

Wasatch Open Lands Board Meeting (WOLB)

May 8, 2023; 6:30 pm MT

Held Online and in Wasatch County Building, downstairs Conference Room, 25 N Main, Heber City, UT.

Online Login Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86867481810?pwd=Y2xEU1lHV1Z6Y2xGK1ZOTTdaY1RaZz09>

Dial in: +1 669 900 6833 US

Meeting ID: 868 6748 1810

Passcode: 291694

Send any public comments to: openlands@wasatch.utah.gov

Board Member Attendees: Heidi Franco, Karl McMillan, Steve Farrell, Steve Stevens, Justin Keys, Tracy Taylor

Other Attendees: Tiarra Cooper, Wendy Fisher, Maeve Stevens

AGENDA:

Welcome

1- Public Comments – Open to All: No public comments

2- Approval of April 10, 2023, Draft Minutes.

Motion to approve: Karl McMillan

2nd: Steve Farrell

Vote: unanimous

3- NOI – Notice of Interest Applications: Board discussion, updates, & action.

Wendy from Utah Open Lands gave an update that the Giles project was recorded earlier that day. Give thanks to WOLB and county staff for their efforts and assistance. Commends Giles family for their tenacity in getting this project done.

Heidi wants to see what was required by the county attorney for the board's record. Wendy suggests looking at the final purchase agreement because it has a form of the conservation easement attached to it.

Steve F. to discuss with Dustin about setting preapproved funds set aside in escrow for future need in Giles project.

Tiarra to collect a copy of the purchase agreement, recorded Notice of Interest, and Conservation Easement and send to board members of Giles project. **(Sent to board members on May 11)**

Steve F: Would like to get started on the JSSD project. Will facilitate meeting between Wendy and Max Covey with JSSD.

4- Discuss 2022 Annual Report to County Council on May 10, 2023.

Annual report moved to County Council on May 17, 2023.

5- Updates/Reports from Wasatch County Council, Midway City, and Heber City on open space bond funding, and preservation efforts.

Midway:

Dr. Steve: Midway City Council in budget planning process talked about setting money aside to offset some small parcels.

Approval of May 8th 2023, Draft Minutes.

Wasatch County Council:

Steve F: gives update on tracking conservation easement efforts. County will be creating an Ordinance for requirements on conservation easements to aid Wasatch County Assessor's office in being able to give taxable amount reductions.

Wendy provided feedback relating to state code and federal requirements relating to conservation easement along with respect to the farmland act.

Heidi: Could we create a map of all conservation easement affected property?

Wendy: Issue with public map is not all conservation easements are for the use of the public.

Steve F: Would be beneficial to show the public where the open space bond funds are going.

Heidi: We would need some sort of map so that the accomplished conservation easements can be showed when the second bond is applied for.

Steve F: Craig Butters and Kelly Pehrson from UDAF gave presentation in regards to open space to Wasatch County Council at the last council meeting. UDAF also talked about the Agricultural Protection Area. County Council expresses support for agriculture protection areas in the north fields.

Heber City:

Heidi: Open Space Committee is focusing on trails and park designs at the moment.

Tracy: Would like to see the updated draft of Muirfield Park

Heidi: Shared and discussed pdf image of the proposed Muirfield Park Conservation Project

https://heber-ut.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=1&clip_id=1187&meta_id=101580

Steve F: Rocky Mountain Power purchased 20 acres in north fields. Has Utah Open Lands had any luck on getting them to do a conservation easement?

Wendy: Have not had any luck in the past. If they want to reserve part of their property it would be worth the conversation with them in regards to doing a conservation easement.

Heidi: Provo River Mitigation Commission has approved some of their money be used for conservation easements. Property doesn't have to be contiguous.

6- Miscellaneous Items, call for next month's agenda items.

-Discussion of cancelling October 9, 2023 meeting for Columbus Day Holiday

**Correction to Indigenous People Day.

Motion to approve: Karl McMillan

2nd: Tracy Taylor

Vote: unanimous

7- Closed Session per U.C.A. 52-4-205 if needed.

Motion to adjourn: Dr. Steve Stevens

2nd: Tracy Taylor

Vote: unanimous

2023 Meeting Schedule:

2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm.

June 12, 2023

July 10, 2023

August 14, 2023

September 11, 2023

~~October 9, 2023~~

November 13, 2023

December 11, 2023