

## **Jordan River Watershed Council Meeting**

December 7, 2023 | 10:00 a.m.

### **Meeting Location**

---

Education Center at Conservation Garden Park  
Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District  
8275 South 1300 West, West Jordan, UT 84088

And remotely via Zoom

### **Meeting Attendees**

---

#### **Governing Board Members**

Eric McCulley, Chair, Utah Reclamation, Mitigation, & Conservation Committee  
Councilmember Sylvia Catten, Millcreek City  
Councilmember Andy Pierucci, Riverton City  
John Mackey, Division of Water Quality  
Councilmember Don Shelton, South Jordan City  
Wendelin Knobloch, Midvale City  
Gina Grandpre, Saratoga Springs City  
Mayor Karen Lang, West Valley City  
Mayor Kristie Overson, Taylorsville City  
Ben Stireman, Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands  
Shazelle Terry, Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District  
Betty Naylor, Gardner Heritage Farms  
Heidi Hoven, National Audubon Society  
Alicia De Leon, Salt Lake City  
Councilmember Clarissa Williams, South Salt Lake City  
Dina Blaes, Salt Lake County  
Kim Sorensen, Murray City  
Councilmember Paige Albrecht, Lehi City  
Mayor Dirk Burton, West Jordan City  
Councilmember Todd Draper, Draper City  
Representative Jeff Stenquist, Utah State Legislature  
Councilmember Stan Porter, North Salt Lake City

#### **Commission Staff**

Soren Simonsen, Executive Director  
Rachel Turk, Communications & Outreach Manager  
Rae Robinson, Vegetation Management Coordinator, Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands

#### **Visitors and Guests**

Laura Vernon, Division of Water Resources  
Carly Payne, Division of Water Resources

Derek Anderson, Office of Senator Mike Lee  
Todd Munger, Lehi City  
Nate Brakey, Office of Congressman Burgess Owens  
Jim Winder, Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands  
Laura Haskell, Division of Water Resources  
Cory Fralick, West Jordan City  
Todd Stonely, Division of Water Resources  
Steve Van Maren, Sandy City Resident  
Colby Hill, South Jordan City  
Dina Blaes, Salt Lake County  
Wayne Niederhauser, Utah Office of Homeless Services Coordinator  
Tish Buroker, Riverton City  
Marissa Beckstrom, Tracy Aviary  
Gretta, Salt Lake Tribune  
Elliot Mott, Community Volunteer Organizer  
Olivia Bonds, UTA Planning

## **Meeting Minutes**

---

Eric McCulley, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Identification of Governing Board members and other meeting participants in person and online

### **2. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **3. Presentations & Discussion**

Great Salt Lake Basin Integrated Plan: Laura Vernon shared a presentation about the recently launched Great Salt Lake Basin Integrated Plan, including updates on the draft work plan, and next steps for this multi-year planning effort. The Basin Integrated Plan is a watershed-wide initiative jointly guided by recent state and federal legislation and funding programs. The Jordan River is one of the major tributaries to Great Salt Lake, and the Jordan River Watershed Council has been identified as a key stakeholder organization with an important role in this planning effort.

Laura reported that there are a number of social and technical challenges associated with the Plan, which is funded by both state and federal entities. Her team is working to establish a resilient water supply for Great Salt Lake and the overall watershed. The Plan will be completed by the end of 2026.

### **4. Council Business**

**[Action Item]** Adoption of Meeting Minutes and 2024 Schedule: The Council considered adopting meeting minutes for the June 1, 2023, Jordan River Watershed Council meeting; meeting minutes for the October 5, 2023, Jordan River Watershed Council meeting; the proposed Jordan River Watershed Council Meeting Schedule for 2024.

***Heidi Hoven moved to adopt the listed meeting minutes and 2024 meeting schedule. Wendelin Knobloch seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Council Members present.***

## **5. Information & Announcements**

Great Salt Lake Basin Integrated Plan Virtual Open House: Thursday, December 7, 6:00 PM  
(see flyer and visit <https://water.utah.gov/gsl-basin-integrated-plan/>)

Legislative Updates & Roundtable Discussion: Eric McCulley noted that some Council members will be holding conversations with legislative leaders to emphasize the importance of protecting riparian areas in anticipation of upcoming legislation.

Soren Simonsen noted that Governor Cox presented his proposed budget, which includes a comprehensive plan for addressing homelessness in Utah and will require approval and funding by the legislature. He also noted a federal bill under consideration that would allow for certain funds to be used for water conservation through the Central Utah Water Project.

Betty Naylor noted that the state bill regarding riparian protections is in need of clarifications on the definition of riparian before it moves forward.

## **6. Adjourn**

***Sylvia Catten moved to adjourn the meeting. Kristie Overson seconded the motion.***

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

***The Watershed Council adjourned and reconvened as the Jordan River Commission Governing Board.***

---

A meeting recording, presentation and handout materials, and meeting minutes are available at <https://www.utah.gov/pmnp/sitemap/notice/875295.html>.

Meeting minutes prepared by Ren Griffeth, Jordan River Commission Administrative, Grant & Research Specialist.