

JORDAN RIVER COMMISSON
Governing Board – Regular Meeting

Minutes: August 20, 2015- Appr. Oct 29, 2015

Name	Agency or Organization	Present
Corey Rushton	Board Past-Chair, West Valley City	
Chris McCandless	Board Chair, Sandy City	X
Rebecca Call	Board Vice-Chair, Saratoga Springs	X
Steve Barnes	City of South Jordan	
Richard Bay	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District	X
Ralph Becker	Salt Lake City	By Alternate: Lewis Kogan
John Bennett	Office of the Governor	X
Bill Colbert	Draper City	
Ben McAdams	Salt Lake County	By Alternate: Julie Peck-Dabbling
Commissioner Jim Smith	Davis County	
Commissioner Larry Ellertson	Utah County	
Hal Johnson	Utah Transit Authority	
Debbie Snow	City of South Salt Lake	
Laura Ault	Division of Forestry Fire State Lands	X
Rep. Rich Cunningham	Utah House of Representatives	
Stan Porter	City of North Salt Lake	X
Trent Staggs	Riverton City	
Justin Stoker	City of West Jordan	
Tee Tyler	Cottonwood Heights	X
Dan Armstrong	Taylorsville	X
Eric Gaddis	Division of Water Quality	X
Aimee Newton	Salt Lake County Council	By Alternate: Adam Gardiner
Scott Peters	Ex-Officio, Jordan River Foundation	X
Alene Bentley	Ex-Officio, Rocky Mountain Power	X
Jon Bronson	Ex-Officio, Zions Bank	X
Amy Collins	Ex-Officio, TreeUtah	
Greg Hardy	Ex-Officio, Chevron	X
Michael Horrocks	Ex-Officio, Wasatch Rowing Foundation	X
Soren Simonsen	Ex-Officio, At Large	
Michael Steele	Ex-Officio, Utah State Fairpark	
Ray Pickup	Ex-Officio, Workers Compensation Fund	
Tim Brown	Ex-Officio, Tracy Aviary	X
Eric Ellis	Ex-Officio, Utah Lake Commission	X

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Laura Hanson, Jordan River Commission
Michaela Boothe, Jordan River Commission
Theron Miller, Farmington Bay Water Quality Council
Brian Nichols, SWCA
Leslie Kelen, Center for Documentary Expression and Art
Wendy Fisher, Utah Open Lands

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Jordan River Commission, was held on Thursday August 20, 2015 at 9:00 am at the Sandy City Hall, 10000 South Centennial Boulevard, Sandy, Utah 84070

Chris McCandless, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. He welcomed the Board and thanked everyone for attending. He asked for attendees to introduce themselves.

ITEM 1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Chris McCandless asked if there were any changes to the June 18, 2015 consent agenda. No changes made

Motion – Rebecca Call made a motion to approve the agenda and minutes.
Second – John Bennett
Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 2 – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chris McCandless asked Laura Hanson to give the Director's Report.

Laura Hanson thanked the Board for attending, introduced Michaela Boothe at the new Executive Assistant, and gave an overview of work progress and updates since the last Board meeting:

Projects

Myjordanriver.org was featured in an EPA Stormwater publication and also received recognition at an environmental meeting in Atlanta. Marion Hubbard from Salt Lake County Watershed Restoration and Planning staff attended the conference and represented the project.

The JRC held a Puncturevine Weevil Release party on July 18, 2015 along the Jordan River Parkway Trail. The JRC purchased \$9000 of weevils and had volunteers distribute them along the trail in designated places.

A new bicycle repair station, donated by CW Management Corp. was installed at the 1800 North trailhead. The next repair station will be located in Utah County.

The JRC recently announced Salt Lake County, Salt Lake City and Sandy City for their planning decisions and efforts along the river corridor. Beautiful acrylic plaques were brought for board members to see what each of these cities would receive. Sixty-three packets of the new River Friendly Communities and River Friendly Project Development

Recognition Program were mailed out to administration and planning offices to invite their participation.

Hunter High School created an exhibit called, “Reawakened Beauty @ Cottonwood Pond” and it will be displayed at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center from 6-8pm on August 20, 2015. The display is about their experiences while working on the restoration project at Cottonwood Pond in WVC. Board members were invited to attend.

Brian Nicholson talked about the public involvement process of the Jordan River Comprehensive Management Plan. Three public meetings were held in Salt Lake, Davis and Utah Counties. A stakeholder meeting will be held in September to gather information about what is happening along the Jordan River and what they would like to see happen in terms of future management.

The Salt Lake Department of Health received a grant which will be used to fund a planning study. Their goal is to identify signage needs along the river corridor between Utah Lake and the Great Salt Lake. The signs would identify location, mark the official Jordan River Parkway Trail, and encourage trail usage. The signage would follow mutcd standards and allow access to transportation funding. Maintenance of the signs would be handled by individual cities. Rebecca Call mentioned that current mile marker signs in Saratoga Springs are incorrect.

On August 6, 2015, Sally Jewell, the Secretary of the Interior, announced a new grant from American Express intended to encourage youth to be more engaged in outdoor activities and environmental educational projects. This program is happening in 25 cities across the US.

Taylorville City had a new bridge installed at 4500 South. It was made possible due to a partnership between Taylorville, Murray and Salt Lake County.

A clothing company, *United by Blue*, hosted a clean-up project along the Jordan River while they were here for the Outdoor Retailer Summer Market Show. They cleaned up a large amount of trash and are planning to partner with the JRC next year.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 3 – Technical Advisory Committee Report

Laura Hanson noted that the TAC did not meet this last month.

ITEM 4a– JRC Large Grant Process – Legislative Funding

Chris McCandless asked Laura Hanson to introduce this item.

