

Jordan River Commission Technical Advisory Committee

June 18, 2026 | 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Location

The meeting was conducted virtually online via Zoom, with an anchor location at the Jordan River Commission office.

Meeting Attendees

Technical Advisory Committee Members

Cory Fralick, Chair, Director of Public Services – West Jordan
Marian Rice, PhD, Past Chair – University of Utah, Peak Water Sustainability Research Hub
Chris Cline, Retired Biologist – Community
Eric McCulley, Watershed Scientist – Community / McCulley Watershed Consulting Services
Dan Potts, Aquatic Ecologist – Community / Salt Lake Fish & Game Foundation
Bruce Holyoak, Park Superintendent – Murray
Ali Avery, Long Range Planner – North Salt Lake
Brad Knoles, Regional Business Manager – Rocky Mountain Power
David Jellen, Senior Planner – Saratoga Springs
Ronnie Pessetto, Executive Director – Seven Canyons Trust
Matt Myers, General Manager – South Davis Sewer District
Emily Andrea, Utah Lake and Jordan River Sovereign Lands – Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands
Sandy Wingert, Environmental Scientist – Utah Division of Water Quality
Tori Bird, Community Impact Specialist – Utah's Hogle Zoo
Jason Erekson, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director – West Valley City
Todd Munger, Sustainability Director – Lehi

Commission Staff

Jens Ammon, Jordan River Restoration Coordinator
Caroline Johnston, Event & Volunteer Coordinator
Rachel Lyn, Communications & Outreach Manager
Soren Simonsen, Executive Director & Secretary
Amelia Miller, Administrative, Finance, & Grants Specialist
Audrey Zietz, Communications and Outreach Intern

Visitors and Guests

Leland Myers, Director – Wasatch Front Water Quality Council
Brandon Heidelberger, Assistant General Manager – Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility
Courtney Thomas, Education Coordinator – Utah Lake Authority
Jacob Ridgeway, Toxicologist – Utah Division of Water Quality
Ben Holcomb, Environmental Program Manager – Utah Division of Water Quality
Manjot Masson – Central Davis Sewer District
Justin Stalley – Salt Lake County Parks and Recreation

Meeting Minutes

Cory Fralick, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM.

1. Welcome & Introductions

a) Committee Roll Call & Other Introductions

Committee members and other meeting participants were introduced.

2. Public Comments

Soren Simonsen noted that the Commission has received a number of recent comments from Jordan River Trail users relating to the need for more regulation surrounding the use of motorized vehicles on the trail. He also noted receiving comments concerning the safety and control of youth jumping off bridges into the Jordan River in Lehi near Camp Williams.

There were no additional public comments.

3. Presentations & Discussion – River and Watershed Focus

a. Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and Biosolids – Wastewater Treatment Plant Challenges (00:10:45 on audio recording)

Leland Myers, Director of the Wasatch Front Water Quality Council (WFWQC), and Brandon Heidelberg, Assistant General Manager of the Central Valley Water Reclamation Facility, gave a presentation on recent research and observations regarding Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS, also referred to as “forever chemicals”) in biosolids and effluent water from wastewater treatment facilities that discharge into the Jordan River. They discussed the challenges associated with these substances, which are identified as potential health risks for both humans and wildlife. Staff from the Utah Division of Water Quality provided additional background and context, noting that the Utah Water Quality Board has initiated rulemaking to study and address these impacts.

Chris Cline asked if chemicals found in soil and other materials influence PFAS. This led to a broader conversation with Leland Myers and Brandon Heidelberg concerning land reclamation.

Marian Rice shared details regarding her current research at the University of Utah. She inquired about the possibility of obtaining samples for her work and asked if she could coordinate directly with Leland Myers. Leland responded that his team is open to providing samples and is a resource for anyone interested in such materials. He also noted that a significant ongoing hurdle is the current lack of a regulatory framework for these substances.

Ben Holcomb noted that pursuing these regulations is currently under consideration, adding that the process would require coordinating the necessary stakeholders and securing funding. He questioned what specific mechanisms, such as new policies or strategic approaches, might be employed to achieve this. Jacob Ridgeway provided insights into the potential impacts specifically facing the Jordan River. Soren Simonsen added that the Commission is prepared to assist by identifying and sharing further information as it is discovered.

Dan Potts observed that fish and overall ecosystem quality in the duck club ponds tend to improve as they progress toward the Great Salt Lake.

b. Stormwater Education and Action (01:02:30 on audio recording)

Soren Simonsen and Rachel Lyn shared updates and upcoming engagements for a program being developed to engage Jordan River Watershed communities on stormwater education and actions to reduce pollutants, including chemicals, organic matter, and litter/debris. They discussed the program's target audiences, which

include Jordan River Parkway users, elementary education across the eight school districts that encompass the Jordan River, businesses and business associations, and faith communities and congregations.

c. Roundtable Discussion

There was no further roundtable discussion.

4. Committee Business

a. **[Action Item]** Adopt the March 19, 2026, Meeting Minutes *(01:23:50 on audio recording)*

Tori Bird moved to adopt the March 19, 2026, meeting minutes. Mirian Rice seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion of the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved by Committee members present.

b. **[Action Item]** Adopt the April 16, 2026, Meeting Minutes *(01:25:26 on audio recording)*

Tori Bird moved to adopt the April 16, 2026, meeting minutes. Marian Rice seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion of the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved by Committee members present.

c. Upcoming Committee Schedule *(01:26:23 on audio recording)*

A special Jordan River Watershed Council meeting is planned for July to gather information and updates about the extreme drought and other watershed matters, with a date still to be determined. There is no regular Committee meeting in July. The next regular committee meeting will be Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 2:00 PM, focusing on Restoration and Weed Management and the Commission's Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) program.

On Thursday, September 3, 2026, the regular Jordan River Watershed Council meeting will be held at 10:00 AM, tentatively followed by a special Jordan River Commission & Watershed Council field trip to the Utah Pollinator Habitat Program greenhouse and nursery at Utah State Prison greenhouse and nursery in Salt Lake City. Additional details and logistics will be shared as these are confirmed with the Utah Department of Agriculture & Food, and the Department of Corrections.

The Committee meeting in September will be a Jordan River Commission & Watershed Council field trip scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 2:00 PM. Mike West, Vice Chair and Planner with Lehi, is coordinating details for a cycling tour, and additional details will be shared at the next Committee meeting.

5. Committee Member Announcements & Updates

There were no Committee member announcements and updates.

6. Commission Staff Reports

a. Commission & Watershed Council Updates

Agenda item 6a was not discussed due to time constraints.

b. Communications & Outreach Updates

Agenda item 6b was not discussed due to time constraints.

7. Adjourn

Ali Avery moved to adjourn the meeting. Todd Munger seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 PM.

A meeting recording, presentation, handout materials, and meeting minutes are available at <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/sitemap/notice/1090089.html>

Meeting minutes prepared by Amelia Miller, and Soren Simonsen, Commission Secretary.

Meeting minutes adopted August 20, 2026.