



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION (“CWC”) BOARD MEETING HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024, AT 3:30 P.M. THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED BOTH IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM. THE ANCHOR LOCATION WAS MILLCREEK CITY HALL.

Board Members: Mayor Jeff Silvestrini, Chair
Christopher F. Robinson
Bill Ciraco
Mayor Mike Weichers
Mayor Monica Zoltanski
Mayor Roger Bourke
Mayor Dan Knopp
Carlton Christensen, Ex Officio Member
Annalee Munsey, Ex Officio Member

Staff: Lindsey Nielsen, Executive Director
Samantha Kilpack, Director of Operations
Shane Topham, CWC Legal Counsel

Others: Laura Briefer
Tom Diegel
Ron Stewart, Gilbert & Stewart CPAs
Adam Shaw, U.S. Forest Service
Greg Severson, Sandy City Police Department
Jake Brown, Utah Department of Transportation
Phoebe McNeally, University of Utah DIGIT Lab
Dylanger McKissen, CWC Youth Council
Pete Benda, CWC Youth Council
Ryan McCann, CWC Youth Council

OPENING

1. Chair Jeff Silvestrini will Call the Meeting to Order and Welcome Board Members and the Public.

Chair Jeff Silvestrini called the Central Wasatch Commission (“CWC”) Board Meeting to order at approximately 3:34 p.m. and welcomed those present.

1 **2. Chair Silvestrini will Thank Commissioner Dave Whittekiend for His Years of**
2 **Service on the Board.**

3
4 **a. (Action) The Board will Consider Approving Resolution 2024-24 - Expressing**
5 **Gratitude to David Whittekiend.**

6
7 Chair Silvestrini noted that Dave Whittekiend was not present at the CWC Board Meeting. There
8 was a Resolution before the CWC Board thanking Mr. Whittekiend for his service. Chair
9 Silvestrini expressed appreciation for his contributions and to the U.S. Forest Service for their
10 efforts.

11
12 **MOTION:** Mayor Bourke moved to APPROVE Resolution 2024-24 – Expressing Gratitude to
13 David Whittekiend. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the
14 unanimous consent of the Board.

15
16 **3. (Action) The Board will Consider Approving the Minutes of the CWC Board Meeting**
17 **on August 5, 2024.**

18
19 **MOTION:** Mayor Weichers moved to APPROVE the Meeting Minutes from August 5, 2024.
20 Mayor Knopp seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.

21
22 **PRESENTATION OF 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR AUDIT**

23
24 **1. Auditor Ron Stewart of Gilbert and Stewart CPAs will Present the 2023-2024 Fiscal**
25 **Year Audit.**

26
27 Ron Stewart of Gilbert and Stewart CPAs introduced himself to the CWC Board. He explained
28 that Gilbert and Stewart CPAs were contracted to do the audit for the organization for the 2023-
29 2024 Fiscal Year. For an organization like the CWC, there are three areas looked at. It is necessary
30 to ensure that the financial statements are materially correct and meet accounting standards. The
31 internal controls need to be designed, implemented and worked effectively. Lastly, State
32 compliance needs to be followed in the areas examined during the fiscal year. He read from the
33 Auditor's Report:

- 34
35 • In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material
36 respects, the financial position of the business-type activities of CWC as of June 30, 2024,
37 and the change in financial position and where applicable cash flows, for the years then
38 ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of
39 America.

40
41 Mr. Stewart explained that this is a clean opinion or the best opinion that can be received. He
42 outlined how that opinion was reached. Confirmations were sent out, a number of invoices were
43 pulled, contracts were reviewed, and balances were calculated. There were a number of analytical
44 reviews conducted as well. Mr. Stewart reported that internal controls are also considered. The
45 intention is to make sure those are implemented and working well. This is done by reviewing the
46 Policy and Procedures manual, conducting interviews with CWC Staff, walkthroughs, sampling,

1 and pulling invoices. Based on the walkthroughs, interviews, and procedures, there is nothing that
2 rises to the level of material weakness or a significant deficiency. While they do not provide an
3 opinion on internal controls, those were evaluated. It is believed those are implemented and
4 working effectively.