Laura Hanson said a lot of discussion about this topic was covered at the last governing board meeting, however, they were unable to make a motion because there was not a quorum present. She said 9 people are willing to serve on the Grant Recommendation Subcommittee; their names are listed in the Governing Board packet. She also explained how the evaluation criteria, reviewed the hot topics which follow the Blueprint of the Jordan River, and said the RFP had been updated.

Motion – Rebecca Call made a motion to approve the updated process, including the Request For Proposals and proposal scoring sheet, for soliciting proposals and recommending projects for funding.

Second – Scott Peters

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 5a – Appointment of Eric Ellis as Ex-Officio member of the Governing Board

Laura Hanson explained there was an opening on the board for an ex-officio member. Eric Ellis, of the Utah Lake Commission, was recommended. Eric Ellis gave a brief summary of his employment history and involvement with the Utah Lake Commission. Rebecca Call mentioned that the ULC typically holds a Legislative Event in the fall and asked if the ULC and the JRC could work together to hold the event in October. The board agreed it would be a beneficial opportunity.

Motion – John Bennett made a motion to appoint Eric Ellis as a new Ex-Officio member of the Jordan River Commission Governing Board

Second – Stan Porter

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 5b – Consider Approval of Consultant Contract – Cirrus, Lower Jordan River Flow Study

Chris McCandless asked Laura Hanson to introduce this item.

The JRC was awarded a grant from the Utah Division of Water Quality to conduct a series of experiments to determine the relationship between flow levels in the Jordan River and the level of dissolved oxygen in the water. An RFP was drafted and sent to several consulting firms. A selection committee reviewed the proposals and made the recommendation to select Cirrus Ecological Solutions to perform the work. The proposed budget is \$152,789, which is within the amount set aside for the consultant contract in the grant budget and work plan. This was not the low bid, but the selection committee felt the team has far superior proposal.

Motion – Lewis Kogan made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to enter into contract negotiations with Cirrus Ecological Solutions for the Flow Experiment project.

Second – Erica Gaddis

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 5c– Discuss Interlocal Cooperation Agreement Updates and Approve Process

Chris McCandless asked Laura Hanson to introduce this item.

In the 2014 legislative session, HB17 was approved and placed additional requirements on Interlocal Cooperation entities. In the 2015 legislative session, follow up bills clarified the requirements and made it easier for very small organizations like the Jordan River Commission to comply with state statues. Changes to the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement were noted in the Governing Board packet, section 12.1.5 will be deleted for redundancy, the Division of Water Quality will be added in section 12.1.3, and wording on the signature page will also be changed. Laura will be sending the new bylaws to the board in November.

Motion – Richard Bay made a motion to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement, with the modifications that were discussed, and to have individual

member government commitments to discuss and approve the changes at the local level in September and October.

Second – Stan Porter

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 5d – Consider adoption of Employment Policy

Chris McCandless asked Laura Hanson to introduce this item.

The Jordan River Commission is required to have an employment policy in place. The JRC borrowed an employment handbook from the Utah Lake Commission and used it to create their proposed employment policy. They reviewed the proposed policy, including employee benefits, sexual harassment policies, and other hiring aspects so that it would have to be changed or reviewed with each new hire.

Motion – Stan Porter made a motion to approve Resolution 5, adopting the JRC Employee Handbook and Benefit Plan Schedule.

Second – Rebecca Call

Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 6a– Presentation: Les Kelen, Center for Documentary Expression and Art

The JRC has had a great working partnership with the Center for Documentary Expression and Art over the past few years. The organization was founded in 1983 and is in its fourth decade of operation. Mr. Kelen said their organization is interested in turning the Albert Fisher Mansion into a community destination that celebrates the natural world and can serve as a multicultural library. He reviewed the history of the CDEA, their photographic documentary work along the Jordan River, and their goal to connect people, particularly the youth, with the environment. The Governing Board had a very positive reaction to the vision of the CDEA.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 6b– Presentation: Wendy Fisher, Utah Open Lands

Wendy Fisher said Utah Open Lands is working to create an organic grass fed cattle and sheep ranch called the JF Gillmor Century Ranch. It spans Salt Lake and Summit Counties and includes over 1100 acres of land. Part of the ranch borders the Great Salt Lake and the Jordan River. A grazing partnership has allowed hundreds of acres of Phragmites to be converted back to native plants and now provides high quality habitat to tens of thousands of birds each year, including a bald eagle nesting spot.

The JF Gilmore Century Ranch has an appraisal value of \$2,000,000. Nearly \$4 million needs to be raised to preserve the entire ranch. They have 3 years to complete this project. They are looking at various companies to be potential funding sources for this project including the Audobon, Coca-cola and the Nature Conservancy.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 7 – Public Comment Period

Chris McCandless asked if any members of the public would like to address the Board.

Seeing none, the public comment portion of the meeting was closed.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 8 – Other Business

Chris McCandless asked if any members of the Board had additional business to discuss.

Rebecca Call asked for an update on the Bluffdale trail. Richard Bay said trail construction is ahead of schedule and will be paved this fall. The Governing Board expressed their great excitement.

Erica Gaddis requested the opportunity to speak to the Governing Board about the new water quality standards at the next meeting. Laura Hanson said she would put it on the schedule.

The Jordan River Foundation received a \$5000 grant that needs to be directed to a specific project. Scott Peters asked if any of the municipalities had interest in partnering to receive the funding. Those interested should contact him directly.

ITEM 9 – CONFIRM NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURN

The next meeting of the Jordan River Commission Governing Board will be September 17, 2015, 9:00-11:00, Taylorsville City Hall.

On motion and second, the meeting was adjourned.