

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

Held on June 8, 2020

A meeting of the Board Conservation Committee of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District was held on Monday, June 8, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. electronically, via Webex, hosted at the District office located at 8215 South 1300 West, West Jordan, Utah.

Trustees Present:

Lyle C. Summers, Conservation Committee Chair
Corey L. Rushton
Reed Gibby
Greg R. Christensen
Barbara Townsend
Sherrie L. Ohrn
Dawn R. Ramsey
John H. Taylor
Karen Lang

Trustees Not Present:

Others Present

Staff Present:

Bart Forsyth, General Manager/CEO
Dave Martin, CFO/Treasurer
Alan Packard, Assistant General Manager
Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager
Matt Olsen, Assistant General Manager
Martin Feil, Database Administrator
Jason Brown, Information Systems Manager
Reid Lewis, General Counsel
Kurt Ashworth, Human Resources Manager
Shane Swenson, Engineering Department Manager
Brian McCleary, Controller
Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager
Gordon Batt, Operations Department Manager
Todd Schultz, Analytics & Outreach Manager
Linda Townes, Public Information Manager
Beverly Parry, Executive Assistant
Jessica Morgan, Administrative Assistant
Courtney Brown, Conservation Programs Manager
Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager
Clifton Smith, Business Data Analyst
Amanda Strack, Conservation Coordinator
Megan Hatch, Marketing Communications Coordinator

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

Approval of the Minutes of April 6, 2020

Mr. Summers asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2020, Conservation Committee meeting. Mr. Greg Christensen moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Sherrie Ohrn seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as follows:

Mr. Lyle Summers – aye
Mr. Reid Gibby – aye
Mr. Corey Rushton – aye
Ms. Dawn Ramsey – aye
Ms. Karen Lang – not present

Ms. Sherrie Ohrn – aye
Mr. Greg Christensen – aye
Mr. John Taylor – aye
Ms. Barbara Townsend – aye

Public Comments

No public comments.

Discuss recommendations for the District's Water Efficiency Standards

Mr. Olsen introduced the topic by stating that in April, the Conservation Committee discussed a series of recommended changes to the Water Efficiency Standards (WES) as a result of meeting with Member Agencies. At the time, staff received direction to continue outreach efforts and bring recommendations to the June Board Meeting. Staff would like to cover a couple more revisions based on this continued outreach and feedback.

Mr. Packard then provided background on recently adopted resolutions by the Board related to annexation petitions, block 2 wholesale water rates, and the WES. He emphasized the importance of these initiatives as the District seeks to provide a sustainable supply into the future. Mr. Packard described recent outreach activities with Member Agencies and other entities that he and Mr. Olsen have been involved in, including a presentation at the Annual Member Agency Meeting and various discussions with Member Agency staff and governing boards. Mr. Packard provided feedback that the meetings and presentations were constructive, being primarily focused on the practical implementation of the WES.

Mr. Rushton asked if JVVCD staff have met with Magna Water District and West Valley City to discuss the WES.

Mr. Packard responded that staff plans to have formal discussions with West Valley City in the near future but have not been able to as of this time. Preliminary discussions with Magna Water District took place last October/November. Staff will follow-up and continue discussions with Magna Water District.

Mr. Christensen clarified that Magna Water District will be getting new management soon and suggested that staff continue to involve the Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District and Magna Metro Township in discussions with Magna Water District.

Mr. Gibby asked about which staff members were included in discussions with Draper City and if discussions have ensued with Midvale City.

Mr. Olsen responded that discussions with Draper City were with the City Manager, David Dobbins and District staff is planning to reach out to Midvale City soon.

Mr. Olsen then explained that the indoor portion of the WES remains unchanged from the discussion in April. The focus of the indoor standards is to encourage, but not mandate the installation of water-efficient indoor fixtures. Staff is exploring opportunities to promote legislation that would give a political subdivision the ability to mandate more efficient indoor fixtures than is currently allowed by Utah law.

The outdoor standards remain mostly unchanged aside from added accommodations for small lots and the acknowledgment that the WES are not intended to supersede other Utah laws related to landscaping. Based on feedback from Member Agencies, as discussed previously, the standards apply only to front and side yards. Incentives will continue to be offered for backyards. Through additional research, staff determined that the outdoor standards may make it impossible for some small lots to have any usable lawn. To accommodate specific small lot scenarios, the following is recommended, 1) allow lawn in up to 250 square feet, or 35% of the total landscaped area (whichever is greater), and 2) remove the 8-foot wide minimum lawn rule for lots with front yards less than 250 square feet and have virtually no backyard.

Recommendations for the enforcement of WES remain unchanged from the April discussion and consist of the following, 1) JVVCD staff will offer training and plan review support to Member Agencies who adopt the standards, 2) JVVCD will offer increased grant funds to Member Agencies who adopt the standards, and 3) the effective date for Block 2 pricing for water taken in excess of 120% of contract would be January 1, 2021.

Mr. Rushton asked Mr. Olsen and Mr. Packard if any of their communication with cities included discussions about the use of development agreements for new construction.

Mr. Olsen stated that there had been discussion regarding the use of development agreements, and it appears that those cities that are actively engaged in implementing the WES are considering the use development agreements to support the WES. Staff recognizes that adoption of the WES may warrant flexibility as there are multiple methods the WES could be implemented.

Discuss Member Agency Grant Program application from South Jordan City

Mr. Olsen provided information on the Member Agency Grant Program that JVVCD initiated in 2006. It is intended to stimulate and develop a culture of water conservation among the Member Agencies by providing funding assistance for water conservation initiatives that are better suited for a retail water supplier. Approximately half of the Member Agencies participate in the program during a given year and the participation has been successful in supporting the District's water conservation goals.

