**RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Public Lands Policy Coordination

**August 2, 2018**

**Department of Natural Resources**

**Room 112**

**MINUTES**

**Attendees:**

**Members**

Todd Stonely, DWRe, *Chair*

Bill James, DWR, *Vice Chair*

Jan Morse, DOGM

Susan Zarekarizi, State Parks

Barrett Anderson, UDAF for Melissa Ure

Tom Chidsey, UGS

Carl Adams, DWQ

Allan Moore, WMRC

Elisa Albury, UDOT

Chris Merritt, SHPO

Chris Fausett, SITLA

Sheila Vance, DAQ

**Invited Federal Agencies**

Kerry Schwartz, BLM

**Guest**

Arne Hultquist, SEUHD

**Staff**

Sindy Smith, PLPCO

Kelsie Last, PLPCO

Brandon Weston, UDOT

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**Welcome**

Todd Stonely, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. After round table introductions, Todd welcomed everyone.

**Approval of Minutes**

The committee by unanimous vote approved May 3, 2018, minutes.

**UDOT’s Environmental Program for 2018**

Brandon Weston, UDOT Environmental Program Manager, reported on UDOT’s 2018 Environmental Program. The 2018 program is huge, and expected to get bigger with an additional five to seven projects next year. The Utah legislature passed a billion-dollar I-15 construction bond this past session. UDOT has had complete NEPA assignment from FHWA since January 17, 2017, and is legally responsible and liable for all NEPA decisions. UDOT issues draft and final EAs and EISs, Categorical Exclusions, and Individual Section 4(f) Evaluations, and signs the RODs, the FONSIs, and other determination documents. UDOT currently oversees four EISs, six EAs, four major re-evaluation projects, two large State Environmental Studies, along with other studies.

Projects in-process include:

* ***Parley’s Interchange*** (I-80 and I-215)
  + EIS
  + Reduce Congestion, Improve Safety, and Increase Regional Mobility
  + Salt Lake City and County
  + Status: Scoping
* ***Little Cottonwood Canyon* (**Fort Union Boulevard to Alta)
  + EIS
  + Evaluate Transportation Improvements
  + Salt Lake County
  + Status: Scoping
* ***State Route 30* (**SR-23 to 1000 West)
  + EIS
  + Capacity and Safety Improvements
  + Logan City, Box Elder County
  + Status: Final EIS August 2018
* ***1-15; Payson*** (Main Street Interchange)
  + EIS
  + Improve Operations and Address Design Deficiencies
  + Payson City, Utah County
  + Status: Final EIS early September 2018
* ***1-15; Milepost 11 Interchange***(Exit 10 to Exit 13)
  + EA (upgrade to EIS)
  + Maintain Operations and Safety and Enhance Mobility
  + Washington City and County
  + Status: Alternatives
* ***1-15 Northbound*** (Bangerter Highway to I-215)
  + EA
  + Preferred Alternative is two Collector-Distributor Systems
  + Salt Lake County
  + Status: Draft EA August 2018
* ***1-215 SB Frontage Road*** (4100 South to 4700 South)
  + EA
  + New Proposed Frontage Road
  + Taylorsville City, Salt Lake County
  + Status: Draft EA Fall 2018
* ***State Route 248*** (SR-224 to US-40)
  + EA
  + Alleviate Congestion and Manage Access
  + Park City, Summit County
  + Status: Alternatives
* ***1-15; SR-97 5600 South*** (SR-108 to 1-15)
  + EA
  + Transportation Improvements
  + Roy City, Weber County
  + Status: Scoping
* ***I-15; Springville/Spanish Fork***(Springville 1600 South/Spanish Fork 2700 North)
  + Traffic Study and Class of Action Determination
  + Potential New Interchange
  + Springville and Spanish Fork, Utah County
  + Status: Contracting
* ***1-15; Shepard Lane***
  + EA
  + Potential New Interchange
  + Farmington City, Davis County
  + Status: RFQ Released
* ***SR-127 (Antelope Drive)*** (West Davis Corridor to 2000 West)
  + State Environmental Study
  + Roadway Widening
  + Syracuse City, Davis County
  + Status: RFQ Release 2018
* ***SR-193 Extension*** (West Davis Corridor to 3000 West)
  + State Environmental Study
  + New Capacity
  + Syracuse City, Davis County
  + Status: RFQ Release 2018

Brandon answered questions.

