



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Thursday, January 18, 2024 | 2:00 - 3:30 PM

The Technical Advisory Committee meeting was conducted virtually, with an anchor location at:

Jordan River Commission Offices
Third Floor, Division of Water Quality
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
195 North 1950 West, Salt Lake City, UT

MEETING MINUTES

Marian Rice, Vice Chair, filled in for the Chair, who was not yet present, and called the meeting to order at 2:03 PM.

1. Welcome & Committee Roll Call

Committee Members Attending

Chris Cline, Chair
Marian Rice, Vice Chair, University of Utah Energy Futures Research Engine
Ali Avery, North Salt Lake Planning
Dan Potts, Salt Lake Fish & Game Foundation
Daniel McBride, South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement
Eric McCulley, Utah Reclamation, Mitigation & Conservation Commission (arrived late)
Gina Grandpre, Saratoga Springs Planning
Heidi Hoven, National Audobon, Gillmor Sanctuary
Hugh Van Wagenen, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Jack Jacob, Tree Utah
Josie Showalter, Millcreek Economic Development
Laura Haskell, Utah Division of Water Resources
Lynn Berni, Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration
Matt Ryan, Wasatch Front Regional Council
Melissa Lewis, Salt Lake City Trails & Natural Lands
Mike Guymon, Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities
Morgan Faulkner, Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
Nathan Page, Riverton
Sandy Wingert, Utah Division of Water Quality
Shane Swensen, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District
Todd Munger, Lehi Sustainability
Todd Taylor, Draper Planning
Tori Bird, Utah's Hogle Zoo Conservation

Commission Staff Attending

Rachel Turk, Communications & Outreach Manager
Rae Robinson, Jordan River Vegetation Project Coordinator
Soren Simonsen, Executive Director/Secretary (arrived late)

Chris Cline, Chair, arrived and assumed conducting the meeting following introductions and roll call.

2. Public Comments

This is an opportunity for comments from the general public regarding any item on the agenda, or any other matters related to the Jordan River Commission and the TAC. Individual comments are limited to 2 minutes, and all comments are limited to 10 minutes total. Comments can also be sent by email to info@JordanRiverCommission.com (include subject line "TAC Meeting Comments").

Notes: *There were no public comments.*

3. Committee Business

- a) Committee Officer Nominations & Appointments:
 - 1) Committee Chair (Marian Rice, Vice Chair, is automatically nominated per Commission Bylaws; other Committee members are also eligible to be nominated)
 - 2) Committee Vice Chair (open)
 - 3) Committee Past Chair (Chris Cline, Chair, is automatically nominated per Commission Bylaws; other past Committee chairs are also eligible to be nominated)
- b) Consider Adopting December 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes
- c) Consider Adjusting the Time for Committee Meetings (2:00 PM currently conflicts with some Utah Watersheds Council meetings, including today, which impacts Commission staff and some Committee members)

Notes: Officer Appointments. *Chris Cline reviewed the open nominations, automatic nominations per Commission Bylaws, and procedures for appointing new officers.*

Ali Avery moved to accept the nomination and appoint Marian Rice as Committee Chair. Sandy Wingert seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion of the motion.

Voting was unanimously in favor of the motion by Committee members present.

Chris Cline asked for nominations for Vice Chair, and outlined roles and responsibilities of this position. Marian Rice encouraged active and engaged members of the Committee to participate.

There were no nominations for Vice Chair. Chris Cline recommended tabling and continuing this item to the next meeting.

As the new Chair, Marian Rice resumed conducting the meeting.

High Van Wagenen moved to accept the nomination and appoint Chris Cline as Past Chair. Laura Haskell seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion of the motion.

Voting was unanimously in favor of the motion by Committee members present.

Meeting Minutes. *Marian Rice briefly reviewed the December 21, 2023, meeting minutes on the screen.*

Morgan Faulkner moved to adopt the December 21, 2023, meeting minutes. Chris Cline seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion of the motion.

Voting was unanimously in favor of the motion by Committee members present.

