

JORDAN RIVER COMMISSON
Governing Board – Regular Meeting

Minutes of September 20, 2012

Name	Agency or Organization	Present
Councilman Corey Rushton	Board Chair, West Valley City	X
Councilman Chris McCandless	Board Vice-Chair, Sandy City	X
Mr. Richard Bay	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District	X
Mayor Ralph Becker	Salt Lake City	X By Alternate: Emy Maloutas
Mr. John Bennett	Office of the Governor	X
Councilwoman Rebecca Call	City of Saratoga Springs	X By Alternate: Jim McNulty
Councilman Bill Colbert	Draper City	
Mayor Peter Corroon	Salt Lake County	X By Alternate: Julie Peck-Dabling
Commissioner Louenda Downs	Davis County	X By Alternate: Scott Hess
Commissioner Larry Ellertson	Utah County	
Mr. Bruce Jones	Utah Transit Authority	X
Councilman Irvin Jones	City of South Salt Lake	X By Alternate: Michael Florence
Ms. Laura Ault	Division of Forestry Fire State Lands	X
Senator Aaron Osmond	Utah Senate	
Councilman Stan Porter	City of North Salt Lake	X by Alternate: Ken Leetham
Councilman Justin Stoker	City of West Jordan	X
Councilman Tee Tyler	Cottonwood Heights	X
Mayor Russ Wall	Taylorsville	
Mr. John Whitehead	Division of Water Quality	X By Alternate: Carl Adams
Councilman David Wilde	Salt Lake County	X
Mr. Mark Bedel	Ex-Officio, Jordan River Foundation	X By Alternate: Lynn Larsen
Ms. Alene Bentley	Ex-Officio, Rocky Mountain Power	X
Mr. Jon Bronson	Ex-Officio, Zions Bank	X
Ms. Amy Collins	Ex-Officio, TreeUtah	
Mr. Greg Hardy	Ex-Officio, Chevron	X
Mr. Michael Horrocks	Ex-Officio, Wasatch Rowing Foundation	X
Ms. Andree' Walker-Bravo	Ex-Officio, Utah Society for Environ. Ed	
vacant	Ex-Officio,	
vacant	Ex-Officio,	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Laura Hanson, Jordan River Commission
David Eckhoff, Commission Technical Advisory Committee Chair
Juan Arce-Laretta, PRATT Board

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Governing Board of the Jordan River Commission, was held on Thursday September 20, 2012 at 9:00 am at the Taylorsville City Hall, 2600 Constitution Boulevard, Taylorsville, Utah 84129.

Councilman Corey Rushton, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. He welcomed the Board and audience.

ITEM 1 – CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Corey Rushton asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Laura Hanson mentioned the minutes from the June 21, 2012 meeting would be ready for approval at the next meeting.

Motion – made a motion to approve the agenda
Second –
Vote – Unanimous in favor.

ITEM 2 – PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Councilman Corey Rushton asked if there was any member of the public wishing to address the Board.

No one from the audience was present to speak during the public comment portion of the agenda.

ITEM 3 – EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Councilman Corey Rushton asked Laura Hanson to present the Director's report of the past month's activities. These focused primarily on the following efforts:

- The new JR Parkway Trail Map was announced to the public on August 1, 2012.
- A press release was issued regarding the BMP project and stakeholder workshop. Two print new stories were published, and two television news channels covered the event.
- On August 6, 2012, KCPW's City Views program included a 30-minute, on-air interview with Councilman Corey Rushton and Laura Hanson.
- On August 6, 2012, Laura Hanson visited the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District Board to provide an update on the trail map and the 9000 South trail gap.

- On September 10, 2012, volunteers from Splore and Wells Fargo pulled nearly 400 lbs of trash from the river from canoes. Special thanks to Salt Lake City parks for hauling off the trash. This group would like to do several of these clean-ups in various stretches of the river.
- On September 13, 2012, volunteers from JC Penny filled approximately 100 40-gallon trash bags with trash and weeds along the trail in South Salt Lake as part of the United Way Day of Caring.
- The City of West Jordan voted to join the Jordan River Commission on August 22, 2012.
- The Commission's Fiscal Year 2012 Financial Statements were prepared with assistance from Wood Richards, CPAs.
- The Commission's First Annual Gala will be held on October 4, 2012.
- Continued discussions about the Ross Jones property in Bluffdale
- Initiated a discussion with West Valley City about preservation of a strip of open space along the river behind some mobile home parks.
- The JRC has been in discussion with the Center for Documentary Expression and Art and the Utah Society for Environmental Education regarding a partnership to bring a Jordan River centered educational program to two local high schools each year.
- The Searching for the Best Management Practices stakeholder workshop was held on August 7, 2012, and was attended by 70+ people.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 4 – TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Dave Eckhoff gave a report on the activities of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). These included:

- Students at the University of Utah have been working with the City of West Jordan and McNeil Engineering to develop a design for the 9000 south trail tunnel. Councilman Chris McCandless noted that the students did an exceptional job and that their work has saved the partners well over \$100,000. He also thanked Dave Eckhoff for all of his contributions to this effort and requested a round of applause in honor of Mr. Eckhoff.
- A partnership with the University of Utah on developing a series of Stormwater BMPs
- The TAC is developing an Agency and Organizational Overview, which is intended to be an update/expansion of the "Guide to Permitting" document developed by the Jordan River Natural Areas Forum. The goal is to facilitate better and more frequent communication among Jordan River Stakeholders
- The TAC is developing a series educational Fact Sheets about Jordan River topics – ranging from water quality to native species. These fact sheets will reside on the JRC website and will ultimately be incorporated into a series of

interpretive signs or QR codes placed along the JR parkway trail, and perhaps integrated into a smartphone application.

