



## Governing Board

Thursday, November 19, 2015, 7:30 A.M.  
 Historic Utah County Courthouse  
 51 South University Ave, Utah

### **ATTENDEES:**

Chair/Mayor Bert Wilson, Lehi City  
 Mayor John Curtis, Provo City  
 Councilwoman Rebecca Call, City of Saratoga Springs  
 Mr. Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission  
 Commissioner Larry Ellertson, Utah County  
 Senator Deidre Henderson, Utah State Senate  
 Mr. Robyn Pearson, Utah Department of Natural Resources  
 Ms. Erica Gaddis, Dept. of Water Quality  
 Mayor Randy Farnworth, Vineyard Town  
 Councilman Mark Seastrand, Orem City  
 Mr. Brian Cottam, Forestry, Fire, and State Lands  
 Ms. Christine Finlinson, Central Utah Water Conservancy District  
 Councilman Kim Hancock, Payson City  
 Mayor Jeff Acerson, Lindon City  
 Councilman Dean Olsen, Springville

### **INTERESTED PARTIES / VISITORS**

Mr. Rick Cox, URS  
 Mr. Richard Nielsen, Utah County  
 Mr. Greg Beckstrom, Public Services Director  
 Mr. Dan Poulsen, DD Grill  
 Mr. Dee Chamberlain, SSOA  
 Mr. Reed Price, Orem

**ABSENT:** Woodland Hills, Elk Ridge, Spanish Fork, Alpine City, American Fork, Highland City, Salem City, Mapleton City

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### **1. Welcome and Call to Order**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:35 A.M. and welcomed everyone.

### **2. Approve the Consent Agenda**

Mayor Curtis made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes from the August 27, 2015 governing board meeting, and the financial reports from August, September and October 2015. Commissioner Ellertson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of approving the consent agenda.

1 **3. Housekeeping**

2 Mayor Wilson mentioned that the next governing board meeting will be held on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and at  
3 that time they will select a new leadership for the Commission. He asked for the members of the commission  
4 to think of nominations. Mayor Wilson has served as the Governing Board Chair and Mayor Hadfield has  
5 served as the Governing Board Vice Chair. Mayor Curtis mentioned that it would be helpful if we were able to  
6 send an email listing those who have previously served in the leadership positions and how many terms they  
7 would need to serve.  
8

9 Director Eric Ellis mentioned that the water monitoring and modeling project is up and running now. He  
10 mentioned that it would be very helpful if the following cities would be able to have a representative attend  
11 the meetings more regularly as we would benefit from their input. The cities mentioned were American Fork  
12 City, Lehi City, Springville, Woodland Hills, Spanish Fork, Alpine, Salem and Payson.  
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14 **4. Presentation from Eric Ellis of recent visits to view examples of possible Utah Lake Improvements**

15 Mr. Eric Ellis mentioned that he had the opportunity recently to visit a few Beach Parks and Nature  
16 Centers in Arizona and Idaho. As he walked through some of the beach parks he noticed that they had a little  
17 shack where those visiting were able to rent paddle boats, kayaks, volleyballs and even load up on snacks  
18 before heading out on the lake. As he described his experienced he mentioned that there are some similarities  
19 between what he saw there and the plans for the State Park. He noticed that they also had swimming areas  
20 which are included in some of the expansion plans for a few of the marinas. Utah Lake Nature Center has been  
21 kicked around as an idea for a long time with a lot of work put into it by Reed Price who was the previous  
22 Director of the Commission. As Eric visited some of the centers in both Arizona and Idaho he found it very  
23 educational and was excited for what it would bring to Utah Valley. He mentioned that students in Utah Valley  
24 would really benefit from it. Eric brought his kids along and they just had a wonderful time and he described  
25 all of the fun features as “kid approved”.  
26

27 Mr. Eric Ellis discussed how the fall field trip in Saratoga Springs went. He mentioned that we had a  
28 phenomenal response even though it was just a spur of the moment and teachers barely had time to comply  
29 with teaching some of the lessons and getting their applications in. Eric mentioned that they received  
30 applications for about 1,200 students but that they only had room for about 300 students and even with those  
31 small constraints, they had a phenomenal response to bring the students out to the lake and they had a great  
32 time.  
33

