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

(Approved June 2, 2025)

Held May 12, 2025

A regular meeting of the Conservation Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District was held on Monday, May 12, 2025, at 3:02 p.m. at JVWCD's 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 L. Townsend, Conservation Committee Chair Andy Pierucci (electronic) Corey L. Rushton Dawn Ramsey (electronic) John Richardson John H. Taylor Karen Lang (electronic) Mick Sudbury Zach Jacob

#### **Staff Present:**

Alan Packard, General Manager Jacob Young, Deputy General Manager David Martin, Chief Finance Officer/Treasurer Brian McCleary, Controller Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager Shane Swensen, Chief Engineer Travis Christensen, Engineering Group Leader Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager Mindy Keeling, Executive Assistant Lisa Wright, Administrative Assistant III Teresa Atkinson, Administrative Assistant II Gordon Batt, Operations Division Manager Kelly Good, Community Engagement Department Manager Jason Brown, Information Systems Department Manager Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager Martin Feil, Database Administrator (electronic) Kurt Ashworth, Human Resource Manager Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager Jeanette Perry, Customer Services Supervisor

## Also present:

Ben Stanley, JVWCD General Counsel candidate Greg Christensen, Trustee, Kearns Improvement District Todd Schultz, Yoppify

#### Welcome

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

Consider approval of the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held on January 13, 2025

Ms. Barbara Townsend called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held on April 7, 2025. Mr. Mick Sudbury moved to approve the minutes. Following a second by Mr. Zach Jacob, the minutes were approved as follows:

Mr. Andy Pierucci - aye

Ms. Barbara Townsend - not present

Mr. Corey Rushton - aye

Ms. Dawn Ramsey – not present

Mr. John Richardson – abstained

Mr. John Taylor – aye

Ms. Karen Lang - aye

Mr. Mick Sudbury - aye

Mr. Zach Jacob - aye

# **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

South Salt Lake Leak Messaging and Billing Transparency Program

Mr. Jacob Young reported that the South Salt Lake application was discussed at last month's Conservation Committee meeting. At that time, the Board recommended that JVWCD assist South Salt Lake in strengthening its application and ensure water savings are measured. Mr. Young reported that staff have done that, and it has been a great opportunity to share best practices and build a working relationship with new team members at South Salt Lake. South Salt Lake's new team has experience with leak notification programs and updated their application to include comprehensive details for a leak messaging and water billing transparency program. Details of the program include a description of how the program fits into broader customer engagement efforts, listing of staff required to make the program successful, description of the tools that will be used in different parts of the program, and steps like an outreach campaign that will be required to get customers to sign up for real-time notifications. Mr. Young reported that JVWCD staff are prepared to propose awarding a grant of \$21,1865 to the Board on Wednesday.

Mr. John Taylor asked if any water savings had been quantified. Mr. Young replied that, although there was no prior quantification, South Salt Lake estimated they could double their current customer contact for leaks, which he considered a conservative estimate. He compared this to estimates of JVWCD's leak notification program from 2022 that reached 1,133 customers, where average leak notifications indicated a loss of about 227 gallons per day. Mr. Young expected similar savings for South Salt Lake, as the homes in that area are of comparable age. The program is seen as a promising water-saving measure.

Ms. Dawn Ramsey arrived at 3:05 p.m., and Ms. Barbara Townsend arrived at 3:06 p.m.

Overview of the 2025 Water Conservation Forum

Mr. Jacob Young presented an overview of the 2025 Utah Water Conservation Forum held at the JVWCD Education Center. He noted that this annual event gathers stakeholders to discuss water conservation practices and innovations. A panel from the four largest conservancy districts discussed water efficiency standards and conservation policies. Mr. Young highlighted a shift in JVWCD's approach from "solving the water problem for the community" to "solving the water problem with the community," focusing on investments in water-saving projects and improving collaboration. He indicated that WBWCD shared its water budget program, which limits retail secondary customers to a specific acre-footage of water annually. Mr. Young conveyed that CUWCD reported progress with 17 of 40 cities adopting water efficiency standards and emphasized the importance of face-toface communication in rural areas and that WCWCD reported full adoption of water efficiency standards with maximum turf areas in square feet and introduced a \$10 per thousand gallon charge for excessive water use to fund conservation projects.

Discussion also touched on implementing such policies at the retail level and the variability of lot sizes across different areas. Mr. Andy Pierucci shared that Riverton, a retail provider in the district, is looking at changing its two-tier rate structure to be more nuanced. Mr. John Richardson asked about the scope of Washington County's turf limitations, and Mr. Young clarified that it currently applies to new homes. Mr. Corey Rushton emphasized the importance of maintaining financial stability when adjusting rates and not relying on excessive water choices to balance budgets.

#### Reporting Items

Ms. Kelly Good provided updates on several reporting items. She said the 2025 Garden Education Programs Report now includes outreach classes and YouTube views, with 811 live attendees so far and a goal of 2000, which could increase with the Spring Garden Fair. The 2025 Utah Water Savers Programs Update showed few completed projects for April, noting there are about 350 active and ongoing projects. Ms. Good suggested updating this report to include cumulative applications and turf removal statistics. The Member Agency Grant Program Update highlighted various projects in progress, with some showing 0% reimbursement due to invoice timing. Ms. Good indicated that fundraising reports noted nearly \$7 million was raised since inception and recommended dropping this report from monthly meetings and including it annually instead. She proposed adding a report on Garden visitor statistics. The Board expressed support for these proposed updates to the Conservation Committee reporting items.

## Adjourn

Ms. Townsend called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mick Sudbury moved to adjourn. Following a second from Mr. Zach Jacob, the meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Karen D. Lang

Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees

Jacob C. Young

Deputy General Manager