- The TAC is working on collecting all available and relevant GIS data on the Jordan River and integrating it into UDOT's UPLAN GIS viewer:
<http://uplan.maps.arcgis.com/home/>
- The TAC is reviewing all draft BMP project documents produced by EPG and providing feedback to inform this project.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 5 – PROPOSED SALT LAKE COUNTY PARKS AND TRAILS BOND

Ms. Laura Hanson explained that this past summer the Salt Lake County council was considering whether or not to place a proposed parks and trails bond on the November election ballot. At its May 31, 2012 meeting, the Jordan River Commission Governing Board voted to send the Council a letter of support stating:

“The Jordan River Commission supports the elements of the proposed Salt Lake County General Obligation Bond Election that improve and enhance the Jordan River corridor.”

The proposed bond was modified in response to Council comments and reduced in overall scope and size, but the Salt Lake County Council ultimately voted to place it on the ballot for voter consideration. The proposed bond includes \$11.5 million for the Jordan River Parkway Trail and, if approved, would substantially complete the 45-mile paved trail system.

Ms. Hanson noted that now that it has been confirmed that the proposed bond will go to the voters, the Jordan River Commission may choose to renew its statement of support. She noted that the purpose of such a reaffirmation would be to assure her that it is ok to spend Commission time helping to educate the community about the proposal. This may include spending work hours or perhaps supporting educational efforts with the Commission's public outreach fund.

Ms. Laura Hanson noted that there was a member of the audience that would like to speak to the board specifically about this agenda item. Councilman Corey Rushton invited Juan Arce-Larreta from the audience to address the board.

Mr. Juan Arce-Larreta thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. He thanked the Board for their work and vision for the Jordan River corridor and also encouraged the board to support the proposed Salt Lake County parks bond. He explained that he is the chair of the PRATT board, and is spearheading an advocacy effort to support this bond.

He noted that there is no other foreseeable funding source to complete the Jordan River Parkway and the Parley's Trails. He mentioned that one of the strengths of the proposed bond is its regional nature, and that even if a facility doesn't fall within your specific it will benefit each of the cities represented here because they will be used by residents from across the valley.

Juan Arce-Larreta mentioned that there are several thousand brochures that have been printed and are available for people to distribute. He also mentioned that his organization

is printing lawn signs as well. Ms. Emy Maloutas noted that signs with an advocacy bent cannot be placed on public property, but that signs with an educational message could potentially be placed at trailheads.

Councilman Rushton thanked Juan Arce-Larreta for his comments.

Mr. John Bennett asked if it was necessary to say that the Commission supports the Bond, or if it would be sufficient to say that we support the Jordan River elements. It was noted that you cannot really just separate out this from the other elements of the bond..

Ken Leetham asked if it would be a problem to just reaffirm the Commission's previous statement since we worked hard on it.

Mayor Corroon noted that he felt it was fine to reaffirm the support, but that what is really needed is help in educating the community about the proposal. He noted that educational effort is what he would like to see this organization do.

Mr. Ken Leetham asked Laura what she envisioned in terms of helping to educate. Laura Hanson explained that there are some limited funds in the Commission's outreach budget that could help fill the gap for the educational lawn signs for example.

Councilman Rushton noted that he has received several phone calls from reporters, and that it would be helpful to give Laura the freedom to feel that she can respond to calls from reporters and spend time on this.

Mr. Jon Bronson also noted that the organization can take a pro or against position on the bond, but cannot expend public tax dollars on advocacy one way or another. He did note that each of the members of this Board as individuals may advocate.

Councilman McCandless noted that he is personally supportive of the bond because if this funding source can help complete park and trail projects that it will mean less competition for limited funding sources in the future.

Councilman Wilde explained that it was the council's legislative intent that no public tax dollars would be spent on education. He explained that it was the Council's intent that that the public make their decision on their own.

Mr. John Bennett asked councilman Wilde if it would be ok if Laura spent time talking to reporters. Councilman Wilde said that he felt it would be fine for her to respond to questions.

Motion – Mr. Ken Leetham made a motion to affirm the Jordan River Commission's support of the proposed Regional Park and Trails Bond, and allow the Chair and Executive Director to help educate voters about the opportunity to fund improvements to the Jordan River corridor as the budget allows.

Second – Councilman Chris McCandless

Ms. Alene Bentley suggested amending the motion to include encouraging Board members as individuals to advocate for the proposed bond as they feel is appropriate.

Amended Motion - Mr. Ken Leetham made a motion to affirm the Jordan River Commission's support of the proposed Regional Park and Trails Bond, and

allow the Chair and Executive Director to educate voters about the opportunity to fund improvements to the Jordan River corridor as the budget allows. And encouraged individual Board members of the Commission to advocate for the proposed bond as they feel is appropriate.
Second – Councilman Chris McCandless

Vote – 17 in Favor.
1 Abstention, Jon Bronson.

ITEM 7 – OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

No action taken. Discussion only.

ITEM 8 – CONFIRM NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURN

The next meeting of the Jordan River Commission Governing Board will be November 29, 2012.

On motion and second, the meeting was adjourned.