5
6 The third area that is considered is State compliance. Mr. Stewart explained that the State Auditor
7 gives certain procedures to perform each year. This year, budgetary compliance, fund balance,
8 fraud risk assessment, cash, and Board Members were examined. The procedures were performed
9 to see whether the organization was in compliance. Through the testing that was done, it was
10 determined that there is compliance in those areas based on State Law. He is available to answer
11 any questions.

12
13 Chair Silvestrini thanked Mr. Stewart for stepping in on short notice, as their other auditor was
14 unable to fulfill the obligation. He appreciates the work done by the auditor as well as the financial
15 management of the organization that resulted in the findings that were presented. Mr. Stewart
16 thanked the CWC Staff and pointed out that they did an excellent job responding to all of the
17 questions.

18 19 **SKI BUS PRIORITY ACCESS PROGRAM DISCUSSION**

20 21 **1. Sandy City Police Department will Discuss the Ongoing Ski Bus Priority Access** 22 **Program in Sandy City.**

23
24 Executive Director, Lindsey Nielsen, shared information about the Ski Bus Priority Access
25 Program. She explained that the program involves the CWC, Sandy City Police Department, Utah
26 Transit Authority (“UTA”), and the Utah Department of Transportation (“UDOT”). It now also
27 includes the Cottonwood Heights Police Department. The Ski Bus Priority Access Program has
28 been implemented for the last few years along Wasatch Boulevard on canyon closure days on State
29 Road 210.

30
31 Mayor Monca Zoltanski introduced Greg Severson from the Sandy City Police Department and
32 Jake Brown from UDOT. Mr. Severson shared a high-level overview of the program. A few years
33 ago, Sandy City annexed the triangle above Wasatch Boulevard and north of Little Cottonwood
34 Road into the city. There were immediately phone calls from residents who could not get back
35 into their neighborhoods because of closure days. Traffic was completely stacked up on Little
36 Cottonwood Road. At the time, the Sandy City Police Department came up with a Canyon
37 Resident Pass, which was handed out to residents of the triangle. If those residents left, the passes
38 could be presented when coming back through the checkpoint at Wasatch Boulevard. That made
39 it possible to access the area.

40
41 In 2021, there was contact from the CWC with a proposal for a bus bypass service for UTA ski
42 buses. Mr. Severson explained that on closure days, traffic backed all the way into Sandy City.
43 There were anywhere from 700 to 1,200 vehicles that were stacking on 9400 South, Little
44 Cottonwood Road, and into the neighborhoods. He shared an example image of Little Cottonwood
45 Road in 2021. There was no shoulder on Little Cottonwood Road, so the ski buses would be
46 moved into the opposite travel lane and those would be escorted by police vehicles to the park and

ride. That was also done with the County shuttles that year to assist with the bypass service. Mr. Severson expressed appreciation for the CWC and the partnership that was established at that time, as the service has been beneficial.

Mr. Severson explained that Mayor Zoltanski challenged the Sandy City Police Department to set something up where vehicles were stacked on Wasatch Boulevard instead. Working with partners within the various departments, the bicycle lane was plowed and vehicles were stacked on Wasatch Boulevard. This opened Little Cottonwood Road further and changed how the bus bypass service operated. Mr. Severson reported that the service is fairly staff intensive because there must be three officers at the intersection to block vehicles and let residents and resort employees through.

Mr. Severson explained that messaging was released to communicate how the queue worked. People were quick to learn and it seems everyone knows how to participate now. He reported that as vehicles show up at that intersection of Little Cottonwood Road and Wasatch Boulevard, the vehicles are directed south on Wasatch Boulevard to the end of the queue. He shared some example images. There are some facility issues since there are no restrooms up and down that stretch. As the canyon is becoming more and more popular, he anticipates that vehicles will need to be stacked on 1700 East and may end up running into Draper. Those are challenges that are important to consider.

Mayor Zoltanski asked whether certain issues have been resolved, such as vehicles in neighborhoods and road rage incidents. Mr. Severson explained that under the old system, where vehicles were stacked on Little Cottonwood Road, it was controlled chaos. There were people who would sit in the neighborhoods, and as soon as the canyon opened, there was a rush to enter. This program has essentially brought more order to the situation. He reported that under the old system, roads were completely clogged at times, especially on 9400 South. All traffic, all ways, is open now with the program in place, with the exception of the eastbound traffic on Little Cottonwood Road.

