

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

January 8, 2024

(Approved February 12, 2024)

A regular meeting of the Conservation Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 3:00 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:**

Sherrie Ohrn, Chair  
Reed Gibby  
Zach Jacob  
Karen Lang  
Dawn Ramsey (electronic)  
Corey L. Rushton  
Mick Sudbury  
John H. Taylor  
Barbara Townsend

**Staff Present:**

Alan Packard, General Manager  
Jacob Young, Deputy General Manager  
Dave Martin, CFO/Treasurer  
Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager  
Matt Olsen, Assistant General Manager  
Gordon Batt, Operations Department Manager  
Jason Brown, Information Systems Department Manager  
Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager  
Shane Swensen, Engineering Department Manager (electronic)  
Martin Feil, Database Administrator (electronic)  
Mark Stratford, General Counsel  
Kurt Ashworth, Human Resources Manager  
Brian McCleary, Controller  
Beverly Parry, Executive Assistant  
Mindy Keeling, Administrative Assistant  
Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager  
Kelly Good, Communications Division Manager  
Kyle Allcott, Marketing Specialist  
Clifton Smith, Senior Business Data Analyst  
Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager  
Eric Wermel, Conservation Programs Supervisor  
Jeanette Perry, Customer Service Supervisor  
Sam Mingo, Business Data Analyst

**Others Present:**

Greg Christensen, Trustee, Kearns Improvement District  
Shannon Ellsworth, Rio Tinto

The meeting was brought to order at 3:00 p.m. by Ms. Sherrie Ohrn.

**Approval of the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held October 9, 2023**

Ms. Ohrn called for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2023, Conservation Committee meeting. Ms. Barbara Townsend moved to approve the minutes. Following a second by Mr. Mick Sudbury, the minutes were approved as follows:

|                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Ms. Barbara Townsend – aye    | Ms. Sherrie Ohrn – aye |
| Ms. Dawn Ramsey – not present | Mr. Zach Jacob – aye   |
| Mr. Reed Gibby – aye          | Mr. Mick Sudbury – aye |
| Mr. Corey Rushton – aye       | Mr. John Taylor – aye  |
| Ms. Karen Lang – aye          |                        |

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Discuss Member Agency Grant Program applications from South Salt Lake**

Mr. Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager, said the City of South Salt Lake (City) has submitted two grant proposals. Mr. Brown reviewed how the Member Agency Grant Program is administered and what funds are available to Member Agencies. He shared information on the City's past participation in the grant program. Their current grant application is for \$32,847 for two projects: a water rate study and purchase of leak detection equipment. The City also submitted a Grant Supplement Application for implementing and enforcing the Water Efficiency Standards including additional staffing, consulting or professional services, supporting software or equipment, and staff training. Because the fiscal year is half way over, they are eligible for \$22,500 in grant funds.

Ms. Ramsey joined the meeting electronically at 3:10 p.m.

Mr. Rushton suggested that the Member Agency Grant Program be reevaluated due to the change in funding availability and interest in water conservation. Mr. Olsen agreed and said that a reevaluation could be considered before the next fiscal year budget. He then provided some background on the current program and how it was intended to encourage programs that are more suited for a retail water supplier. He also noted that the grant funding levels have remained the same since the program started in the early 2000s and this could also be reassessed. Mr. Rushton also suggested reevaluation of the various tier funding levels.

Mr. Gibby said a water rate study should be a standard practice and wondered why the City of South Salt Lake needs conservation money from the District for funding of a study. Mr. Olsen said entities may be concerned with how a rate like this impacts the agency and if they can remain profitable if they adopt aggressive water conservation rates. The current program allows for these types of studies as Tier 2 programs but could be changed in the future.

Mr. Packard said there are two mechanisms associated with reevaluating the conservation programs. One is the upcoming fiscal year budget and another is the upcoming Water Conservation Plan Update that is due in November 2024.

### **Review of 2023 water conservation program participation**

Mr. Brown reviewed a list of the various water conservation programs offered by JVVCD in 2023. He summarized how many of the programs produce quantifiable water savings and that Conservation Garden Park continues to be a vital resource in JVVCD's planning and educational efforts. He said the Landscape Incentive Program offered through the Utah Water Savers absorbed the Flip Your Strip and Localscapes Rewards for Homeowners programs. Mr. Brown provided information regarding the new Landscape Incentive Program and how applications decreased when compared to previous years. Contributing to this may be less water conservation messaging and the rollout of the Utah Water Savers programs which were delayed due to website upgrades. Localscapes Homebuilder Rewards had 96 completed projects and there were 20 commercial, industrial, and institutional participants. Mr. Brown provided a comparison of participation in the Member Agency Grant program between the last fiscal year and the current fiscal year, noting that all of the landscape projects that JVVCD was paying for through this grant program have now been moved to Utah Water Savers. He noted that attendance at Conservation Garden Park is down from the previous year which might have been a result of road closures due to construction on 1300 West. He reported that 51 live classes were taught during 2023 both in person and electronically.

### **Reporting Items**

Mr. Olsen reviewed the reporting items as follows:

- a. 2023 Garden Education Programs Report
- b. 2023 Landscape Leadership Grant Update
- c. 2023 Utah Water Savers Program Update
- d. Member Agency Grant Program Update
- e. Fundraising Progress Report
- f. Foundation Activities Report

### **Adjourn**

Ms. Sherrie Ohrn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mick Sudbury moved to adjourn. Following a second by Ms. Barbara Townsend, the meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Corey L. Rushton, Board Chair

2/12/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob Young, Deputy General Manager

2/12/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date