



Governing Board

Wednesday, October 3, 2018, 7:30 A.M.
Utah County Health and Justice Building

ATTENDEES:

Shellie Baertsch, Chair, Saratoga Springs
 Mark Seastrand, Vice-Chair, Orem
 Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission
 Lon Lott, Alpine
 Brad Frost, American Fork
 Jenney Rees, Cedar Hills
 Jim Harris, DWQ
 Brian Cottam, FFSL
 Rod Mann, Highland
 Michelle Kaufusi, Provo
 Craig Jensen, Springville

Tyce Flake, Vineyard
 Chris Finlinson, CUWCD
 Mike Styler, DNR

INTERESTED PARTIES / VISITORS:

Sam Braegger, Utah Lake Commission
 Elliott DeMott, BCC
 David Richards, Oreohelix
 Bob Trombling, Provo
 Rick Cox
 Rebecca Andrus, Provo
 Laura Ault, FFSL

ABSENT: Lehi City, Lindon City, Payson City, Salem City, Spanish Fork City, Utah House of Representatives, Utah Senate, Woodland Hills City

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1. Welcome and Call to Order

A. Chair Baertsch called the meeting to order at 7:31 A.M. and welcomed everyone. Waiting for a full quorum, Chair Baertsch skipped to section 4 of the agenda, the Executive Director’s report. The meeting then returned to sections 2 and 3 and progressed through the remainder of the agenda.

2. Action Items

A. Changes to agenda

a. UORG- Eric Ellis: Previously, Commission staff committed to let the Governing Board know once the grant details for 2019 were made available. Commission staff attended a workshop to learn more about it. Eric described the grant program briefly. Those details are now available online, we will send that information out later today via email.

3. Actions Items

A. Chair Baertsch asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2018 Governing Board meeting. Michelle Kaufusi made a motion to approve, and Lon Lott seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the documents.

APPROVED

- 1 **B.** Chair Baertsch mentioned a recent adjustment to the financial procedures of the Commission, that the
2 person receiving the checks written is not one of the two signatures on the check, just to continue to
3 be transparent in our handling of public funds.
4 **C.** Chair Baertsch asked for a motion to approve the financial reports for June 2018 through August 2018.
5 Mark Seastrand made a motion to approve, and Rodd Mann seconded the motion. Voting was
6 unanimous in favor of approving the financial reports.
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8 **4. Executive Director's Project Report- Eric Ellis**

- 9 **A. Utah Lake Commission Membership Discussion:** Eric reported on progress of adding members to the
10 Commission, including the three listed below.
11 **a.** Cedar Hills- Mayor Rees is attending today, awaiting final approval at their next city council
12 meeting.
13 **b.** Utah Division of State Parks- is a natural connection to add the Division, as we work closely
14 with Utah Lake State Park regularly. Likely combine a contribution from DNR, FFSL and USPR,
15 making it slightly more than now, and we would have a State Parks employee at our table to
16 collaborate further. Eric asked the Board if that was acceptable, they concurred.
17 **c.** Meetings with Mapleton and Pleasant Grove – Yesterday, Eric met with Mayor Hakes from
18 Mapleton. Mapleton left last year, likely due to the council member they assigned to the
19 Commission had a hard time coming for over a year, it was a disconnect for them, so they
20 opted out. Their new mayor was very excited with the meeting and planned to present it to
21 his city council, he already has a new city council member in mind who has worked on projects
22 at Utah Lake before and would be a good fit on our Commission. We are still pursuing meeting
23 with Pleasant Grove City.
24 **B. Grants:**
25 **a.** Marsh Master Purchase: They have been ordered through Utah County, expected to be
26 delivered in November. County operators will begin work end of December. The goal is to
27 mow every year the priority area, the approximately 4,300 acres of the northern half of the
28 lake, with any extra funding going to mowing other additional areas. Those additional areas
29 are being considered for a pilot grazing program.
30 **C. Fourth Grade Field Trips:** About 600 students, October 9-10 this year. The City of Saratoga Springs
31 volunteered one of their employees to provide a tour of the new pump house as a part of those field
32 trips.
33 **D. Phragmites Treatment:**
34 **a.** 2018 Treatment: treatment has gone well, all 4,300 acres were reviewed and treated where
35 necessary.
36 **b.** Public Engagement: There were efforts made to reach out the public, in addition to securing
37 permission from all private landowners where treatment was performed. This outreach
38 exploded in a negative manner, but we made considerable effort to address those concerns in
39 a widespread manner and one-on-one. The treatment is very carefully carried out and we did
40 our best to communicate that. We also checked with the regional office of the EPA, they
41 confirmed that they stand by the label they have issued and the science behind it.
42 **E. Utah Lake Shoreline Trail Progress:** The NPS RTC assistance program has been helping us, they have
43 promised us an additional year of their help in moving the plan forward. Some interesting proposals
44 are being put forward in the Orem/Vineyard area. An application will be resubmitted for this area to
45 the MAG grant funding process. Also pursuing the potential of a rail trail around the south side of the
46 lake.
47 **F. Lincoln Beach Update – property acquisition:** there have been issues over the years with trespass on
48 private land, tickets were issued, etc. Utah County recently acquired the 17 acres adjacent to the park
49 and is looking to expand/improve the Lincoln Beach access point. They have expressed interest in
50 getting ideas from the Commission and the public on that project. Discussions have included a year-

1 round restroom, but they are open to other ideas. Commission staff will be working on a survey to
2 gather public input on this.

