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

(Unapproved and subject to change) Held on June 6, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board Conservation Committee of the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD or District) was held on Monday, June 6, 2022 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:

Lyle C. Summers, Conservation Committee Chair Karen Lang

Corey L. Rushton Mick Sidbury

Reed Gibby

Sherrie L. Ohrn

John H. Taylor (Electronic)

# Trustees Not Present:

Dawn R. Ramsey

Barbara Townsend

**Others Present**

**Staff Present:**

Bart Forsyth, General Manager

Dave Martin, CFO/Treasurer(3:06pm)

Alan Packard, Assistant General Manager

Shazelle Terry, Assistant General Manager

Matt Olsen, Assistant General Manager

Jason Brown, Information Systems Department Manager

Martin Feil, Database Administrator (electronic)

Mark Stratford, General Counsel

Brian McCleary, Controller (joined 3:25)

Brian Callister, Maintenance Department Manager

Gordon Batt, Operations Department Manager

Todd Schultz, Analytics & Outreach Manager

Beverly Parry, Executive Assistant

Alicia Sekiller, Administrative Assistant

Eric Wermel- Conservation Coordinator

David McLean-Senior Engineer

Courtney Brown, Conservation Programs Manager

Clifton Smith, Business Data Analyst (electronic)

Shaun Moser, Conservation Garden Park Manager

Mindy Keeling, Administrative Assistant (electronic) Amanda Strack, Conservation Coordinator

Megan Jenkins, Marketing Specialist

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

# Approval of the minutes of the Conservation Committee meeting held April 11, 2022

Mr. Summers asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2022, Conservation Committee meeting. Mr. Mick moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Sherrie Ohrn seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as follows:

Mr. Lyle Summers – aye Ms. Sherrie Ohrn – aye

Mr. Reed Gibby – aye Mr. Mick Sidbury – aye

Mr. Corey Rushton – aye Mr. John Taylor – aye (Electronic)

Ms. Karen Lang – aye

# Public Comments

No public comments.

**Discuss member agency grant program applications from Kearns Improvement District and Draper City**

Mr. Courtney Brown introduced the member agencies, explaining the different tiers for each grant. There are three tiers a project may fall into, The tier placement is decided based on how quanitifiable each is.

* Tier 1 projects are projects we find to be relatively quanifiable for water savings; The district pays for 80% of the cost. Examples are turf conversion projects, irrigation product rebates, indoor fixture rebates and leak mitigation programs.
* Tier 2 are projects with the potential for future water use reduction. The District pays for 60% of the cost. Examples of these types of projects would be; Conservation related studies, Consulting services for landscape ordinances, consulting services for water rate structures, and Consulting services for conservation plan updates.
* Tier 3 are projects are more educational in nature, with less quantifiable uses. The District pays 40% of the cost. Examples of these projects would be; Promotional materials for booths and events, public information/ education campaigns and demonstation gardens.

The two Member Agency Grants for today are Kearns Improvement District(KID) and Draper City.

1. Kearns Improvement District (KID): 5 Million Gallon reservior site landscaping, new construction west of Kearns. Created to meet the need for future growth.

* Plans to be completed by August 2022
* Eligiglbe for 57,000
* Reguesting a tier 3 for $32,000 from JVWCD

Mr. Brown explained for the 2022/2023 grant KID has contracted with Le Debut Productions to create animated clips and films that encourage water conservation. It is expected that Le Debut Productions creates two short films, and twelve short video clips for conservation improvements. The videos will be distributed to customers via social media, billing and websites.

Mr. Corey Rushton and Ms. Karen Lang expressed their concern. Mr. Rushton requested that Mr. Bart Forsyth and Mr. Matt Olsen discuss what exactly the District is going to get from these videos asking the question, “does this represent us?” Mr. Rushton explained ther has been conversations in the past about how to create a clear messaging across each municipality. Ms. Lang agreed, inquiring why the District did not take this on themselves to help control the content.

Mr. Olsen explained KID will be providing the District a storyboard. While KID (Greg Anderson) reached out to other Districts to partner with, only JVWCD responded. The district is the only partner in this project. Mr. Olsen added while the District is open to additional conversations, currently we are involved in the funding and will prioitize talking about the District’s representations.

Mr. Reed Gibby inquired about the specific clientel. Why Kearns? Mr. Olsen responded that the area seems to be a disconnect with water conservation. The area seems to not understand the gravity of the drought and would benefit from this specefic messaging.

1. Draper City: previouisly awarded 50,000 in 2015/2016 Grant. They installed Waterwise landscaping at Draper City Hall during a building expansion project. Planters and hardscape areas were increased. Reducing the lawn areas from 23,160 Square feet to 885 square feet. Currently applied again for 2022/2023.

* Eligible for $53,800
* Requested Tier 3 for $48,000 from JVWCD
* Committing $72,000 of their own

Mr. Brown reported that Draper is proposing to replace the lawn at the Park and Rec offices. The Office is a residential single family home that was converted into an office. This makes a great place for a Localscape. Draper has designed a Localscape for the front, back and side yards for this office. Complete with signage to be a demonstration garden to help show residents the concept of Localscaping. The District has reviewed the plan and while it did have a lot of lawn removal it had the best fit in Tier 3 as an educational design.