Tom Diegel noted that during snowstorms, the Police Department can be stressed because there are issues all over. He asked how the resources are. Mr. Severson reported that the Police Department is fully staffed in the Traffic Division, which typically handles the majority of the traffic crashes. The shifts associated with the Ski Bus Priority Access Program are overtime shifts that officers sign up for and are on-call for. There have not been issues with staffing for the existing program needs.

Mr. Brown stated that Sandy City has been a good partner with UDOT during the operations and canyon closures. Every year, the program improves. It is wonderful to see everyone working together to create positive change. He shared information about traction control. One of the biggest complaints has to do with improper vehicles in the canyon and improper traction devices. Previously, there was an education program and sticker program put in place. The education has been taken as far as it can. Now, there needs to be a focus on enforcement. UDOT is increasing enforcement with funds from the Legislature. Based on studies and surveys, it is clear there is a desire for more enforcement. There will be a partnership with Cottonwood Heights, Sandy City, and the Sheriff's Department to increase traction enforcement in Big Cottonwood and Little Cottonwood Canyon.

1
2 Sandy Police Department will take care of the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon and will make
3 sure vehicles are properly equipped. Cottonwood Heights Police Department will do the same
4 thing at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. The Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department will
5 be used for vehicle assistance in the canyons to make sure canyon traffic continues to move. The
6 extra officers will also be used at Snowbird Entry 1 to control the merge there. Mr. Brown
7 explained that there is a desire to ease the congestion at Snowbird Entry 1. He noted that up to
8 three feet on the shoulder has been paved to move vehicles further off the road. Some people were
9 parking right on the white line. He added that several signs have been installed for more
10 communication and information sharing. 30 additional stalls in the Big Cottonwood Canyon park
11 and ride have also been added.

12
13 Mr. Brown reported that remote avalanche detonators have been added on Mount Superior, which
14 will make things a lot faster. These are effective, which means it will be possible to open the road
15 sooner. The avalanche system will work well and is designed to keep people safe and keep the
16 roads open. Commissioner Christopher Robinson asked whether the signs previously mentioned
17 are fixed or portable. Mr. Brown clarified that those are fixed to the ground. Several messages
18 can be shared.

19
20 Chair Silvestrini asked whether rental companies have been encouraged to use snow tires. This
21 was confirmed. Mr. Brown noted that there have been meetings with rental car agencies, Visit
22 Salt Lake, and resorts. Many vehicles have the stickers and those interested in visiting the canyons
23 can choose those vehicles from the rental company. Mayor Mike Weichers thanked everyone at
24 UDOT who has played a role in this work. There are a lot of benefits to Cottonwood Heights
25 because of the program.

26
27 Mr. Brown explained that the goal is to have good vehicles in the canyon. When there are good
28 vehicles in the canyon, the traffic continues to flow well. When there is a vehicle that turns
29 sideways, that is when traffic starts to back up. Mayor Dan Knopp reported that there was a
30 meeting last week with Representative Gay Lynn Bennion, all four ski area managers, and UDOT.
31 Representative Bennion will run a bill to potentially make snow days mandatory from November
32 1 to April 15. Snow tires or a traction device would be necessary during that timeframe. He feels
33 this is encouraging.

34
35 Ex Officio Member, Carlton Christensen, expressed appreciation on behalf of UTA. It is possible
36 to carry more passengers with the same buses if drivers are able to move up and down the canyon
37 without issue. This coming year, UTA is planning to add more surge service to the normally
38 scheduled service. That should add some flexibility. In addition, there is work being done with
39 the resorts in Big Cottonwood Canyon on an employee shuttle. There is also some supplemental
40 service going up Little Cottonwood Canyon. Last year, a little more than half a million passengers
41 were carried, including employees. There is optimism that at least that many will be carried this
42 year as well.