Funding eligibility is contingent on a Member Agency having a perpetual water purchase contract with JVVCD, serving over 500 retail connections, adopting a water conservation plan, and providing a 20% minimum match in funding. The base funding amount for all Member Agencies is \$50,000, which then increases by \$1 per acre-foot based on the number of acre-feet in the water purchase contract. Mr. Olsen stated that South Jordan City has an annual water purchase contract of 14,200 acre-feet and is eligible for a total of \$64,200.

The grant program consists of 3 funding tiers. Tier 1 projects are those with proven, quantifiable water savings resulting in direct water use reduction, requiring at least 20% funding by the Member Agency. Tier 1 projects may include turf conversion, indoor fixture rebates, irrigation product rebates, secondary water metering, water audits, and leak mitigation programs. Tier 2 projects create the potential for future water reduction and require at least 40% funding by the

Member Agency. Example projects for tier 2 funding include conservation-related studies, consulting services for items such as, landscape ordinances, water rate structures, and conservation plan updates. Tier 3 projects are initiatives that can result in water use reductions, but the results may be difficult to determine and are not directly quantifiable. This type of project requires at least 60% funding by the Member Agency. Examples could include promotional materials for events, public information/education campaigns, and demonstration gardens.

Mr. Olsen then reviewed the status of the existing grant with South Jordan City and described the programs under consideration in the new grant application including, plant rebates, rock mulch delivery, drip kits, toilet rebates, and fixture rebates. The City is requesting \$49,600 from JVVCD and will contribute \$12,400 to support these programs.

Mr. Gibby asked if the 5 cubic yards of rock mulch South Jordan City will deliver as part of the park strip conversion kit is delivered per resident in full, or as needed. He also asked about the participation of Draper City and Midvale City.

Mr. Olsen stated that South Jordan City delivers rock mulch as needed, up to 5 cubic yards. Draper City participated in the grant program to re-landscape its City Hall a few years ago. He could not recall a time when Midvale City has participated.

Ms. Ohrn asked how often the grant program is utilized by Member Agencies.

Mr. Olsen said that participation varies with approximately 6 to 7 Member Agencies utilizing the program ever year. Some Member Agencies participate less frequently or have never participated.

Mr. Rushton pointed out that approximately two years ago, JVVCD staff at the request of the Board, sent out letters to each Member Agency providing information on the program and invited their participation. Those who are eligible to participate have been provided ample information and opportunity.

Ms. Ramsey expressed appreciation for the grant program and attested to its success with South Jordan City. She stated that the program is very useful for residents and it has enabled further water conservation initiatives for the City.

Discuss proposed supplemental Member Agency Grant Program for those that adopt the District's Water Efficiency Standards

Mr. Olsen explained that as a result of the need to support Member Agencies during the implementation process of the WES, JVVCD is proposing a supplemental Member Agency Grant Program. The program is a transitional grant program, designed to provide additional resources for up to three years that may be needed to offset costs associated with adoption and implementation efforts.

Program eligibility is contingent on the Member Agency substantially adopting the WES by ordinance or policy through its governing body, as well as having a perpetual water purchase contract with JVVCD and serving over 500 retail connections. Mr. Olsen noted that when applicable, a Member district may direct grant funds to the municipality with land-use jurisdiction within its water service area. It is recommended the grant program provide funding similar to the existing grant program with a base amount for all Member Agencies of \$50,000 and a \$1 per acre-foot increase based on the number of acre-feet in the water purchase contract.

Mr. Olsen provided examples of funding opportunities that intend to adopt, implement, or enforce the WES. Those opportunities include additional staffing for newly hired or reassigned employees, consulting or professional services, and supporting software or equipment. Along with grant funding, additional JVVCD staff assistance is available for needs such as training, landscape plan reviews, and inspection services.

The proposed supplemental grant program is still being revised and JVVCD staff is seeking feedback and direction from the Conservation Committee.

Mr. Summers provided positive feedback about the grant program initiative and opportunity.

Mr. Gibby asked how many Member Agencies are currently eligible for the grant program.

Mr. Olsen stated that Herriman City and South Jordan City are actively seeking to increase their water purchase contracts and may be the first to be eligible. West Jordan City could be looking to increase its water purchase contract soon. In conjunction with Kearns Improvement District, the Kearns Metro Township is working with the Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District to adopt the WES as well.

Mr. Rushton asked if a Member Agency can participate in both Member Agency Grant programs simultaneously. He also suggested that JVVCD staff look into incorporating requirements for staffing reimbursements for Member Agencies who use the program to fund additional staff.

Mr. Olsen responded that a Member Agency may participate in both Member Agency grant programs simultaneously, as the funding provides support for separate water conservation initiatives. Mr. Olsen made note of Mr. Rushton's suggestion on investigating requirements for staffing reimbursements and said that JVVCD staff will research it further.

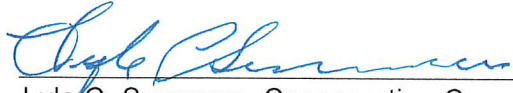
Reporting Items

Due to time constraints, the reporting items were not reviewed and were provided in the packet as follows:

- a. Locascapes® Status Report
- b. 2020 Landscape Leadership Grant Update
- c. 2020 Garden Education Programs Report
- d. 2020 Utah Water Savers Programs Update
- e. 2020 Homebuilder Rewards Update
- f. Member Agency Grant Program Update
- g. Public Outreach Update
- h. Fundraising Progress Report
- i. Foundation Activities Report
- j. Water Deliveries Update

Adjourn

Mr. Summers asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Townsend moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.



Lyle C. Summers, Conservation Committee Chair



Date



Matthew D. Olsen, JWCD Assistant General Manager



Date