

APPROVED



Governing Board

Thursday, June 20, 2019, 7:30 A.M.
Utah County Health and Justice Building
151 S. University Ave., Rm 2500, Provo, UT

ATTENDEES:

Shellie Baertsch, Chair, Saratoga Springs
Mark Seastrand, Vice-Chair, Orem
Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission
Lon Lott, Alpine
Jim Harris, DWQ
Brian Cottam, FFSL
Michelle Kaufusi, Provo
Tyce Flake, Vineyard
Kari Malkovich, Woodland Hills
Laurie Backus, State Parks
Jenney Rees, Cedar Hills
Chris Finlinson, CUWCD
Rodd Mann, Highland
Paul Hancock, Lehi

Keir Scoubes, Spanish Fork

INTERESTED PARTIES / VISITORS:

Sam Braegger, Utah Lake Commission
Kaylee Jorgensen, Utah Lake Commission
Dee Chamberlain, SSOA
Mark Holden, Utah Mitigation Commission
Melissa Stamp, Utah Mitigation Commission
Rebecca Andrus, Provo
Joel Racker, Explore Utah Valley
Tom Bruton, CUWCD
Kener Nielson, HDR
Bob Trombly, Provo

ABSENT: American Fork, DNR, Lindon City, Payson City, Salem City, Springville City, Utah County, Utah Senate, Utah House of Representatives

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1. Welcome and Call to Order

- A. Chair Baertsch called the meeting to order at 7:32 A.M. and welcomed everyone.
- B. There were no changes to the agenda.
- C. Chair Baertsch reminded everyone that the canvas prints of the 2018 Utah Lake photo contest they had ordered were at the back of the room and to pick them up before they left.
- D. The meeting moved to line number 3, the executive director's report, to wait for a full quorum to discuss the action items covered in line number 2.

2. Action Items

- A. Chair Baertsch asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2019 Governing Board meeting. Kari Malkovich made a motion to approve, and Lon Lott seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the minutes.
- B. Eric highlighted a few items on the financial reports for Feb-May of 2019. Chair Baertsch asked for a motion to approve the financial reports for February 2019 through May 2019. Paul Hancock made a

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1 motion to approve, and Michelle Kaufusi seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of
2 approving the financial reports.

- 3 C. Eric elaborated briefly on the proposed FY2020 budget. He highlighted a few increases, such as
4 insurance, memberships, etc. He spoke about the capital projects fund, an equipment purchase
5 forestry tool to help keep beaches clean of Russian olive and tamarisk trees, and other expenses. He
6 showed the annual membership contributions, and a draft document showing what contributions
7 would be like if all municipalities in the county were members of the Commission. This document was
8 just for the Board's reference, in response to a request from the last Board meeting. There was one
9 comment during the public hearing, Joel Ryker with Explore Utah Valley. He supports the budget
10 proposed, Explore Utah Valley is in the process of working with VisitUtah.com to help promote the
11 lake at a state level. Mark Seastrand spoke to the importance of all the cities working together to care
12 for Utah Lake. Chair Baertsch asked for a motion to approve the proposed budget for FY2020. Tyce
13 Flake made a motion to approve, and Chris Finlinson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in
14 favor of approving the proposed budget for FY2020.

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17 **3. Executive Director's Project Report- Eric Ellis**

