

Bear Lake Regional Commission

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Minutes Bear Lake Regional Commission Garden City, UT September 25, 2024

Those in attendance:

Sim Weston - Board Chairman, Rich County Commissioner
Bradley Jensen - Board Vice Chairman, Bear Lake County Commissioner
Burdette Weston - Board Secretary Mayor of Laketown
Mike Leonhardt - Mayor of Garden City
Ron Jensen – Recreation
Albert Johnson - Bear Lake County at Large
Dan Fisher - City Council of Montpelier
Mitch Poulsen - Executive Director- Bear Lake Regional Commission
Christy Jensen - Bear Lake Regional Commission

Excused:

Roy Bunderson - Mayor of Bloomington

Also in attendance:

Matt Regen, CPA

The Convention & Visitors Bureau monthly meeting was held first this month so the Regional Commission's September 25th meeting started at 7:42 PM.

Chairman Sim Weston conducted the September 25, 2024, meeting

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Sim Weston asked for an approval of the agenda, The agenda was reviewed and approved.

- **Ron Jensen motioned to approve the agenda as amended to postpone the recognition of Ken Brown until next month to accommodate his son's attendance. Burdette seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Matt Regan/ FY 2024 Audit Review

Matt Regan presented the audit for the 2024 Fiscal year, the Audit was reviewed and approved.

A management representation letter was also signed.

All State compliancy requirements were met. A full copy of the Audit is available at the Regional Commission Office.

- **Albert Johnson made a motion to approve the Audit and sign the Management Representation Letter for the 2024 Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024. Dan Fisher seconded the motion, motion carried.**

(A management representation letter is a letter issued by a client to the auditor in writing as part of audit evidences. ... It serves to document management's representations during the audit, reducing misunderstandings of management's responsibilities for the financial statements.)

Financial Certification Letter

A certification letter is to be submitted with the annual financial report to the Office of the Utah State Auditor

- **Burdette Weston made a motion for Sim Weston & Mitch Poulsen to sign the Financial Certification letter for the 2024 Audit Albert Johnson seconded the motion, motion carried.**

Staff Report

Mitch Poulsen is working on funding increases for the Regional Commission from the counties and the states. The Bear Lake County budget is set for this year, but a presentation will be put together for next year that hopefully both counties will agree to. Mitch will continue to work with the State contracts. Increased funding is necessary for staffing the Commission and for succession planning and preparation.

Additional funding is also needed for eradicating invasive species.

Mitch stressed the adverse effects of Eurasian Milfoil and suggested that along with funding requests for the Regional Commission, it would also be beneficial to request additional funding to help with the Milfoil issues the lake is having and play a more active role in helping with eradication. Idaho Department of Ag is involved along with Forestry Fire and State lands in Utah. The programs are not using proportionate efforts and coordination, and funding would be very beneficial to the success of their efforts.

Idaho Department of Ag notified Mr. Poulsen of a second finding of Quagga Mussel villagers in the Snake River around the Twin Falls area. They are instigating their rapid response and protocols.

Utah State Legislature passed a bill last year that requires all counties and most cities to write a water component of their comprehensive plan. Funding is available so Mitch will seek about \$20,000 to do the water element of this for the county.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were reviewed and approved.

- **Bradley Jensen made a motion to approve the August 28th meeting minutes. Ron Jensen seconded the motion, motion carried.**

Bills & Payroll

The bills and payroll for the Bear Lake Regional Commission were reviewed, a motion was made to approve them.


- **Albert Johnson made a motion to accept and approve payment of the September 2024 bills and Payroll, for the Bear Lake Regional Commission. Ron Jensen seconded the motion, motion carried.**

Adjourn


With no further business, the meeting ended at 8:24 p.m.

- **Burdette Weston motioned to adjourn the meeting of the Bear Lake Regional Commission
Brad Jensen seconded the motion, motion carried.**

Minutes Approved:



Chairman



Date