Mr. Brown added that there will be more grants coming in the future months.

**Discuss Expenditure for conservation Garden Park Deck Replacement**

Mr. Olsen introduced Mr. Shaun Moser, the conservation garden park manager of five years. Mr. Moser reported on the replacement of the Garden deck stating currently it is made with pressure treated wood. The deck was constructed 12 years prior. 8 years ago, it started showing wear and tear and sagging. A contractor was brought in to add reinforcement beams. Since then, the deck has continued to sag. The garden staff no longer feel safe driving on it with the golf utility carts that are required to transport workers and equipment across the garden. The deck has since been roped off to eliminate pedestrian traffic.

Mr. Moser explains they have reached out to an engineer for a new deck design. The requirements for the deck are that it.

* Remain a nice overlook for the stream.
* Can eventually be used a connection point across the stream for further garden expansion.
* Maintain a similar visual aesthetic to match the existing compost exhibit.
* Withstand the weight of utility carts and groups of garden visitors.

Substantial changes worth referencing are.

* the beams running from East to west would be made of Steel.
* The Joints would be made with pressure treated wood
* A deck flashing tape will be added to make things more waterproof.
* A new concrete piece to help connect the east side of the deck as it connects to the patio.

Mr. Moser reported that the winning bid was Gerber construction at $85,000.

**Discuss Status of Water Conservation Curriculum Development**

Mr. Olsen introduce Ms. Megan Jenkins as the marketing specialist and Fundraising extraordinaire, having raised over 1 million dollars for the district on multiple fundraisers.

Ms. Jenkins referenced her communication with Central Utah who currently has a curriculum specialist. The district has recently joined the curriculum task force with the intentions of telling Utah’s water stories and encouraging collaboration between agencies invested in water education.

Ms. Jenkins explained this best serves JVWCD because by approaching the task force and collaborating to pool resources, duplication of efforts currently being driven within the state will be minimal.

As an agency we have collaborated with the conservation team, outreach team, data analytics team to create an outline on what the District would like to be seen in the curriculums for the state. The three main points being;

1. Why do we need water?
2. Water is a finite resource
3. How can we reduce water demand?

Ms. Jenkins stated that the curriculum is aimed at elementary students. These ideas were presented to the task force and combined with the other groups to establish a starting point for the curriculum. The three decided were;

1. The Water Cycle
2. Stewardship of Natural Resources
3. Water is a Finite Resource

It is anticipated there will be opportunities for conservation messaging in those items.

Ms. Jenkins reported that Central’s Curriculum Specialist is currently working with a Sandy educator to start the development of the actual Curriculum.

Ms. Jenkins added that there are still other collaborations with Central that are still in works. One of these being a teacher training scheduled to occur in July for Teachers to learn how to talk about Water in a classroom setting. The District will be holding this event at the Garden Education Center at the end of July.

Ms. Ohrn inquired which grade levels were being targeted for these curriculums? Ms. Jenkins responded that based on the research of current common core curriculum and requirements to see which grades could be most easily integrated.

Mr. Rushton inquired how the garden relates to this water curriculum.

Mrs. Jenkins invited Mr. Moser to explain more in depth. Mr. Moser reported that the District currently gives tours to students from third-fifth grade, the primary focus being how plants work and how certain plants work to conserve water.

Mr. Moser stated that two seasonal employees were hired this summer to help develop new tours for the gardens to accommodate the middle school and high school inquiries. The goal is to add curriculum on water cycles, water treatments and storm water.

Mr. Olsen added by holding events on our facilities, it is beneficial because it can be used to connect to the field trip programs currently running.

Ms. Ohrn stated she believes we are missing the middle by not targeting middle and High schoolers. Referencing that Middle schoolers will be more likely to come home and talk with the adults in their lives about water conservation. Adding Highschoolers will also have these conversations but will also be more likely to carry this information on water conservation into their adulthood.

Ms. Jenkins acknowledged Ms. Ohrn’s concerns explaining that elementary is just the current focus but there is a goal to expand and include high grades in the future projects.

# Reporting Items

Mr. Olsen introduced Mr. Eric Wermel, the newest Conservation Coordinator before turning it over to Mr. Brown. The reporting items were covered by Mr. Brown and are included in the packet as follows:

* 1. Localscapes® Status Report
  2. 2022 Garden Education Programs Report
  3. 2022 Landscape Leadership Grant Update
  4. 2022 Utah Water Savers Program Update
  5. 2022 Homebuilder Rewards Update
  6. Member Agency Grant Program Update
  7. Fundraising Progress Report
  8. Foundation Activities Report

# Adjourn

Mr. Summers asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ohrn moved to adjourn. Ms. Lang seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Lyle C. Summers, Conservation Committee Chair Date

Matthew D. Olsen, Assistant General Manager Date