

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE JORDAN VALLEY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT**

(Approved October 11, 2022)

Held on September 12, 2022

A regular meeting of the Conservation Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD or District) was held on Monday, September 12, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. at the District office located at 8215 South 1300 West, West Jordan, Utah.

This meeting was conducted electronically in accordance with the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act (Utah Code Ann. (1953) §§ 52-4-1 et seq.) and Chapter 7.12 of the Administrative Policy and Procedures Manual ("Electronic Meetings").

Trustees Present:

Lyle C. Summers, Conservation Committee Chair
Mick Sudbury
Sherrie L. Ohrn
John H. Taylor (electronic)
Corey L. Rushton (joined 3:03)
Reed Gibby
Barbara Townsend (joined 3:07, electronic)

Trustees Not Present:

Karen Lang
Dawn R. Ramsey

Others Present:

Greg Anderson, Kearns Improvement District
Greg Christensen, Kearns Improvement District

Staff Present:

Bart Forsyth, General Manager
Dave Martin, CFO/Treasurer
Alan Packard, Assistant General Manager
Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager
Matt Olsen, Assistant General Manager
Jason Brown, Information Systems Department Manager
Martin Feil, Database Administrator
Mark Stratford, General Counsel
Brian McCleary, Controller
Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager
Gordon Batt, Operations Department Manager
Beverly Parry, Executive Assistant
Alicia Sekiller, Administrative Assistant
Eric Wermel, Conservation Coordinator
Linda Townes Cook, Public Information Manager
Mindy Keeling, Administrative Assistant
Natalie Boyack, Lead Garden Horticulturist
Sophia Riffo-Jenson, Conservation Coordinator
Shane Swenson, Engineering Department Manager

Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager
Clifton Smith, Senior Business Data Analyst
Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager
Amanda Strack, Conservation Coordinator
Kurt Ashworth, Human Resources Manager
Todd Schultz, Analytics and Outreach Division Manager

The meeting was brought to order at 3:00 p.m. by Mr. Lyle Summers.

Approval of the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held July 11, 2022

Mr. Lyle Summers asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2022 Conservation Committee meeting. Ms. Ohrn moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Sudbury seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as follows:

Ms. Barbara Townsend – not present	Ms. Sherrie Ohrn – aye
Ms. Dawn Ramsey – not present	Mr. Lyle Summers – aye
Mr. Reed Gibby – aye	Mr. Mick Sudbury – aye
Mr. Corey Rushton – not present	Mr. John Taylor – aye
Ms. Karen Lang – not present	

Public Comments

No public comments.

Review of Kearns Improvement District's Conservation videos and messaging

Mr. Matt Olsen provided a brief introduction on Kearns Improvement District's participation in the Member Agency Grant Program to produce 2 animated films and 8 animated shorts about water. He introduced Greg Anderson, General Manager of Kearns Improvement District, who described the objectives for the videos. Mr. Anderson hopes the videos provide the public with information about the drought and how to be more water conscious.

The videos were viewed during the meeting.

Discuss draft concepts for Conservation Garden Park master plan

Mr. Olsen provided some of the background and purposes for the Conservation Garden Park master plan update. The draft plan has incorporated feedback from the Board and staff. He then turned the time over to Mr. Shaun Moser for a presentation of the master plan.

Mr. Moser pointed out that the plan includes improving the undeveloped 3 acres west of the stream of the Headquarters campus. He pointed out that this unfinished land can detract from the Garden and may give the wrong impression about water-efficient landscapes. He then described the process staff, and the consultants went through to produce the draft plan.

Mr. Moser outlined the 3 primary Garden expansion objectives: 1) upgrade frontage/entrance, 2) enhance educational efforts, and 3) expand the community asset. The draft master plan anticipates 3 phases of construction. He then shared the estimated capital, ongoing budgetary, and staffing needs to support the phases.

Ms. Sherrie Ohrn inquired if the City of West Jordan was planning to contribute to the cost due to the impact of the road widening project.

Mr. Moser responded that the City will be contributing to some of the costs, but an official amount has not been determined yet.

Mr. Moser continued by describing some of the icons in the master plan, including the potential for a water tower near the new plaza.