43
44 Mayor Roger Bourke explained that there is often good weather in the morning and vehicles drive
45 up the canyon without issue but are not equipped to come back down when bad weather occurs.
46 As for the comment made about the bill, he was told earlier in the day that the Legislation has that

1 requirement, but it runs from December 15 to February 15. Mr. Brown was uncertain. He noted
2 that most people believe the traction law is an uphill law and not a downhill law. However, there
3 are signs at each resort when people are leaving to state that vehicles must be prepared to enter the
4 highway before leaving the lot. Vehicles should be able to follow the law at any time. That is the
5 reason that the sticker program will continue to be prioritized and encouraged. With enforcement
6 at the bottom of the canyon, he believes there will be a much better situation this year than in
7 previous years.

8
9 Mayor Bourke asked whether it is possible to put the traction laws into effect when there is a
10 forecast for weather issues in the afternoon. This was denied. Mr. Brown explained that the way
11 the rule is written, that cannot be done. Chair Silvestrini noted that the proposed legislation might
12 change that. Additional discussions were had about the traction requirements and the current
13 language in place.

14
15 Chair Silvestrini noted that there is a Resolution on the agenda, which is to approve an agreement
16 with Sandy City for traffic control service. The contract is not to exceed \$50,000, which was
17 adequate last year but not the year before. The Ski Bus Priority Access Program is something the
18 CWC does that is extremely visible and contributes to communities. Chair Silvestrini asked if a
19 similar contract is being contemplated with the Cottonwood Heights Police Department, which
20 was confirmed.

21
22 Mayor Bourke noted that in the past, there were opportunities for people to have their vehicles
23 inspected at this time of year. He wondered if there was a schedule for that. Mr. Brown reported
24 that there will be something on October 17, 2024. There will be a press conference to share
25 information. It is possible to obtain a sticker for vehicles ahead of the snow season. Mr. Diegel
26 reported that there are problems with people parking on the shoulders of Big Cottonwood Canyon
27 and wondered whether UDOT will address that. Mr. Brown clarified that the previously
28 mentioned 3-foot shoulder was not widened, but it was paved. Different solutions will continue
29 to be looked at in the future. Mr. Diegel stated that Spruces, Cardiff, and White Pine will have
30 fees associated with them this year. People might not know what is happening right away and
31 park on the road as a result. He wanted to know if that might put additional pressure on roadside
32 parking. Mr. Brown acknowledged that there may be some pressure on road parking for those
33 who are unwilling to pay for parking. That is where the Town of Brighton and the Sheriff's
34 Department will need to focus on parking enforcement.

35
36 **2. Proposed Resolution 2024-27 - Approving an Agreement with Sandy City for Traffic**
37 **Control Service.**
38

39 It was noted that Resolution 2024-27 will be voted on during the Action Items section of the
40 agenda.
41

1 **ADDITIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL DASHBOARD**

2
3 1. **Phoebe McNeally from the DIGIT Lab will Discuss Supplementing the**
4 **Environmental Dashboard with Additional “Human Element” Data.**
5

6 Ms. Nielsen reported that the CWC has been considering making additions to the Environmental
7 Dashboard. Those additions center on the Human Element. With the completion of the Visitor
8 Use Study, some data has already been added to the Human Element that exists currently. Dr.
9 Phoebe McNeally, who is the lead of the DIGIT Lab at the University of Utah and the main
10 architect of the Environmental Dashboard, is at the CWC Board Meeting to talk about potential
11 additional data.
12

13 Dr. McNeally explained that she shared a draft proposal for the Human Element of the
14 Environmental Dashboard. While there is a desire to add more to that element, there is limited
15 data. So far, there is the Utah State University study from Dr. Jordan Smith, who did trailhead and
16 trail counts. That has been incorporated into the Environmental Dashboard. The next phase is to
17 identify and prioritize the datasets needed to capture the variables that people are looking to
18 measure. She met with Kirk Nichols, who is a recreation ecologist expert and will be guiding a
19 lot of this work. The next tangible part of the Human Element is to incorporate recreation ecology,
20 as current conditions are unknown.
21