34 **5. Action Items:**

35 A Public Hearing was opened for the amendment of the Utah Lake Commission Capitol Fund Account  
36 expenditure of up to \$20,000 which will pay for a consultant to complete a site analysis and site plan for the  
37 Utah Lake Nature Center. Mayor Wilson asked Director Eric Ellis to explain what was needed. Mr. Ellis  
38 mentioned that we are looking to put an RFP out to hire a consultant that could look at 4-5 different sites  
39 around the lake that would make a good location for the Nature Center and once they make a good  
40 recommendation for site that they would choose at that point they would make a site plan (footprint) on what  
41 it would look like so at that point we would be able to have an idea of what the cost would be for the Nature  
42 Center so that we would be able to move ahead with the fundraising and finding partners to make it more of a  
43 reality.  
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45 Mayor Wilson asked if there were any additional questions and Representative Deidre Henderson asked  
46 where the funding would come from, since this was the first time that she had heard about a Nature Center.  
47 Director Eric Ellis mentioned that the Utah Lake Commission has put aside a certain amount \$20,000 or so  
48 every year prehistorically for a Capitol Project Fund. As of right now the amount that is in the account is  
49 \$208,397 so the funding would come from what has been set aside. Mr. Ellis mentioned that the previous  
50 Director (Reed Price) was able to provide a conceptual design to show what it would look like. Mr. Reed Price

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1 who was the previous Director of the Commission mentioned that they worked together with the National  
2 Park Service and put a fair amount of time into the project. Mr. Eric Ellis mentioned that the funding would  
3 generally come from matching grants, local contributions, funding from the Universities that would use the  
4 facility for research purposes, etc. The committee briefly discussed the ongoing maintenance for the facility.  
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6 The committee discussed the three possible sites for the Nature Center and explained that the consulting  
7 firm, would propose the fourth possible site. Mr. Eric Ellis mentioned that we need two motions. The first  
8 motion would be to approve the expenditure for the site analysis for up to \$20,000 dollars. The second motion  
9 would be to approve the granting of the dollars that we will give to Forestry Fire & State Lands for the final  
10 approval.  
11

12 Mayor Wilson called for a motion to approve the expenditure for the site analysis for up to \$20,000  
13 dollars, Commissioner Ellertson motioned and Councilman Kim Hancock seconded the motion. Councilwoman  
14 Rebecca Call and Senator Deidre Henderson opposed the motion. Councilwoman Call wanted to explain that  
15 she supports the overall, but Councilwoman Call mentioned that she just doesn't want to support the Nature  
16 Center.  
17

18 Mayor Wilson called for a motion to approve the granting of the dollars that would be given to Forestry  
19 Fire & State Lands for the final approval and they would provide any reimbursement if necessary. Mayor John  
20 Curtis made the motion to approve and Mr. Mark Seastrand seconded the motion. Mayor Wilson asked for  
21 nominations for the RFP review process. The committee nominated Greg Beckstrom, Richard Nielson, a  
22 representative from Forestry, Fire and State Lands and Hilary Arens.  
23

24 **6. FY2017 Budget Alignment:**

25 They committee discussed how during the Governing Board Meeting in March each member will receive  
26 the proposed budget along with the realignment of contributions as a result of additional municipal members.  
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28 **7. Report from the Technical Committee - Richard Nielson or Mike Mills**

29 No report was given from the committee at this time.  
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31 **8. Director's Report - Eric Ellis**

32 Director Ellis mentioned that the lake level has currently stabilized. There is no outflow to the Jordan  
33 River. Mayor Curtis mentioned that it had stabilized because there was nothing there and Director Ellis  
34 mentioned that the puddle has not evaporated. Director Ellis mentioned that we are 6 feet below  
35 compromise. The average is 3ft to 4ft. Director Ellis mentioned that they are hoping that with cooperation  
36 from the weather this winter we can get the lake water level to rise. He mentioned that they are working on  
37 the acquisition of the land near Sandy Beach. As they continue to work on the site it will become a more  
38 family friendly beach. He mentioned that it will have a positive impact on the community down there. Laura  
39 Ault had mentioned to Director Ellis that they are thinking about working on getting the invasive species in the  
40 area removed, which will open up the site and therefore it won't be an attractive site for questionable  
41 behavior.  
42

43 Director Ellis mentioned that the dredging project is moving along well. They have been trying to  
44 determine if Provo is able to take the soil from the harbor which will reduce the cost. The expectation is that  
45 they will do a dry dredge, which will help them remove the objects in the area. They believe that it could be  
46 completed by Memorial Day. Councilmember Rebecca Call asked what the water quality would be like. Erica  
47 Gaddis mentioned that as far as water quality is concerned it would be much better since it will be a dry  
48 dredge.  
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1 Carp removal has been very successful. A couple of months ago they reached having removed 20 million  
2 pounds. They are wanting to remove 30 million pounds. They believe that in 2-3 years they will switch to just  
3 maintenance mode.  
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5 Director Ellis mentioned that this has been the best year for our phragmites treatments. They were able to  
6 target the sites that the general public had mentioned. The north end of the Lake has been sprayed and they  
7 are currently working on the other sites. They received permission slips and are currently working on a fire  
8 plan so that they are able to burn the area and not crush it so that the biomass is not able to float into the big  
9 pumps that are in the area. Mr. Brian Cottam from Forestry Fire & State Lands, mentioned that for the last two  
10 items discussed to be in sight of being switched to just maintenance mode is just absolutely incredible.  
11