Meeting Time. *Marian Rice and Rachel Turk reviewed the input from a poll of Committee members to possibly adjust the Committee meeting time. 23 Committee members completed the poll. The poll results were closely divided between morning meeting times, with a 10:30 AM, 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM (current time), each being separated by one vote. Marian Rice noted that she has a recurring conflict with any start time before noon, but will check to see if she has any flexibility to make adjustments with conflicting meetings on Thursday mornings.*

Ali Avery indicated that the current time on Thursday afternoons works best, and Lynn Berni also noted that Thursday afternoons were preferable.

Marian asked if Wednesday mornings might be a possibility. It was noted that the Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition also meets the third Wednesday at 10:30. Marian suggested Commission staff do a poll to see if third Wednesday mornings at 9:00 AM or third Thursday mornings at 9:00 AM would be preferable. Heidi Hoven also noted that Soren Simonsen, Committee Secretary was not present, and to check with Commission staff schedules.

Heidi Hoven moved to table a decision on the meeting time and conduct an additional poll to inquire if Wednesday morning at 9:00 AM is an option. Dan Potts seconded the motion.

Heidi noted that many Committee members and Commission staff are not present, and an additional poll might be helpful.

No vote was taken on the motion.

1. General Discussions

- a) Project & Program Updates Roundtable Discussion : Committee members may share updates about projects or programs in progress, and ask questions of other Committee members for input.

b) 2024 Committee Meeting Topics & Interest Areas Roundtable Discussion : Committee members may share ideas for topics, interest areas, or presenters to schedule and include on future Committee meeting agendas, either related to one of our three primary Committee focus areas — weed management & restoration, water issues, and community development issues.

Notes: Project & Program Updates. Rachel Turk noted that the Commission staff is preparing the annual report, and having information about projects and programs will be helpful to highlight in the report.

Ali Avery noted that North Salt Lake is preparing to upgrade the boat ramp from gravel to concrete. Dan Potts offered input that the width of the ramp should be designed to allow a sideways launch or takeout in a canoe, which is much more stable than having the bow or stern on the concrete. Rachel Turk noted that the surface finish can become slick with mud and water, and suggested contacting Angelo Calacino at Salt Lake County, who has been working with BioWest on numerous river access and portage projects. Chris Cline added that consideration should be given to placement and the dynamics of hydrology and elevation change, and avoid issues with scouring that can accompany higher water flows.

Rae Robinson asked for any Committee members involved with the Cooperative Weed Management Area to complete the survey she sent by February 1. She is also preparing to release a request for proposals for weed management and restoration projects in the coming weeks.

Chris Cline shared an update of the large federal grant for the Big Bend project in West Jordan. \$3.5 million of the nearly \$5 million grant will be for the hydrologic functions of the Jordan River realignment and restored flood plain. Jack Jacob incited interest from Tree Utah in assisting with the tree planting and restoration. Dan Potts asked if access issues had been resolved with Rocky Mountain Power, and Chris responded that those negotiations are ongoing.

Gina Grandpre shared that the 30-acre park in Saratoga Springs is in final design development. They are using the Blueprint Jordan River as a guideline with the design and features. A new trailhead and boat access is being developed.

Lynn Berni shared that the recent Salt Lake County Watershed Council had over 500 attendees, which was the largest participation ever. The 2024 Watershed Symposium will be November 20-21, at the Cultural Celebration Center in West Valley City.

Nathan Page shared that the Riverton bank restoration project is under way with the contractor onsite and somewhere around half way complete.

2024 Committee Meeting Topics & Interest Areas. Marian Rice and Rachel Turk shared the calendar of dates and topics for meetings this year. Chris Cline added that the leadership really wants these meetings to be helpful and useful for Committee members, and input on topics and speakers of interest would be greatly appreciated.

Heidi Hoven indicated that she is working with Soren Simonsen on the America The Beautiful Challenge Grant projects, and one goal is to help connect more people with the Jordan River, and that might be a valuable topic for Community Development. Chris Cline agreed that all

communities, including diverse minority communities, could benefit for more community engagement.

