

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

(Approved August 12, 2024)

Held July 8, 2024

A regular meeting of the Conservation Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District was held on Monday, July 8, 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
Karen D. Lang
Corey L. Rushton
John H. Taylor (electronic)
Andy Pierucci (electronic)
John Richardson
Zach Jacob
Mick M. Sudbury

Trustees Not Present:

Dawn Ramsey

Staff Present:

Alan Packard, General Manager
Jacob Young, Deputy General Manager
David Martin, CFO/Treasurer
Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager
Shane Swenson, Chief Engineer
Mark Stratford, General Counsel
Kurt Ashworth, Human Resources Manager
Gordon Batt, Operations Department Manager
Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager
Brian McCleary, Controller
Mindy Keeling, Executive Assistant
Lisa Wright, Administrative Assistant
Jason Brown, Information Systems Department Manager
Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager
Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager
Erik Wermel, Conservation Programs Supervisor
Rebecca Bateman, Administrative Assistant/Receptionist
Sam Mingo, Business Data Analyst (electronic)
Margaret Dea, Senior Accountant (electronic)
Madeline Sueltz, Conservation Coordinator (electronic)

Other Attendees:

Greg Anderson, General Manager, Kearns Improvement District
Jason Helm, General Manager, Granger-Hunter Improvement District (electronic)

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

Approval of the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held June 3, 2024.

Ms. Townsend called for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2024, Conservation Committee meeting. Ms. Karen Lang moved to approve the minutes. Following a second by Mr. John Richardson; the minutes were approved as follows:

Ms. Karen Lang – aye
Mr. John Taylor – aye
Mr. Andy Pierucci – aye
Mr. Mick Sudbury – aye
Mr. Zach Jacob – aye

Mr. Corey Rushton – aye
Ms. Barbara Townsend - aye
Ms. Dawn Ramsey – not present
Mr. John Richardson – aye

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Member Agency Grant Application - Granger Hunter Improvement District

Mr. Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager, presented information on a Water Conservation Funding Agreement with Granger-Hunter Improvement District (GHID). He said GHID has requested the maximum eligibility amount of \$67,000 to support three projects. Projects include Leak Detection Pinpointing and Repairs, Conservation Calendars and Information Packets, and Conservation Promotional materials.

Mr. Rushton inquired as to the Member Agency grants process and questioned whether the district should continue funding grants, as agencies may prefer to have lower rates instead of grants.

Mr. Jacob Young, Deputy General Manager, indicated that agenda item number four, Conservation Plan Update Feedback, will include discussion of the grants process and provide feedback from a Member Agency survey that was taken a few months ago.

Conservation Plan Update Feedback

Mr. Young reviewed the status of the Conservation Plan Update (Plan) and indicated that all goals from the 2019 Conservation Plan have been achieved. He said the Plan will set new goals. Mr. Young explained the Scope of Work for the Plan which is being done in phases. He said staff are mid-way through the updating process and wanted to receive input from Trustees on these key items as preliminary versions of the Plan are being drafted. Mr. Young then outlined the key items currently being evaluated.

The first key item is Conservation Targets and includes evaluation of three alternative goals: meeting UDWR goals through 2065, keeping demands within currently secured water rights, and achieving zero net depletion of Great Salt Lake. He shared a detailed graph comparing currently secured water sources versus projected demand, with alternative projections for available water supply with and without climate change.

Mr. Richardson asked whether the downward trend in water supply shown in the graph is due to ongoing drought. Mr. Young replied that the downward trend accounts for the increased severity of drought that could be experienced from climate change. Mr. Richardson then inquired as to when ULS water will be received. Mr. Young said that ULS water is under contract and is reflected in the graph to be available beginning in 2029.

Mr. Pierucci asked how projected demand shown in the graph is calculated and whether it considers conservation measures. Mr. Young said that the projected demands are intended to act as a baseline if no additional conservation methods are put in place. He said this demand projection provides an evaluation of what additional investment would be required to keep demand projections below available water supply projections based on JWWCD's goals. Mr. Young indicated that the gap between the available water supply and the demand projections defines the level of conservation required in order to keep demand within our currently secured water sources.

Mr. Young then discussed the second key item which is the conservation programs assessment. This includes a compilation of programs through the west and ranking of those programs to identify proposed changes to JWWCD programs. The assessment also included surveying the Member Agency for feedback on whether the Member Agency Grant program, is serving their needs. The agency survey revealed that the Member Agencies would like the program to stay the same, and even enhancing the investment, into the program. The proposed changes to the Member Agency Grant Program are to increase the limit to \$75,000, remove the match requirement on Tier 1 projects and enhance training and guidance material to encourage the types of activities that are most effective. The assessment also identified proposed enhancements to existing JWWCD conservation programs and the following possibilities for new programs: aerial imagery, Localscapes certification, JWWCD sites landscape conversions, homebuilder certification, and targeted conservation incentives.

Mr. Rushton noted that although Member Agencies like the grant programs as currently offered, he would like to hear the pros and cons of incentivizing Tier 1 projects. Mr. Rushton asked if Shoulder Season Pricing would be evaluated for

conservation-oriented rate structure. Mr. Young mentioned that it would be evaluated along with pricing of evapotranspiration rates. Several trustees expressed concerns with the use of aerial imagery to monitor water use being perceived as an invasion of privacy. Mr. Young explained how the images would be used and how incentives would be used instead of enforcement. Mr. Young indicated that they would contact the water utility companies that have implemented this process and discuss how they have navigated specific issues and take advantage of their lessons learned to make sure this is a successful venture. Ms. Lang suggested that focusing on the Great Salt Lake concerns to change water customer behavior would be more effective than social norming.

Mr. Young then discussed the third key item, Water Efficiency Standard Revisions. The proposed revisions include prohibiting non-functional turf in CII property, remove reference to Localscapes and defining indoor fixture requirements and providing guidelines for trees. JVVCD staff are targeting full adoption of the revised standards throughout the service area in 10 years.

Mr. Richardson mentioned that other entities' conservation efforts include encouraging use of turf that requires infrequent watering, and inquired if the JVVCD is looking into that. Mr. Brown responded JVVCD supports the initiative and has demonstration plots in the garden to help address concerns that people will not change habits to water the alternate turf grasses less.

Reporting Items


Mr. Jacob Young asked if there were any questions on the reporting items. There were none.

Adjourn


Ms. Barbara Townsend called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mick Sudbury moved to adjourn. Followed by a second by Ms. Lang. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



Barbara L. Townsend
Chair of the Board of Trustees



Alan E. Packard
District Clerk



Jacob C. Young
Deputy General Manager