- 18 A. Lake level: like more lakes, it is looking well. We are just 0.59 feet below full, the highest since 2011.
- 19 B. Grants:
- 20 a. ULC Shoreline Improvement CPF: there are many projects that have been planned around the
21 lake shoreline that have yet to be funded. The county is interested in pulling together funding
22 from their budget to potentially go towards Utah Lake projects as a match. The Commission
23 would also offer up a match for projects.
- 24 C. Phragmites Treatment:
- 25 a. 2019 Treatment: treatment going well.
- 26 i. Mechanical – Marsh masters work well. There was an issue with the mower bit. A
27 local machine shop is building a custom part to address that.
- 28 ii. Chemical – chemical treatment this year will begin, as usual, in September.
- 29 D. Projects:
- 30 a. Walkara Way Project: Eric summarized the project to refresh the Board's memory..
- 31 i. Grazing – Commission working with landowners and others to further this project.
32 Bureau of Reclamation will issue a permit for grazing on their land. Mapping is being
33 done by a Vineyard City employee.
- 34 ii. Fence funding- Need for fencing to facilitate grazing. The Timp-Nebo Conservation
35 District and the Alpine Conservation District both contributed funding towards
36 fencing. It will be about 60 acres fenced in for the pilot study for phragmites
37 management via grazing. FFSL is helping with a grazing plan for the lake.
- 38 b. Vineyard Beach Enhancement – Tyce Flake: a map of the project was displayed. Improving the
39 county-owned Vineyard Beach Park, as well as plans for the entire Vineyard shoreline.
40 Councilman Flake highlighted details of the Vineyard Beach section, i.e. paved parking,
41 bathrooms, a non-motorized boat ramp, etc. There was also discussion on the trail system
42 through that area, as well as other improvement plans.
- 43 E. RFP for Algae Bloom Treatments
- 44 a. Eric explained process up to this point. 11 proposals were received for review. A member of
45 the Commission Technical Committee, Jim Harris (DWQ) and Ben Holcomb (DEQ), someone
46 from DWR will help review, hopefully done next week. Two or three of the marinas will get
47 the treatment for the duration of the summer. If all goes well, we could have those available
48 at future dates to deploy for algae to treat "hot spots".
- 49 F. ULC Vision Document – Discuss Draft and Process: Draft was finalized, will be sent out to the Board to
50 review. It is about three pages, includes SWOT analyses of the Commission and of the lake.

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2 **5. Presentation on Provo River Delta Restoration Project – Utah Mitigation Commission – Mark Holden /**
3 **Melissa Stamp**

- 4 A. Mark Holden started off describing a high-level view of the Provo River Delta Restoration Project as
5 not only an effort to recover the endangered June Sucker but also as a part of Utah’s effort to have
6 water development. He summarized the timeline of the project from the beginning; i.e. the public
7 scoping process, environmental impact statement, working with landowners, land acquisition, etc. He
8 announced that construction is proposed to take four years, beginning in Spring of 2020. He then
9 passed the presentation over to Melissa Stamp.
- 10 B. Melissa recapped on some of the main features of the project. One of the first features to be
11 constructed will be a berm that will follow the southern boundary of the project, prevent high river
12 flows from flooding. They will also lower a section of the Skipper Bay dike, to allow the lake to expand
13 to its natural shoreline within the delta. She covered some other features of the delta that will be
14 constructed. The existing river channel will be maintained, dams, aeration systems and recreational
15 features will be added. There will be a trail along the southern berm of the project, will connect to
16 other trails, viewing towers, etc. Website for more info is www.provoriverdelta.us. Plans for a
17 trailhead park with Provo City. Melissa wrapped up by summing up the timeline for the remainder of
18 the next several years.
- 19 C. Mark ended by highlighting that the project will do its best to mitigate its effect on the community
20 during construction. They will continue to provide updates to the Board, or any other entity
21 interested in learning more.

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24 **6. Promotions – Kaylee Jorgensen**

- 25 A. Volunteer Club: created because many people have asked how to help at the lake. We created a t
26 shirt, which was used by the 83 volunteers at the Utah Lake Festival. The group functions on
27 Facebook, with 40+ members.
- 28 B. Summer Paddle Camp: Kaylee reported on how this year’s camp went. 45 kids over the past two
29 weeks, there will be one more camp in July.
- 30 C. Potential new event at the lake this summer: We are planning an outdoor cooking night, a Dutch oven
31 beginner’s class. The goal is to show the amenities the lake has, have a good time, and talk about the
32 lake. Kaylee covered a few details of the event.

