

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

(Approved May 6, 2024)

Held April 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, April 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:

Karen D. Lang, Acting Chair
Corey L. Rushton
Andy Pierucci
Mick M. Sudbury
John B. Richardson
Zach Jacobs
Dawn Ramsey

Trustees Not Present:

Barbara L. Townsend (excused)
John H. Taylor (excused)

Staff Present:

Alan Packard, General Manager
Jacob Young, Deputy General Manager
Dave Martin, CFO/Treasurer
Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager
Gordon Batt, Operations Department Manager
Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager
Martin Feil, Database Administrator (electronic)
Mark Stratford, General Counsel
Kurt Ashworth, Human Resources Manager
Brian McCleary, Controller
Mindy Keeling, Executive Assistant
Lisa Wright, Administrative Assistant
Courtney Brown, Conservation Division Manager
Kelly Good, Communications Division Manager
Clifton Smith, Senior Business Data Analyst
Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager

Ms. Karen D. Lang, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. Ms. Barbara L. Townsend and Mr. John H. Taylor were excused.

Approval of the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held February 12, 2024

Ms. Lang called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2024, Conservation Committee meeting. Mr. Mick Sudbury moved to approve the minutes. Following a second by Mr. Richardson, the minutes were approved as follows:

Ms. Karen Lang – aye
Mr. John Taylor – not present
Mr. Andy Pierucci – aye
Mr. Mick Sudbury – aye
Mr. Zach Jacob – aye

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

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Ms. Dawn Ramsey arrived in person at 3:04pm.

ARPA Applications and Project Summary

Mr. Courtney Brown provided an overview of the three grant programs currently available for Member Agencies which are the Municipal Partnerships Grant Program, Member Agency Grant Program, and the Supplemental Member Agency Grant Program for Water Efficiency Standards

The Municipal Partnership Grant Program uses Salt Lake County funds, received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and is administered by Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District. The program is sponsored by Salt Lake County, Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT), The H2O Collective and Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District specifically for municipalities in Salt Lake County to replace lawn with waterwise landscaping at city-owned properties. Two million dollars is available from 2023-2025 and projects are evaluated by a committee of water districts' staff and a ULCT staff member. Three dollars per square foot removed turf is be paid to the municipalities that complete approved projects. Mr. Brown detailed each project for the first and second round applicants. The total proposed square footage submitted in round one is 283,737 square feet and round two is 161,589 square feet. The total proposed rebates for round one is \$851,211 and round two is \$484,767.

Mr. Rushton questioned who has the discretion of approving artificial turf. Mr. Brown indicated the committee (with Salt Lake County having final approval authority for this program) will be the one to approve its use and appears to accept its use.

Mr. Young also indicated that after administrative and marketing costs, there will be approximately \$440,000 available for 2025 projects. He indicated that there will be 180,000 square feet of turf replaced within our service area alone, that \$500,000 is coming into our service area and that each project is a visible billboard for water efficient landscaping.

Member Agency Grant – South Salt Lake

Mr. Brown presented the Grant Supplement Application for implementing and enforcing water efficiency standards for the upcoming fiscal year starting July 1, 2024. The program provides member agencies with additional resources to temporarily offset costs or assist in implementing Water Efficiency Standards. The base amount is \$50,000 per year for Member Agencies with a perpetual water purchase contract, plus an additional \$1 per acre-foot of water purchase contract. Examples of grant funding include additional staffing, consulting, or professional services, supporting software or equipment. The City of South Salt Lake applied for an extension of its current grant agreement for \$45,000 for a Water Conservationist Specialist Position and a one-time employee payout for ten employees that are responsible to implement these changes for fiscal year 2024-2025.

2023 Water Use Summary

Mr. Clifton Smith presented a comparison of the weather data and water demand results in the District service area, including member agencies and retail service area for 2023. Water use and population data was collected from member agencies and temperature and precipitation data from the Salt Lake City International Airport.

Mr. Jacobs questioned whether it was appropriate to use temperatures being taken at the Salt Lake City International Airport, because it has a lot more concrete than it did 10 years ago. Mr. Smith explained that the National Weather Service at the airport has the longest history, and the most accurate data, in our area. Mr. Young indicated that alternate, reliable data will be investigated.

Mr. Smith also discussed differences of temperature average, seasonal temperature departure from normal, irrigation season precipitation departure, per capita end usage between 2022 to 2023. JVVCD per capita end usage increased from 162 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) in 2022 to 168 gpcd in 2023.

Ms. Ramsey asked if JVVCD is concerned about the increase. Mr. Young stated that it is common to see a rebound in per capita demand in wet years after a drought cycle, so focused messaging to consumers is needed to minimize that rebound. Coordinated messaging with District member agencies is also needed to achieve this objective.

Mr. Rushton addressed the issue of consumers having higher water bills, after taking conservation measures, and how they may not have the same incentive to conserve. Mr. Rushton would like to see a model, with the right co-efficient showing the effect of increase in temperature, wind, and rainfall deliveries, so this can be better predicted. Mr. Young discussed there is information available showing the effects of weather on water usage based on available data, and there is room to improve and expand to other parameters that may provide a better sense of what our efforts are doing verses what natural and economic cycles are doing. Ms. Lang mentioned that smart irrigation controllers are a necessary part of conservation so consumers can change their clocks

when away on vacation during July and August and can set up a rain delay during a storm. Mr. Smith confirmed that smart controllers and changing landscapes with water-wise choices have permanent, lasting effects on the amount of water being used.

Reporting Items

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

- a. 2024 Garden Education Programs Report
- b. 2024 Utah Water Savers Programs Update
- c. Member Agency Grant Program Update
- d. Fundraising Progress Report
- e. Foundation Activities Report

Adjourn

Ms. Karen D. Lang called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. John Richardson moved to adjourn. Following a second by Mr. Mick Sudbury, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.



Barbara L. Townsend
Chair of the Board of Trustees



Alan E. Packard
District Clerk