
Joshua Cooke

Submission Date Nov 5, 2025 12:35 AM

Full Name Joshua Cooke

E-mail

Address

Payson, UTAH, 84651

Phone Number

Are you 18 or older?

Yes

Are you a Payson resident?

Yes

Where did you hear about us?

Social Media

What is your motivation for service on the committee?

After living in Payson for the past five years, I've developed a deep appreciation for the beauty and accessibility of our community's outdoor spaces. I see this as an opportunity to give back and to play an active role in preserving what makes Payson such a remarkable place to live. I value the Forebay area not only as a natural resource, but as a shared space that strengthens community connection and wellbeing. I believe that thoughtful management and responsible development of these areas begin with local involvement, and I would be honored to contribute my time and perspective to that effort.

How does your background, training, and experience lend itself to service on the committee?

As a licensed mental health counselor and Payson resident, I bring a perspective that values community wellbeing, thoughtful stewardship, and balanced decision-making. In my professional work, I help individuals and families build healthier, more connected lives; skills that translate directly to collaborative committee work and understanding the needs of diverse community members.

While my training is not in land management or recreation planning, I have a strong appreciation for how access to nature and outdoor spaces supports both individual and collective health. I also bring experience working within structured teams, engaging in long-term planning, and balancing multiple viewpoints to reach meaningful outcomes. I would approach this role with a spirit of cooperation, care, and commitment to preserving Payson's outdoor legacy for future generations.

Please list any relevant areas of expertise, education, or training you possess that will be helpful for service.

I hold a master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and serve as an Assistant Clinical Director at a behavioral health clinic. I have been in active practice for for over 10 years. My professional training emphasizes communication, collaboration, and systems thinking; all valuable in committee work that requires balancing recreation, safety, and community interests.

I have experience leading teams, facilitating group discussions, and developing programs that promote wellbeing and resilience. These skills translate directly to understanding how outdoor recreation contributes to mental health, family life, and community connection.

Beyond my professional background, I have a personal passion for outdoor activities such as hiking and exploring local trails. This appreciation for nature and recreation motivates me to help ensure Payson's outdoor spaces remain safe, sustainable, and accessible for generations to come.