**Water Quality**

Carl Adams is the Environmental Program Manager of the Watershed Protection Program at the Division of Water Quality. The Watershed Protection Program focuses on protecting and restoring the water quality of Utah’s surface waters. Carl discussed the Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) mission, vision, and values and provided an overview of the Division of Water Quality’s (DWQ) organizational structure and its strategic planning programs.

Main discussion items included:

* DEQ’s mission:
  + *Safeguarding and improving Utah’s air, land, and water through balanced regulation*.
* DEQ’s vision embraces:
  + Integrated Water Resources Management
    - Wastewater
    - Storm Water
    - Watershed Management
    - Water Quality
    - Drinking Water
  + Productive Collaborative Relationships
  + Nimble and Accountable Staff
  + Sound Science
* DEQ values include:
  + Continuous Improvement
  + Exceptional Service
  + Commitment to Employees
  + Credibility and Trust
* The Watershed Protection Program’s primary goal is cleaning up waters not meeting Standards of Quality for Waters of the State.
* Erica Gaddis is the Director of DWQ. The Division has two deputy directors, Kim Shelley and Jim Harris. Kim Shelly oversees the internal work of the division such as the budget and contracts. Jim Harris is involved with external affairs, such as committees and commissions, outreach and education, and the legislature, as well as other interested stakeholders.
* DWQ’s sections, programs, and permitting include:
  + Databases & Information
  + Standards and Technical Services
  + Wastewater
  + Ground Water Quality Protection Program
  + Storm Water Permits
  + Watershed Management Program
  + Monitoring: Water Quality
  + Surface Water (UPDES) Permits
  + Water Quality and Health Advisory Panel
* DWQ’s strategic planning involves the following featured plans:
  + Great Salt Lake Strategy
    - A comprehensive approach for protecting the water quality of Great Salt Lake and its surrounding wetlands
      * Development of Numeric Criteria
      * Strategic Monitoring and Research
      * Wetland Program Plan
      * Public Outreach
      * Resource Plan
  + Update Nutrient Strategy (an important plan within the Watershed Management Program)
    - Headwater Numeric Nutrient Criteria
    - Hold the Line state-wide with Technology Based Phosphorus Effluent Limit
    - Develop site-specific nutrient standards for major waters
  + Storm Water Strategy
  + Septics, Source Water, and Shorelines
    - Development pressure in headwaters and along shorelines
    - LHD request to assist with guidance
    - Variation across the State of Utah
      * scope of septic development across the state
    - Septic density studies
    - Need to characterize scope of issue
  + AFO/CAFO Strategy
    - Utah Strategy to Address Water Pollution from Animal Feeding Operations (AFO) (2001)
    - AFOs and Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) became non-discharging to avoid the need for a UPDES permit
      * Recent enforcement
      * Best technologies
      * Management practices
        + Education is critical
      * Financing mechanisms
* DWQ has embarked on targeted outreach efforts, not only to solicit assistance, but also to pool resources in order to have a common voice speaking for their concerns and issues.
  + Utah Home Builders Association
    - Training
    - Enforcement consistency
  + Utah Public Health Laboratory
    - Improve process and quality
  + Wasatch Water Quality Council
    - MOU regarding research and communication
  + Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
    - AFO/CAFO strategy
* Utah Lake Water Quality Study is another collaborative approach.
* Enforcement Policy
  + Improve consistency across enforcement programs
  + Include penalty guidance
  + Possible revisions to rule
  + Modeled after Florida
* DWQ Resources
  + In the early days of the Clean Water Act the Federal government provided lots of grant dollars to states to kick-start wastewater treatment plant construction. Those grant dollars have largely dried up. DWQ receives some loan capitalization funding to keep up with the growth and development occurring throughout the state.
  + Utah’s water infrastructure including dams, pipelines, and canals is aging, and needs significant maintenance and upgrades.
  + One of DWQ’s goals is education and communication. Developing more water for municipal use requires the wastewater treatment plant to increase its throughput—higher treatment requirements. This would be part of the overall total costs.
  + DWQ is interested and looking at:
    - Resource recovery
      * Turn what was a previous waste product into a resource
    - Regionalizing wastewater treatment plants in the southern part of Utah County.
  + Revenue
    - Plan to increase fees based on level of effort
    - Increase restricted account
    - Evaluate sales tax funding of infrastructure
  + Expenditures
    - Labor aligned with Division priorities
    - Laboratory allocation and process
    - Contracted services
    - Competitive and Transparent studies