22 The proposal is to hold a number of charettes to outline the framework and identify what variables
23 and metrics are needed. From there, it will be possible to create a data prioritization plan to collect
24 the data. Dr. McNeally noted that data collection is usually very expensive, especially when there
25 is no data to start from. As a result, the data collection needs to be prioritized and the goals of the
26 Human Element need to be finalized. Ms. Nielsen added that there are funds allocated in the
27 current budget to cover the technical charettes, if the CWC Board decides to move forward with
28 that. It was determined that there will be additional discussions about the proposal at a future
29 meeting.
30

31 **EXECUTIVE/BUDGET/AUDIT COMMITTEE UPDATES**

32
33 1. **Commissioner Robinson will Discuss the Recent Legislative Field Trip.**
34

35 Commissioner Robinson shared information about the recent Legislative Field Trip. He was able
36 to attend the field trip, which was held on September 19, 2024. Attendees met at the Metropolitan
37 Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy parking lot to avoid delays. There was an orientation where
38 several people shared introductory information with the attendees. Everyone then got onto the bus
39 and went to Big Cottonwood Canyon. There was a stop at Brighton Resort. There was then a
40 drive to Snowbird in Little Cottonwood Canyon. Several Legislators attended, but some could
41 only come at the very beginning of the field trip. Everyone enjoyed the experience, but it was
42 somewhat rushed, because the Legislative Field Trip needed to be done by approximately 1:00
43 p.m.
44

45 Commissioner Robinson reported that the meeting at Snowbird was a chance for the resorts to talk
46 about some of their issues. Ms. Nielsen thanked Ex-Officio Christensen for helping to facilitate

1 the UTA bus and Ex Officio Member, Annalee Munsey, for allowing attendees to gather at the
2 Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy. She also thanked all of the attendees. The
3 goal of the field trip was to bring the Legislators physically into the area and for information to be
4 shared. There was information from UDOT, the ski resort General Managers, environmental
5 representatives, public utilities, Save Our Canyons, the Cottonwood Canyon Community Council,
6 and others.

7
8 **2. The CWC Board Retreat will be on November 1, 2024.**

9
10 **a. Venue will be River Oaks Golf Course in Sandy City.**

11
12 Chair Silvestrini reported that the CWC Board Retreat will take place on November 1, 2024. The
13 location is the River Oaks Golf Course in Sandy City. Ms. Nielsen thanked Mayor Zoltanski for
14 offering that venue, as it will work well for the needs of the CWC Board Retreat. There is a draft
15 agenda for the retreat, which will be brought to the Executive/Budget/Audit Committee.

16
17 **b. Facilitator and Proposed Resolution 2024-25 - Approving an Independent**
18 **Contractor Agreement.**

19
20 It was noted that Resolution 2024-25 will be voted on during the Action Items section of the
21 agenda.

22
23 **3. Planning Status of the Central Wasatch Symposium.**

24
25 **a. Terry Tempest Williams.**

26
27 Chair Silvestrini reported that Terry Tempest Williams will be the keynote speaker at the Central
28 Wasatch Symposium. He thanked Ms. Nielsen for her work securing that. While the honorarium
29 fee is significant for an organization like the CWC, it is a lot less than Terry Tempest Williams
30 customarily charges. Ms. Nielsen reported that the event will take place on January 9 and 10,
31 2025. It will be at Millcreek City Hall. The Central Wasatch Symposium is motivated by a number
32 of goals. It is meant to be informative and to bring the community together around issues related
33 to the Central Wasatch. Additionally, it is meant to be a fun and informative event for all of the
34 attendees.

35
36 On January 9, 2024, the event will start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 5:00 p.m. On January 10, 2024,
37 the event will start at 1:00 p.m. and end at 6:00 p.m. The program will include breakout sessions
38 with leaders of the four systems in the mountains. Ms. Nielsen explained that there will be a
39 transportation panel and ski resort General Manager panel as well as presentations from the Forest
40 Service, Save Our Canyons, Salt Lake Climbers Alliance, and more. A lot of important
41 information will be shared.

42
43 Mayor Zoltanski asked about the difference between the CWC Board Retreat and the Central
44 Wasatch Symposium. Ms. Nielsen clarified that this is the first-ever Central Wasatch Symposium.
45 It is meant to platform the organizations that the CWC works with and allow those organizations
46 to address the public in a more open manner. The CWC Board Retreat is a strategy session and

1 recalibration for the CWC Board. The retreat is a public meeting and members of the public are
2 able to attend. However, the CWC Board Retreat and the Central Wasatch Symposium are
3 completely different events.