3 **G. FFSL – Utah Lake Proposals Projects and Issues – Laura Ault:**

- 4 a. FFSL is in the process of seating a resource specialist review team with the governor’s office.
5 They will work with several state agencies to make up the review team. The team will be
6 tasked with reading the application, figuring out what additional information FFSL needs or
7 what questions still need to be asked or answered, etc. The company making the proposal has
8 plans to engage with US Army Corps of Engineers sometime after the start of the new year,
9 likely will be a large environmental impact statement.
- 10 b. Laura also reported on the Utah Lake Inflow study- Eric, Dept. of Ag, DWG, FFSL did a two-day
11 tour of Utah Lake and mapped all the inflows to the lake, from storm water, from people’s
12 drains in backyards, to the sewer districts, etc. There is a meeting tomorrow to finalize a map
13 of all the inflows. Some are currently being tested by DWQ or Dept. of Ag., others will be
14 added to that testing routine. The purpose behind this is a proactive approach to the question
15 that will be asked at some point during the Utah Lake Water Quality Study, “Where is all the
16 water entering the lake coming from, what is the portion that is storm water, etc.” in order to
17 try to determine nutrient loading.

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19 **5. 2019 Communication / Public Engagement Plan – Proposal and Discussion – Sam Braegger**

- 20 A. Sam first reported on a new page on the website, entitled “Projects” that highlights recent and current
21 projects being worked on at Utah Lake and then reported on the new suggested community outreach
22 campaign. The campaign title is “Utah Lake is My Lake” and Sam summarized that it will be oriented
23 on several tasks that Commission staff will work on to improve public perception, increasing
24 recreational usage and gaining heightened support for the lake. He asked for input from the Board.
25 Craig Jensen inquired as to how education about algae blooms fits into this suggested effort. Sam
26 responded that Commission staff have written several educational blog posts on that topic, as well as
27 we take time at our booth at events to discuss those questions. Eric added that DWQ and Utah County
28 Health Dept. will be putting up educational signage on algae blooms at the marinas.

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30 **6. Utah Lake Water Quality Study Report - Jim Harris**

- 31 A. Permanent Educational Signage for Algae Blooms on Utah Lake: Jim reported that it has been a
32 lengthy process with input from many partners to form the signs language and images. They will be
33 printed and put up soon. Discussion by the Board about the signage and how they will help residents.
- 34 B. Progress report on the water quality study: lots of progress in the Steering Committee. They recently
35 finalized a charge document for the Science Panel, a series of questions focusing on three main topics.
36 DWQ recently put out a RFP for a consultant to offer technical assistance in the Science Panel and
37 Steering Committee in digesting the data and research they will be removing.
- 38 C. RFI / RFP proposal for Utah Lake Commission for Algae Bloom Treatments: Over the last few years,
39 DWQ and the Commission have been approached many times by groups with proposed treatments for
40 the algae blooms at Utah Lake. In an effort to make it a more structured process of compiling those
41 ideas, DWQ has issued an RFI, a non-binding way to collect those ideas in preparation for a future time
42 where the possibility of treatment is more plausible. This also allows the various agencies, i.e. FFSL,
43 DWQ, and Army Corps of Engineers, to ensure that these ideas won’t harm anything further.
44 Discussion from several Board members on the topic of the RFI, treatment options, and funding for
45 treatment for the lake.

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47 **7. Report from Technical Committee**

- 48 A. Eric reported on carp removal briefly. The JSRIP has determined that ongoing maintenance removal
49 will need be to 1 million pounds per year moving forward.

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1 **8. Governing Board Meeting schedule for the year**

- 2 **A.** December 12, 2018
3 **B.** March 21, 2019
4 **C.** June 20, 2019
5 **D.** September 19, 2019
6 **E.** December 12, 2019
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8 **. General comments from board members and the public**

- 9 **A.** David Richards expressed disagreement with the idea of a “quick fix” for algal blooms now when they
10 have been happening on the lake for 50+ years. The only major recent change is carp removal. The
11 ecology of the lake needs to be considered while seeking solutions. He prefers site-specific controls,
12 like inside a marina or on a beach, not the whole lake.
13 **B.** Elliott Mott talked about the kayaking trips on Provo River and Jordan River that he organizes and the
14 desire he has for new put in’s/take outs in those two areas. He suggested considering a full-moon float
15 along the Jordan River.
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17 **12. Next Governing Board Meeting**

18 Chair Baertsch reminded the board that the next Governing Board Meeting will be on December 12, 2018
19 at 7:30 AM in the Utah County Health and Justice Building, Room 2500.
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21 **13. Adjourn**

22 The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 AM.