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

(Approved January 6, 2025)

November 12, 2024

A regular meeting of the Conservation Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District was held on Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 3:02 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:

Barbara Townsend, Chair Corey L. Rushton Zach Jacob (electronic) John Richardson

Trustees Not Present:

Dawn Ramsey Karen D. Lang Mick Sudbury Andy Pierucci John H. Taylor

Staff Present:

Alan Packard, General Manager Jacob Young, Deputy General Manager Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager Mark Stratford, General Counsel David Martin, Chief Finance Officer/Treasurer Shane Swenson, Chief Engineer Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager Brian McCleary, Controller Gordon Batt, Operations Department Manager Kelly Good, Community Engagement Department Manager Kurt Ashworth, Human Resource Manager Travis Christensen, Engineering Group Leader Mindy Keeling, Executive Assistant Cheyenne Davis, Customer Services Representative Clifton Smith, Senior Business Data Analyst (electronic) Margaret Dea, Senior Accountant (electronic) Sam Mingo, Business Data Analyst (electronic) Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager (electronic) Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager

Ms. Barbara Townsend, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

<u>Approval of the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held August</u> 12, 2024.

Due to lack of a quorum, approval of October 7, 2024, Conservation Committee meeting minutes was postponed until January 2025.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Kearns Improvement District Conservation Video Presentation

Mr. Jacob Young stated that last month Kearns Improvement District won EPA WaterSense Award for Excellence in Education and Outreach, for the second year in a row, and Mr. Greg Anderson sent a letter of appreciation to the Board of Trustees for the JVWCD member agency grant funding support that was used to develop the water conservation video that won the award. The water conservation video was played for trustees and visitors.

Member Agency Grant Application with the City of South Jordan

Mr. Young stated the City of South Jordan used the full \$68,000 member agency grant awarded to them for the 2023-24 fiscal year for toilet and water fixture rebates and their own turf conversion rebate program. The City replaced 169,781 sq. ft. of turf through their program which was a significant portion of the turf replaced in the JVWCD service area during the time period. The City is applying for the full \$68,000 member agency grant that they qualify for again for the 2024-25 fiscal year and they are proposing to use grant funds to continue its toilet rebate program, its indoor water fixture program and offering rebates to residents for landscape materials including rock mulch, drip kits, waterwise plants, curbing, and hardscape. The recommendation for approval will be presented at the board meeting on November 13, 2024.

Mr. Rushton questioned why only the toilets that were installed prior to 1992 and water fixtures installed prior to 2005 qualify for rebates. Mr. Courtney Brown explained that this is because water conserving fixture standards were adopted in those years.

Mr. Young informed the board that staff are considering some modifications to enhance Utah Water Savers participation via member agency grants. South Jordan City residents are not currently eligible for Utah Water Savers incentives because JVWCD has been funding the City's programs through the member agency grant. With the aggressive turf replacement goals established in the JVWCD's Conservation Plan Update and the success of the South Jordan City program, JVWCD would like to explore opening Utah Water Savers incentives to South Jordan City residents and encourage other member agencies to implement turf replacement programs with member agency grant funding. It is believed that doing so may increase turf replacement participation in South Jordan City and throughout our service area.

The board requested more information on what policy revisions would be required to make these changes. The board also suggested that staff consider establishing a means of providing grants to municipalities that are not member agencies but who may need to be involved in water conservation efforts. Mr. Young stated that he would look into both of those items, continue discussions with South Jordan City, and return to the board with recommendations in the coming months.

Conservation Plan Update

Mr. Young presented the Review Period Summary for the 2024 Conservation Plan Update, which will be presented at the public hearing in the Board meeting on November 13, 2024.

Mr. Young indicated changes were made to the draft plan based on trustee feedback. He stated that feedback from the general public has been received. He stated that UDWRe reviewed the plan and approved it on October 11, 2024.

Mr. Young highlighted some of the member agencies' feedback and comments which included conservation-oriented rates; providing material and classes in Spanish; and use of conservation demonstration trailer.

Mr. Rushton inquired about wholesale conservation-oriented rates and how such a program is evaluated. He also mentioned the importance of shoulder season conservation. Mr. Young mentioned that shoulder season pricing would be one of the rate structure alternatives evaluated.

Mr. Young also presented the revisions to the draft plan based on Internal Quality Control (QC) review.

A Benefit/Cost Analysis shows that it is currently still less costly to repurpose existing supplies through conservation than construct new water supply projects.

Mr. Young described that the 2025-2035 cost range to achieve a goal of 173 gpcd. He stated that by investing at a consistent level to achieve this goal. It keeps us in compliance with meeting conservation targets requested by Great Salt Lake Commissioner. He mentioned that the chosen plan can be re-evaluated in 5 years to determine if the proper amount of money is invested. Mr. Young commented that the turf removal goal has also been ramped up to achieve this goal.

Mr. Young revealed the projected staff needs through 2035, the summary of major achievements planned through 2030 to accomplish the proposed 10-year goal, and the studies to complete through 2030 are the same as presented to the board previously and have not changed.

Reporting Items

Mr. Young briefly discussed conservation education. Many classes were held through the year, and though total participation numbers went down compared to last year, Mr. Young appreciated the hard work done by the staff.

<u>Adjourn</u>

Ms. Barbara Townsend called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. John Richardson moved to adjourn. Following a second by Mr. Corey Rushton, the meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Barbara L. Townsend

Conservation Committee Chair

Jacob C. Young

Deputy General Manager