4
5 Chair Silvestrini clarified that the CWC Board Retreat is a time when the CWC Board can
6 exchange ideas and set agenda items for the organization moving forward. On the other hand, the
7 Central Wasatch Symposium is more public-facing and more educational in nature. Mayor
8 Zoltanski asked about the attendance and audience. Ms. Nielsen explained that anyone interested
9 in the work happening in and around the Central Wasatch mountains would be an ideal attendee.
10 The outreach plan for the Central Wasatch Symposium will utilize the normal CWC outreach
11 network. There is the newsletter list, social media accounts, website, and press releases. She
12 explained that there will be additional press releases as the event nears. There will also be radio
13 spots. Work has been done with the communication managers at each of the member jurisdictions
14 for further outreach.

15
16 Commissioner Robinson asked that CWC Staff update the calendar invitation for the Central
17 Wasatch Symposium. He requested that the actual times for the event be included on the invitation.

18
19 **b. Registration is Open.**

20
21 Ms. Nielsen reported that registration for the Central Wasatch Symposium is now open. CWC
22 Board Members are able to attend the event for free. The cost is \$50 with a sliding scale if there
23 is a need.

24
25 **c. Catering Needs and Proposed Resolution 2024-29 - Approving Engagement of**
26 **Food Caterers.**

27
28 It was noted that Resolution 2024-29 will be voted on during the Action Items section of the
29 agenda.

30
31 **4. Chair Silvestrini will Discuss the Following Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws:**

32
33 **a. Addition of a Surplus Policy to the Bylaws and Resolution 2024-26 - Amending**
34 **the CWC Bylaws.**

35
36 **b. Discussion of Amendment of the Bylaws to Allow the Appointment of Special**
37 **Advisors to the Board.**

38
39 Chair Silvestrini noted that there have been previous discussions about inviting more ex-officio
40 members to participate on the CWC Board. Specifically, there could be more direct engagement
41 from the ski resorts and a representative from the environmental community. He has spoken to
42 CWC Legal Counsel, Shane Topham, about this matter. Rather than designate Ex-Officio
43 representatives, which would require an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement, a different
44 approach was considered. The representatives could be Special Advisors to the CWC Board
45 instead of Ex Officio Members, which is something that can be accomplished with a bylaw change
46 and handled by the CWC Board.

1 Mr. Topham explained that this is a simpler way to accomplish the goal of that additional
2 representation. It was noted that the bylaw change will be considered later on in the meeting. Ms.
3 Nielsen clarified that this is only a discussion item on the current meeting agenda. The bylaw
4 change that will be considered later is for the Surplus Policy. If there is a desire to add the Special
5 Advisors, then that change will be considered during the CWC Board Meeting scheduled for
6 December 2024.

7
8 Chair Silvestrini shared information about the Surplus Policy. The CWC does not currently have
9 a Surplus Policy, but as a governmental agency, it would be best if it did. He explained that the
10 policy would create a mechanism to dispose of property in a way that is compliant with State Law.
11 Additional discussions were had about the process of disposing of property and the surplus
12 website.

13 14 **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE UPDATES**

15 16 **1. Transportation Committee Chair Dan Knopp will Discuss the Recent Activity of the** 17 **Transportation Committee.**

18 19 **a. Millcreek Canyon Shuttle.**

20 21 **b. Year-Round Transit for Big Cottonwood Canyon.**

22 23 **c. Ski Bus Priority Access Program Expansion into Cottonwood Heights.**

24
25 Mayor Knopp shared information about the recent Transportation Committee Meeting that took
26 place on September 10, 2024. There were discussions about the Mountain Accord and what was
27 established at that time. During the meeting, it was determined that the focus should be on Big
28 Cottonwood Canyon transit and the study of a Big Cottonwood Canyon/Park City connection. He
29 reminded those present that Little Cottonwood Canyon is involved in the UDOT Little Cottonwood
30 Canyon Environmental Impact Statement (“EIS”) related lawsuits. However, it is possible to focus
31 on what is happening elsewhere. There was also a discussion about a potential Millcreek Canyon
32 shuttle and the expansion of the Ski Bus Priority Access Program, which was mentioned earlier in
33 the meeting.