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34 **7. Communication & Public Relations– Sam Braegger**

- 35 A. ULC Booth at City Festivals: goals to improve public outreach generally and also to speak about the
36 Utah Lake Water Quality Study. Sam reported on the numbers of the past few city festivals he’s
37 attended. A lot of positive conversations at the events. Carp removal, algae blooms, the island
38 restoration project proposal, and the state of the lake and its amenities were the main four topics
39 people asked questions about. Doing the booths have provided the opportunity for conversation and
40 engagement, whereas our digital communications tend to be one way at time.
- 41 B. Utah Lake Festival report: the festival went well. About 2500 attendees. We enjoyed having Shellie
42 Baertsch in our booth helping talk with people. We made a few changes, such as moving the
43 Commission booth more to the middle of the festival to be able to have longer conversations with
44 people, Kaylee stepped up and ran the festival while Sam was in the Commission booth. Our
45 volunteers doubled this year. Sam thanked all the agencies that partake in putting the festival on.
46 Shellie commented that the t shirts for the volunteers worked really well. Sam summarized how they
47 prepared volunteers for the event.
- 48 C. ULWQS Communications Plan: Commission staff are working with DEQ on communications. DEQ has
49 revamped their website to make it a user-friendly resource for the public, Content has been shared on
50 social media, a contact list was compiled of all the PIO’s for the organizations on the Steering

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1 Committee to help with the sharing of communications to the public. DWQ will have some staff attend
2 the Commission booth at the city festivals.
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4 **8. Utah Lake Water Quality Study Report – Jim Harris**

- 5 A. Progress report on the water quality study: the Science Panel is working on the charge questions from
6 the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee felt that one of the future consideration questions
7 should be moved up in the timeline, being considered at the same time as the other three high level
8 charge questions. They are starting a few studies this summer to get data needed. Tetrattech is
9 working to compile literature, per the Science Panel’s direction, to perform a data analysis of the
10 available information.
11 B. Permanent Educational Signage for Algae Blooms on Utah Lake: Eric reported that the signage has all
12 been posted, the Utah County Health Department will go out and post a warning or closure sign,
13 according to the advisories, that attach to the permanent educational signage. He briefly summarized
14 what’s on the educational signage. The state website is updated regularly with information on algae
15 advisories for any of the water bodies in Utah that they monitor. The website is HABS.UTAH.GOV.
16 C. Algae blooms: Jim reported that there was a bloom at the Saratoga Springs City marina, the
17 permanent signage was utilized. Discussion on the public understanding that blooms are isolated.
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19 **9. Watershed Update – Tom Bruton, CUWCD**

- 20 A. Chris Finlinson introduced Tom Bruton.
21 B. Tom started by showing some photos of wildlife and water levels connected with the great water year
22 we’ve had so far. He explained what the daily averages of snowpack means. There has been some
23 impacts on wildlife with the long spring we’ve had. Mirror Lake Highway is still closed from snow. He
24 highlighted a few other details of the snowpack and runoff. Spring 2019 was the second wettest on
25 record for Salt Lake City. He addressed concerns about flooding. He explained on reservoirs, how
26 CUWCD operates them, their current levels, forecasting to where they will top out, etc. He explained
27 how the Central Utah Project was built to accommodate water needs upstream and downstream from
28 Utah Lake. When it’s hot, Utah Lake evaporates 1,000 cfs per day. Utah Lake holds 870,000 acre feet
29 of water when full. He shared some other statistics for local water bodies, i.e. Great Salt Lake, Lake
30 Powell. He cautioned people to be careful around runoff. Tom gave directions to Stillwater Reservoir,
31 Chris Finlinson invited the Board to attend a tour on July 2nd to see the dam at Stillwater.
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33 **10. June Sucker Recovery Efforts – update – Mike Mills**

- 34 A. In the interest of time, this item was delayed until the next Governing Board meeting.
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36 **11. Report from Technical Committee**

- 37 B. In the interest of time, this item was delayed until the next Governing Board meeting.
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39 **12. Governing Board Meeting schedule for the year**

- 40 A. December 12, 2019
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42 **13. General comments from board members and the public**

- 43 A. No comments were made.
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45 **14. Next Governing Board Meeting**

46 Chair Baertsch reminded the board that the next Governing Board Meeting will be on September 19, 2019
47 at 7:30 AM in the Utah County Health and Justice Building, Room 2500.
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49 **15. Adjourn**

50 The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 AM.