Chris Cline suggested that the Dedicated Hunters volunteer program of the Division of Wildlife Resources might be a great resource to revisit. Eric McCulley recommended connecting with the individual at the Division and perhaps have them join a future Committee meeting to discuss how the program works, and ways to work with this volunteer corps (the Salt Lake area contact is Bryan Christensen — more information is at <https://wildlife.utah.gov/contact-dh.html>). Dan Potts indicated that he participates in the Dedicated Hunters program, and noted that sometimes that volunteer group is most active in the late summer and early fall, just prior to hunting season.

Dan Potts would like to see additional field trips. Rae Robinson indicated that she is tentatively planning a field trip for the March Cooperative Weed Management Area meeting.

Josie Showalter would like to learn more about the new UDOT Active Transportation funding program.

Eric McCulley joined the meeting late, and reported that he and Soren Simonsen had just come from a meeting where the Jordan River Watershed Council was certified. Marian Rice would like to have a future meeting focus on the role and functions of the state and local watershed councils.

Marian Rice asked to keep ideas coming throughout the year, outside of this meeting, as Committee members have ideas for topics and speakers.

2. Commission Staff Report(s)

- a) Director's Report (if available)
 - 1) Legislative Updates
 - 2) Grants & Funding Updates & Opportunities
 - 3) Upcoming Meetings, Events & Activities of Interest
 - 4) Other Commission Updates

Notes: Legislative Updates. Soren Simonsen joined the meeting late. He reported that he and Eric McCulley just came from the Utah Watersheds Council meeting where the Jordan River Watershed Council was fully certified. Soren noted that Hannah Breeze gave an interesting presentation on the Agricultural Optimization program being implemented across the state that might be of interest in consideration of in stream flow and water banking policies that might result in more water in the Jordan River.

Soren shared updates on a few legislative items that have been of interest to the Commission.

House Bill 11 (Rep. D. Owens) – Water Efficient Landscaping
House Bill 62 (Rep. D. Owens) – Utah Water Ways Amendment
House Bill 65 (Rep. R. Lesser) – Active Transportation & Canal Trails
House Bill 243 (Rep. G. Bennion) – Riparian Corridors/Healthy Water Ways
House Bill 280 (Rep. C. Snider) – Water Related Infrastructure

Commission staff has been particularly involved with the Riparian Corridors bill, and worked closely with Representative Bennion and to develop the legislative proposal.

Commission staff has also been closely following the budget proposal by Governor Cox related to homeless services and deeply affordable housing. This would fund a very comprehensive approach to some real and growing concerns related to homeless activity around the Jordan River, particularly in the vicinity of North Temple and the Utah State Fairpark in Salt Lake City.

Grants & Funding. Soren Simonsen reminded Committee members that several grant programs are open or will be opening soon for outdoor recreation funding programs administered through the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation. The Commission is pursuing a \$12,000 grant through the Jordan River Foundation to match \$3,000 in pledged Commission funds, to pursue a much larger grant of around \$75,000 through the Recreation Trails Program (RTP), to update the MyJordanRiver.org and My Watersheds mobile site, and develop it into a mobile app. Staff is also collaborating with the Seven Canyons Trust and Salt Lake County Office of Regional Development.

Commission staff is available to help support grant applications for a number of funding programs with spring application cycles. Soren noted that staff is especially interested in and getting requests from Parkway users, to focus on improving fishing access and infrastructure.

Events & Activities. Soren Simonsen discussed upcoming events — Earth Day, the City Nature Challenge, Golden Spoke cycling event, and the Get to the River Festival. Working with a fundraising and planning consultant, about \$40,000 has already been raised and Marathon is returning as Presenting Sponsor of the Festival in September.

3. Upcoming Committee Meeting

- a) Thursday, February 15, 2024

Notes: *The next meeting will be scheduled and confirmed pending additional input.*

4. Adjourn

Laura Haskell moved to adjourn the meeting. Chris Cline seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM.

A meeting recording, minutes, handouts and presentations, and other information are available to view and download at <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/886885.html>.

Minutes prepared by Soren Simonsen, Secretary.

Minutes adopted 02/15/2024.