34
35 Mayor Weichers explained that he was interested in the Ski Bus Priority Access Program and
36 wanted to know why Cottonwood Heights had not participated in the past, so he took time to speak
37 to the Police Chief about it. In the last year, Cottonwood Heights has hired a separate traffic
38 control group and the Police Chief now feels comfortable that it is possible for Cottonwood
39 Heights to participate.

40
41 Ms. Nielsen shared additional information about the expansion of the Ski Bus Priority Access
42 Program into Cottonwood Heights. She explained that after the program was implemented on the
43 Sandy City side of Wasatch Boulevard, there was traffic congestion on the Cottonwood Heights
44 side. It is not a significant problem at this time, but the idea is to address it before it becomes an
45 out-of-control problem. This relates to traffic buildup on the Cottonwood Heights side on SR-210
46 closure days and closure days for SR-190. There will be additional discussions with the

1 Cottonwood Heights Police Department about the program expansion and what will be done on
2 those closure days.

3
4 Mayor Knopp noted that there are three or four closures per year in Big Cottonwood Canyon as
5 opposed to 25 to 30 closures in Little Cottonwood Canyon. It is less of a problem in Big
6 Cottonwood Canyon, but it is still important to have a plan in place to manage the associated issues
7 there.

8 9 **STAKEHOLDERS COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

10 11 **1. Stakeholders Council Chair and Co-Chair John Knoblock and Tom Diegel will** 12 **Discuss with the Board the Recent Activities of the Stakeholders Council.**

13 14 **a. The Next Stakeholders Council Meeting will be on November 20, 2024.**

15
16 Mr. Diegel explained that he is the Co-Chair of the Stakeholders Council and is present at the
17 meeting to share updates with the CWC Board. He reported that the Stakeholders Council met in
18 September. There was a high level of participation. Council Members broke out into groups and
19 spoke about the Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area Act (“CWNCRA”).
20 This included potential opportunities and limitations associated with the CWNCRA. At the
21 meeting, there was a determination made to summarize the discussion points. Once that
22 summarization has been completed, he suggested that the CWC Board review the comments.
23 Chair Silvestrini thought it would be beneficial to discuss those comments and the CWNCRA
24 during the CWC Board Retreat.

25
26 Mr. Diegel reported that the subcommittees have met recently. The Transportation Systems
27 Committee Meeting had discussions about the Big Cottonwood Canyon Mobility Action Plan
28 (“BCC MAP”). It was noted that the gravel pit will essentially end their operations relatively soon
29 and there is some plan to move forward on a parking structure at the mouth of Big Cottonwood
30 Canyon. Mayor Weichers clarified that the mining aspect of the operations will end before the
31 end of the year, but the asphalt operations will continue through 2025. The property owner is
32 currently looking into development opportunities. Mr. Diegel thought additional parking near the
33 mouth would be helpful.

34
35 The Environment Systems Committee discussed the Environmental Dashboard Survey. There was
36 some conversation about the questions, as there is a desire to ensure that all Committee Members
37 are supportive of the questions, phrasing, and how the information will be used. The Millcreek
38 Canyon Committee met and the focus of that meeting was to speak to the Acting Salt Lake District
39 Ranger, Adam Shaw. Committee Members shared background information about the history of
40 the Millcreek Canyon shuttle program. This included details about the Fehr & Peers study from
41 2012. Mr. Diegel noted that the Millcreek Canyon Committee has done a lot of outreach for
42 parking locations. He reminded those present that the Federal Lands Access Program (“FLAP”)
43 grant construction in the upper canyon will start in the spring. The Upper Canyon Road will be
44 closed for the summer of 2025/2026.

1 Chair Silvestrini reported that Virginia Way, which is the frontage road on the freeway, is a city
2 right-of-way. Millcreek City has indicated that the parking there will be made available for a
3 shuttle program and the city will assist in speaking to the Granite School District about a program
4 where the parking at Skyline High School could be used for parking on off-school days and hours.
5 The Recreation Systems Committee also met recently, but Mr. Diegel was unable to attend that
6 meeting.