Mr. Summers questioned the use of a water tower as an icon. Mr. Rushton agreed but wants to explore it more. He likes the idea of having an icon but wants to understand the themes better once they are more fully developed.

Mr. Moser then discussed the potential for a water cycle exhibit that allows the public to interact and participate with elements of the water cycle.

Mr. Rushton likes the idea of an exhibit like this but pointed out the difficulties of incorporating water with public use. He added that it would be good to work out the level of public engagement early on to determine how this exhibit would be managed in the future.

Mr. Olsen pointed out that it may mean that more staff is needed to monitor use of the exhibit. He believes that staff is prepared to manage the level of commitment needed for the concept in the plan.

Mr. Moser emphasized that the intent is to make it less like a splash pad and more of an interactive learning exhibit.

Ms. Ohrn likes the idea but expressed concern about using water in an exhibit while at the same time we are asking people to conserve water.

Mr. Moser agreed and wanted to ensure the design minimizes water losses. Mr. Olsen added that it is challenging to teach the public about water when we are unable to show how it works. This is why the District has avoided adding elements like this in the past. Mr. Rushton said that signage could be added that describes how the water is recycled and emphasized the importance of ensuring it meets safety and water quality standards.

Mr. Moser continued by describing the estimated costs. In total, the Garden expansion is estimated to cost \$6,018,406 and would require a \$100,000 increase in the annual budget and two additional full-time employees. He finished the presentation by talking about seeking an arboretum certification, adding additional parking, and fundraising opportunities.

Mr. Rushton asked if fundraising opportunities are being incorporated into the project.

Mr. Olsen stated that staff and the consultant plan to assess fundraising opportunities throughout the project. He described the difficulty of satisfying the interests of donors while still trying to fulfill the primary mission of the Garden. He noted that staff will seek external funding to support the expansion but acknowledged that the District should plan to fund the bulk of the construction costs.

Mr. Gibby noted that the \$6 million is significant but over multiple years is not very much.

Mr. Forsyth agreed and said that construction of phase 1 will be necessary, but the rest of the project could be done in a step-by-step fashion. He then provided a brief history of fundraising for the Garden and said there will likely be some fundraising limitations going forward.

Mr. Olsen emphasized that staff believes the proposed master plan will be an effective use of the undeveloped land over several alternatives that were considered.

Mr. Summers asked if the District's Foundation could take on a more substantial role in this next phase of expansion.

Mr. Forsyth confirmed that the Foundation would play a more prominent role. Some donors prefer contributing to 501(c)(3) organizations instead of government entities.

Mr. Rushton wanted to make sure the proposed parking meets the City's ordinances and, if not, to explore additional options. He also outlined the need to add the best stormwater management practices into parking areas.

Ms. Ohrn wondered if the parking location would work for those coming in from the north side.

Mr. Olsen answered that one of the priorities for staff would be to direct the public to enter through the Education Center to improve the visitor experience and for better security.

Mr. Rushton asked that all sidewalks and pathways be wider than the standard size and that medians and street islands follow best practices for planting and traffic calming. He also pointed out that the portion of the plan in the southeast corner may be able to support some additional functionality instead of more planting.

Mr. Gibby asked which phase the parking area would be included in.

Mr. Moser responded that it has not been included in a phase at this time.

The Committee responded favorably to the direction of the master plan and subsequent plans to expand the garden.


Reporting Items

The reporting items were included in the packet as follows:

- a. Localscapes® Status Report
- b. 2022 Garden Education Programs Report
- c. 2022 Landscape Leadership Grant Update
- d. 2022 Utah Water Savers Program Update
- e. 2022 Homebuilder Rewards Update
- f. Member Agency Grant Program Update
- g. Fundraising Progress Report
- h. Foundation Activities Report

Adjourn

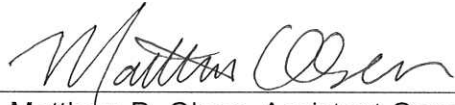
Mr. Summers asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sudbury moved to adjourn. Mr. Gibby seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.



Corey L. Rushton, Chair

10-12-2022

Date



Matthew D. Olsen, Assistant General Manager

10/13/2022

Date