencies on the Commission have helped with letters of support. The grant should help with
20 filling the gaps in the trails, and refinement work on the plan. We will have more information soon.
- 21 vii. Utah Lake State Park – Non-motorized Access Point at the end of Provo River Trail just outside Park:
22 i. Northeast of the park entrance. There is currently a small parking lot there, State Park owns the
23 small parcel just north of that parking lot. They will put in a new parking lot, new non-motorized
24 access to the river, restrooms. Project will hopefully start this fall. The grant did not come
25 through, so we are putting together what resources we can.
- 26 ii. Brief discussion concerning how few boats the State Park has launching daily, due to the algae
27 bloom media.
- 28 viii. Communications Efforts - Eric and Sam: We've established a monthly media packet, providing
29 information for social media posts about projects, events, topics to discuss about Utah Lake, etc.
30 Feedback is positive. This packet was used to advertise the Utah Lake Festival, and it was a great
31 success. Our website is averaging 13,000 page views per month.
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33 **4. Utah Lake Summit – Report from CUWCD, Mike Rau**

- 34 A. A lot of positive feedback was received. The presenters were great, the size of attendance went well beyond
35 what was expected, the discussions covered various viewpoints well, etc. CUWCD is seeking feedback, either by
36 contacting them or filling out the survey that was sent to all who attended. The materials from the presentations
37 are on CUWCD's website. DWQ and Utah Lake Commission committed to add a link on their websites as well.
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39 **5. Water Quality Study; Steering Committee structure – Scott Daly, DWQ**

- 40 A. After the last time the Technical Committee met, DWQ implemented a few minor changes that were raised,
41 along with a few in the resolution that the Governing Board signed.
- 42 B. Eric and Scott worked through a nomination process for the stakeholders represented on the Steering
43 Committee. The various seats on the committee were described.
- 44 a. One nomination process, for the seats filled by an agency, Scott sent a letter requesting that the agency
45 supply the name of who they wanted to represent them, and their alternate.
- 46 i. The second nomination process mostly applied for the recreational community,
47 conservation/environment community, POTW's, municipalities, etc. Eric and Scott divided them
48 up, Scott cast a wide net to those communities and asked them to meet and determine who

1 would best represent them. Eric handled POTW's and municipalities, through the Commission
2 Governing Board.

- 3 C. A few of the individuals nominated have been difficult to contact. Conversation ensued about how to handle
4 that. Conversation also covered possible changes in Scott's report in regards to alternates.
- 5 D. Next Steps: DWQ will send out a formal welcome to Steering Committee members, and try to have their first
6 meeting as soon as possible. DWQ is currently working on the contract for a professional facilitator, hopefully to
7 be completed before the first meeting. Meetings likely will not start until late August or later. Meetings are
8 planned to be held in a conference room at CUWCD's building. Conversation about a few details about how the
9 meetings would function, notices out to the public, etc.

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11 **6. Algae Bloom Status: Ben Holcomb, DWQ**

- 12 A. Ben explained the changes in monitoring and advisories from last year, of having three levels of advisory
13 (Caution, Warning, Closure), to just two (Warning, Closure), as well as the addition of testing for additional types
14 of toxins. These were updates that EPA made.
- 15 B. DWQ tries to be as specific as possible as to the area of concern for an algal bloom. He explained the process of
16 the bloom so far this year. Some maps were shown in the presentation showing the estimated cell count for
17 cyanobacteria. Samples are tested and results shared faster this year, as now some of the testing can now be
18 done here in state. All samples have been integrated samples, down to the elbow, due to this algal bloom not
19 manifesting much as surface scum. Various questions were asked about sampling.
- 20 C. Ben covered the progress of the bloom, from beginning in Provo Bay, and then the further sampling in the north
21 near Lindon Marina and in the south in Goshen Bay.
- 22 D. Satellite imagery was presented, highlighting estimated cell counts of cyanobacteria, taken by a satellite used by
23 NASA in the use of predicting algal blooms. It is still in the beta testing phase, helps to show where the bloom is
24 and is moving towards, but is not a resource for the public yet as it is not complete. There were comments and
25 discussion about the images and what they entailed. The point was also raised that the current communications
26 about the algal bloom are scaring residents away from the lake.
- 27 E. Discussion regarding the calls to Poison Control Center. Substantially less phone calls, possibly because of the
28 ability to warn earlier this year. Concern was mentioned by several as to the accuracy of the reports.
- 29 F. There are three data buoys out on the lake again this summer. There are still a beta component to sampling, as
30 it is only the second year using them. Deer Creek Reservoir and Scofield Lake also have one each.
- 31 G. DWQ is working with Dept. of Health, Division of Drinking Water, and others to ensure that they're all prepared.
- 32 H. Eric Ellis asked if there has ever been a fatality from cyanobacteria. Ben's response was no, not from recreational
33 use of a lake with a bloom. The only examples have been international, and from dialysis and a few examples of
34 drinking water with it. Jason Garrett from Utah County explained that it was a misquote.

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36 **7. Round Table updates from committee members**

- 37 A. Rebecca Andrus shared about meeting with the Commission, DWQ, DWR to discuss diking in Provo Bay.
- 38 B. Jacob Olsen shared about the research he's doing on Utah Lake, connected with the nutrient levels in Utah Lake.
- 39 C. Theron Miller added an update as to his research in connection with the lake.
- 40 D. David Richards talked a little about the zooplankton that are eating the cyanobacteria and his studies.

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

- 43 A. No comments

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45 **9. Confirm next meeting time**

46 The next meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2017 at 9:30 AM.

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48 **10. Adjourn.**

49 The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 AM.