

Jordan River Watershed Council Meeting Minutes



Tuesday, February 13th, 2018 – 10:00-11:30am
Salt Lake County Government Center, North Building Room N3-930

Attendees:

Chris Haight – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration
Steve Burgon – Salt Lake County Stormwater
Gene Drake --Salt Lake City Conservation District
Soren Simonsen – Jordan River Commission
Ellen Bailey – USU Water Quality
Lynn Berni – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration
Sam Taylor – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration
Alex Hamilton – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration
Hanna Murphy – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration
Mitch Jenkins – South Salt Lake City
Janna Pate -- Jordan River Commission
Brian Tonetti – Jordan River Commission / Seven Canyons Trust
Ben Stireman – Forest Fire and State Lands
Bob Thompson – Salt Lake County Watershed Planning & Restoration
Marian Rice – Salt Lake City
Dallas Henline – Magna Water
Doug Bateman – Salt Lake City
Julie Howe – Stantec
Eric McCulley – River Restoration
Dan Tracer – Bluffdale City
Angela Price – Taylorsville City
Josh Peterson – City of Holliday
Dan Drumiler – Salt Lake County Public Works, Engineering
Mike Auger -- Utah Open Lands
Gary Bowen – Emigration Canyon Township

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Presentations:

Jordan River Murray/Taylorsville Ecosystem Restoration Project Update (JRMT)

Presented by: Chris Haight, Salt Lake County Watershed Planning and Restoration

JRMT Phase 3

Murray (east) side of river:

- Native plants installed on the floodplain, with help of Stantec volunteers.
- Planted 500 plants with flags for better survival surveys and an easier time when spraying for weeds.

Taylorsville (west) side of river

- 750 feet of reconstruction on the river; rebuilt the bank and created a floodplain ranging from 20 to 60 feet connecting to wetlands in the area and an upland terrace.
- WPRP sprayed multiple times to kill the phragmites before the project began.
- Pre-construction, the banks were sloughing with 3 to 6 feet cliffs right next to a social trail that had been formed.
- Installation of the toe wood structures consisted of a footer log, three or more cross logs and then a header log plus the backfill. Area was then seeded, coir fabric pulled over the seeded area, staked, and seeded again.
- Tree Utah volunteers planted 3000 donated trees; WPRP planted 3000 more trees and bushes along the riparian and the upland. Saplings and established plants.
- Installed signs and fences to help with the protection of the new plants in the area.

JRMT Phase 4

- Similar to Phase 3 just on a much smaller scale; next to the Murray Nature Center.
- Will include a conifer revetment below the cliff, just up river from the Murray Nature Center. The bank is actively eroding and putting a lot of sediment into the river.

1700 South (Peace Tree Bend) Project Plan

Presented by Sam Taylor, Salt Lake County Watershed Planning and Restoration

- We will be completing a channel realignment and building two connected wetlands.
- The channel will be designed to move sediment better and will have an active flood plain.

III. Roundtable

- Jordan River Commission / Seven Canyons Trust
 - Received two ISM grants one for puncture vine bio-control and the other for the Millcreek confluence project.
 - Completed expansion of myriver.org, will function as an interpretative trail map, there are now websites for the seven east side creeks.
 - A piece of legislation is being worked on right now, HB-216 which would create \$500,000 dollars for ongoing funding for the Jordan River.
 - Half can be used along the entire river, and half will be used in a restricted are from 4500 South to 2100 South.
 - Intended to help mitigate some of the input from the homeless resource center being built in South Salt Lake.
 - Can be used for a variety of purposes such as conservation, stream bank restoration and improvements and amenities along the river to make the river more user friendly.
 - Purchased 4 new canoes and a trailer that can be used by people for education and water quality activities.
- Forestry, Fire and State Lands
 - Hosting a demonstration on bio chard kilns that we are experimenting with to create soil amendments.
- Stormwater Coalition / Salt Lake County Stormwater
 - Water Quality Fair is May 9th and 10th at the Hoggle Zoo.
 - Two bids in for TV commercials for spring and fall.

- Storm water has changed boundaries, Greater Salt Lake Municipal District will now be a regulated Phase 2 MS4, Millcreek will be added to the Jordan Valley Municipalities. Salt Lake County is still a Phase 1 MS4
- Stormwater Coalition meets every third Wednesday of the month at 10:30 AM in the Salt Lake County government building in conference room N2-800
- River Restoration
 - Working with West Jordan to try and do some bank stabilization at the Big Bend.
 - Working on a Scholar and Residents Program with Taylorsville.
 - About 40 high school students will come out for 8 weeks to do plantings and water quality monitoring.
- Utah State University Extension
 - HABs training , 40 people at the training had to split it up into two different training sessions in Salt Lake City.
- Salt Lake County Watershed Protection and Restoration (WPRP)
 - Photo monitoring stations are up and running at several of our Jordan River restoration projects. Citizens take pictures and post them to twitter using a distinct hashtag. Harvesting the hashtags allows WPRP to create a time-lapse slideshows that show change over time.
 - WPRP data collection program includes established sampling sites for macroinvertebrate collection, *E.coli*, and water chemistry samples.
 - WPRP is working with the State on intensive sampling in the Jordan Basin.
 - Installed 8 long term water quality sonde that cover 14 different water quality parameters.
 - WPRP is always looking for partnerships especially with the municipalities.
- Bluffdale
 - Continuing the SWPP.
 - Stormwater testing on outfalls to see what's being sent into the river by Bluffdale.
- Salt Lake City Public Utilities
 - City Creek water treatment plant is under construction. Heavy equipment will be travelling up the canyon and there will possibly be closures during this time.
 - Starting the drinking water sources protection / watershed plan update, in the preliminary stage.
- Salt Lake Conservation District
 - Working towards education of the children
 - Trying to be the eyes and ears of what is happening in the county. One place we can be of great value is with private land owners along the river and streams.
 - Works closely with the Department of Agriculture.
 - Working on stream restoration on the south side of the valley.

Next Meeting:

2nd Quarter Jordan River Watershed Council meeting
 Tuesday May 8th 2018 from 10:00
 Salt Lake County Government Center
 North Building, Room N3-930
 2001 South State Street, Salt Lake City