12 **9. Legislative Dinner Report:**

13 Commissioner Ellerston, mentioned that he wished that we had a few more legislators present at the  
14 event. A few of the Board Members mentioned that there was a Water Air Quality meeting that was called.  
15 Commissioner Ellertston that he enjoyed the drive quite a bit that he actually ended up passing the venue and  
16 having to turn around. Mayor Wilson mentioned that the venue was absolutely incredible. Mayor Wilson  
17 asked if it should be an annual event. Senator Henderson mentioned that we don't need to have an  
18 extravagant dinner but even just getting together and discussing things that are in the horizon would be  
19 beneficial. In her opinion where she sits with her constituents she thinks that if we were to do something  
20 more informal we could do it once a year. They mentioned that perhaps looking at holding the event on the  
21 East side of the lake would help. She mentioned that holding something on an annual basis would help the  
22 Legislators plan on attending the event since it is reoccurring. She mentioned to look at the calendars to avoid  
23 any conflicts with their major meetings or a conference. Senator Henderson asked for them to consider not  
24 holding the event during Interim week and to avoid the third week of the month.  
25

26 During our event this year we partnered with Jordan River Commission and some members of the Board  
27 mentioned that it may not have been helpful to partner with them because we are looking more towards help  
28 with projects in Utah County. Rebecca Call mentioned that it may be best to combine with the Jordan River  
29 Commission here and there, when both Commissions are on the same page. Chris Finlinson mentioned that  
30 she would be okay if we target and just work with our Utah County Legislators rather than working on doing  
31 something collective with the Jordan River Commission. Senator Henderson, mentioned that she agreed with  
32 Chris and that our Legislators will feel ownership since the Lake is here and they would feel the need to attend  
33 so that they can become better acquainted with the latest improvements and current projects.  
34

35 **10. Governing Board Meeting Proposed Schedule for remainder of FY2016**

36 Mayor Wilson reviewed the proposed schedule for our FY 2016. Our next meeting will be on March 24  
37 2016, June 24 2016. Mayor Wilson mentioned that as meetings are needed or field trips are scheduled that  
38 the Board Members will be notified of any changes. Mayor Wilson addressed that if we have fewer meetings,  
39 Board Members should work on arranging their calendars so that they are able to make it to all of meetings.  
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41 **11. International Coastal Cleanup Day- September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – Luke Allen to report**

42 Luke Allen mentioned that we had 30 volunteers at four different locations around the park. They picked  
43 up 70 bags full of trash as well as some large items such as tires. Three clean ups during 2015, which helped  
44 identify sites that could use help. Luke mentioned that for a couple of years now they have been working on  
45 the Adopt a Shore Line Program which will allow organizations to sign up to adopt a spot like a beach and to  
46 maintain it throughout the year. Hopefully this year we can go away from the organized cleaning efforts and  
47 get the organizations to adopt a beach and maintain it throughout the year.  
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1 **12. PR Collaboration Effort – Luke Allen, ULC Outreach Coordinator**

2 Luke Allen mentioned that he has scheduled a meeting with the PIO's from municipalities and  
3 organizations on the board on December 7<sup>th</sup>. They are hoping that they can help inform them on all of the  
4 projects that are potential and ongoing on at the lake. Expertise to help us improve our strategy come up with  
5 new ideas on how we can communicate this to the public.  
6

7 **13. General Comments from Board Members or the Public**

8 Councilmember Rebecca Call, wanted to thank the Board and mentioned that Saratoga Springs is looking  
9 forward to completing the next section of their marina project. Mayor Wilson mentioned that this will actually  
10 be Councilmember Rebecca Call's last time at one of our meetings since she is moving back east. Councilman  
11 Kim Hancock and Councilman Dean Olsen will be leaving at the end of the year as well. Mayor Wilson  
12 expressed how grateful the Board is for their service.  
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14 **14. Next Governing Board Meeting**

15 Mayor Wilson announced that the next governing board meeting will be on Thursday, March 24, 2016 at  
16 7:30 AM. The meeting will be held at the Utah County Health and Justice Building in Room 1600 (151 S.  
17 University Avenue, Provo UT).  
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19 **15. Adjourn**

20 The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 AM. Mayor Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mark  
21 Seastrand seconded the motion.  
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