Carl answered questions.

**Agency Reports**

* Todd Stonely reported the following for the Division of Water Resources (DWRe):
  + The Lake Powell Pipeline is in a holding pattern until FERC decides what direction they want to take in terms of the jurisdictional questions they have about the project.
  + Work at Millsite Reservoir continues to make great progress.
* Susan Zarekarizi reported the following from the Division of Parks and Recreation (State Parks):
  + State Parks has a new director, Jeff Rasmussen. Jeff was the former Deputy Director of Operations. Dave Harris is the new Deputy Director of Operations, who was the former region manager. State Parks is now looking to fill Dave’s position.
* Carl Adams reported the following from the Division of Water Quality (DWQ):
  + DWQ will be recruiting for a NEPA/federal liaison position. Bill Damery is retiring. Bill’s position was split between NEPA analysis and wastewater treatment type projects, as well as 401 water quality certification duties for federal projects. The federal liaison position will work in the Watershed Management Program and the 401 water quality certification duties will move to Surface Water Permits.
* Bill James reported the following from the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR):
  + The big game hunts for the fall begin the 18th of August with the deer bow hunt.
  + Many cities along the Wasatch front are developing deer management programs quite actively because of the prevalence of mule deer running through gardens and neighborhoods and causing a ruckus. It is becoming quite an issue in the Intermountain West.
  + Bill Bates, DWR’s assistant director, has retired. The position will be filled from within DWR. The assistant director administers three eastern regions, as well as the wildlife program, which deals with big game, cougars and bears, and animals of that nature.
* Elisa Albury reported the following from the Department of Transportation (UDOT):
  + UDOT is building a wildlife overpass in Summit County. The $5 million project will be finished in the fall. The hope is that it will serve a good need there.
* Allan Moore reported the following from the Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control (WMRC):
  + The Promontory Point applicant, who pulled the commercial side of its permit, continues to have issues with the municipal contract.
  + WMRC has received a lot of permit renewals for municipal solid waste facilities.
* Tom Chidsey reported the following from Utah Geological Survey (UGS):
  + UGS did an evaluation of lands excluded from the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument for the BLM last spring. UGS will be presenting that evaluation at the next RDCC meeting in November.
* Barrett Anderson reported the following from the Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF):
  + Next week UDAF is hosting the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture.
  + UDAF is working with permittees whose cattle have been displaced by the wildfires.
* Kerry Schwartz, Branch Chief, Renewable Resources, reported the following from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM):
  + BLM is working with SHPO and the national advisory council to develop an MOU on the Transportation Plans. The MOU has been through various drafts and is being finalized.
  + Secretarial Order 3355 and Memorandum from Secretary Zinke sets a 365-day target between the issuance of the Notice of Intent and the publication of the ROD, which is a tight schedule for EISs. BLM is developing new guidelines for the new schedule.
  + BLM is also streamlining and shortening timeframes for EAs. EAs will be limited to 15 pages.

**Other Business**

Next meeting: November 1, 2018

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:22 a.m.