



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, December 15, 2014, 8:30 A.M.
Historic County Courthouse, Suite 319
51 South University Avenue, Provo, Utah 84601

ATTENDEES:

Richard Nielson, Chair, Utah County
Chris Keleher, DNR
Reed Price, Utah Lake Commission
Greg Beckstrom, Provo City
Hilary Arens, Department of Environmental Quality
Dale Goodman, Vineyard Town, American Fork City
Jordan Cullimore, Lindon City
Mike Mills, June Sucker Recovery Implementation Program
Neal Winterton, Orem City
Sara Johnson, Central Utah Water Conservancy District
Scott Bird, Mapleton City

Matt Howard, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Tyler Murdock, Forestry, Fire & State Lands (FFSL)
Ben Anderson, Utah Division of Water Rights

VISITORS:

Dee Chamberlain, Saratoga Springs Owners Association
Sam Rushforth, Rushforth Phycology
Sarah Rushforth, Rushforth Phycology
Todd Frye, Bonneville School of Sailing
Lousie Frye, Bonneville School of Sailing
LaVere Merritt, Citizen
Larry Ballap, Citizen

ABSENT: Orem City, Santaquin City, City of Saratoga Springs, Springville City, Mapleton City, Woodland Hills City, Utah Lake Water Users, Division of Water Resources, and Department of Environmental Quality.

1 **1. Welcome and Introductions.**

2 Chairman Richard Nielson called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. He welcomed members and visitors to the
3 meeting. Each attendee was asked to introduce him/herself to the group.
4

5 **2. Review and Approve the Technical Committee Minutes; August 25, 2014**

6 Mr. Nielson waited until the end of the meeting to approve the minutes so a quorum would be present. Ms. Sara
7 Johnson motioned to approve the minutes for August 25, 2014. Mr. Mike Mills seconded the motion, and voting was
8 unanimous in favor.
9

10 **3. Update on Utah Lake Issues, Projects and Priorities**

11 **a. Lake Level**– Mr. Reed Price reported that precipitation levels are at 63% of normal. The lake level reached 4.5'
12 below compromise and is currently at 4.25' below compromise. He expects that the lake will be 3.5' below
13 compromise in spring 2015.

14 **b. Phragmites**– Nearly 500 acres of land on the west side of the lake have been treated. To date, about 3000
15 acres of phragmites have been treated around the lake.

16 **c. Carp Removal**– Mr. Mike Mills said carp removal is going well. The lake froze over the week before
17 Thanksgiving which is typically a productive time for fishing. Carp removal is ahead of schedule compared to last year,

1 and he believes it is due to the lower lake levels. Over 17 million pounds of carp have been removed since carp
2 removal began.

3 **d. Utah Lake Beach**– The ULC is working with Provo City and Utah County to create a beach. Project Engineering
4 Consultants (PEC) was hired to create a plan and help identify a location for the beach. The planning process will begin
5 in early 2015.

6 **e. Dock Amendment**– The dock amendment went through the public comment period and there were no
7 comments. They are moving forward to determine if they will allow community boat docks at Utah Lake.

8 **f. Access improvement**– The ULC, DWR, FFSL, and stakeholders have been working with the community to
9 determine access points that need improvements. Based on approximately 400 online surveys, the top 9 access points
10 were prioritized for improvements.

11 **g. Water quality**– Utah Lake experienced an algae bloom in October. Mr. Price said he was happy the public
12 knows to contact the ULC to address concerns.

13
14 **4. Presentation by Hilary Arens; Utah Division of Water Quality: Fall 2014 Algae Bloom.**

15 Ms. Arens discussed the October 2014 algae bloom. She displayed a timeline of events, conditions that cause an algae
16 bloom, as well as information about the dog that died at Utah Lake during the bloom. The dog’s death was attributed
17 to acute cardiovascular collapse.

18 She said toxin analyses were expensive and cost \$8,750 for 18 samples. Shoreline samples showed very high levels
19 of microcystin (730 µg/L). She would like to develop protocols with the Utah Department of Health for responding to
20 future algae blooms.

21 A few questions were asked by attendees at the meeting, including questions about the waterfowl that were
22 found dead, if the area had been sprayed for phragmites recently, if Geneva Steel was to blame for toxicity in the
23 water, and about algae density in the harbor.

24 Mr. Price asked for an explanation about how health standards are determined. Ms. Rushforth said most states
25 do not have standards, but they are still working on them. Someone said the World Health Organization sets huge
26 safety factors for drinking water due to liability.

27 Ms. Arens said they are planning to hold a two day Utah Lake Symposium in the spring which will be led by Mr. Jeff
28 Ostermiller. Mr. Rushforth said a lot of work has been done on the lake, and it would be good to get people together
29 to discuss it.

30
31 **5. General comments from committee members and the public.**

32 There were no comments.

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34 **6. Confirm the next Technical Committee Meeting Is Scheduled on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 9:30 AM.**

35 Mr. Nielson said the next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 9:30 AM in L900 in the Utah
36 Count Administration Building.

37
38 **7. Adjourn.**

39 The meeting adjourned at 9:18 AM.