7
8 Mayor Knopp informed those present that there will be a ribbon cutting on October 9, 2024, from
9 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Silver Lake Visitor Center for the completion of the boardwalk.

10
11 **b. Proposed Resolution 2024-28 - Releasing and Appointing Members of the**
12 **Stakeholders Council.**
13

14 It was noted that Resolution 2024-28 will be voted on during the Action Items section of the
15 agenda.

16
17 **STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS**
18

19 **1. Forest Service Staffing Update.**
20

21 **a. New District Ranger Introduction.**
22

23 Ms. Nielsen noted that the Acting Salt Lake District Ranger is present at the CWC Board Meeting.
24 Mr. Shaw introduced himself to Board Members and explained that he will serve in the position
25 for four months and he is approximately five weeks into his time in the role. He has come to the
26 Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest from the Intermountain Region regional office where he
27 was the Regional Environmental Coordinator. Prior to that, he was a liaison from the Regional
28 Foresters Office to the State of Utah. Mr. Shaw grew up in Salt Lake City and has spent a lot of
29 time in the tri-canyon area. He is familiar with a lot of the challenges that are currently facing the
30 different canyons.

31
32 Mayor Knopp asked whether Mr. Shaw was in the running for the permanent position. Mr. Shaw
33 reported that he will submit for that position, but there are others who are interested in it as well.
34

35 **2. Youth Council Updates and Introductions.**
36

37 **a. Dylanger McKissen Introduction.**
38

39 Ms. Nielsen reported that there are CWC Youth Council Members present at the CWC Board
40 Meeting. Dylanger McKissen explained that he works at Friends of Alta and is a substitute teacher
41 in the Granite School District. He has a Bachelor of Arts from an interdisciplinary program, that
42 concentrated on environmental studies. He is working on his graduate school application. The
43 part of the Mountain Accord that appeals most to him is conservation. He is interested in
44 understanding how to encourage people to be more involved and how to be more interested in
45 conservation efforts.
46

1 **b. Pete Benda Introduction.**

2
3 Pete Benda reported that he is in the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism program at the University of
4 Utah. He is a senior and is close to graduation. Mr. Benda is a skier and that started his interest
5 in outdoor recreation studies. He explained that he wants to see more diversity and inclusion
6 moving forward. Chair Silvestrini noted that there have been some changes to State Law, but this
7 organization has always been focused on ensuring that there is access to the mountains for
8 everyone.
9

10 **c. Ryan McCann.**

11
12 Ryan McCann introduced himself to the CWC Board. He explained that he is from the east coast
13 originally, but moved to the west coast. He has a background in Federal policy and works for
14 Wasatch Adaptive Sports on the development team. It is a non-profit providing free recreation for
15 people with various abilities. Mr. McCann stated that he has been interested in transportation
16 issues more recently. Ms. Nielsen reported that Mr. McCann recorded an episode of the In The
17 Wasatch podcast.
18

19 **d. The Outdoor Film Festival was a Success.**

20
21 Ms. Nielsen reported that the Outdoor Film Festival was held recently and it was successful. Seven
22 films were screened and one was produced by Mr. Diegel. It was a wonderful event overall.
23

24 **3. CWC Board Retreat will be held in person on November 1, 2024, at the River Oaks**
25 **Golf Course in Sandy.**

26
27 Ms. Nielsen reminded Board Members that the CWC Board Retreat will be held on November 1,
28 2024, at the River Oaks Golf Course in Sandy City. She hoped to see everyone attend that in
29 person.
30

31 **4. Registration is Open for the Central Wasatch Symposium.**

32
33 Ms. Nielsen reported that registration for the Central Wasatch Symposium is now open.
34

35 **5. In the Wasatch Podcast.**

36
37 There are many episodes of the In The Wasatch podcast available to listen to. Ms. Nielsen reported
38 that the podcast is available for streaming on Spotify. Anyone interested in recording an episode
39 with Community Engagement Coordinator, Mia McNeil, can reach out to a member of CWC Staff.
40

41 **6. Thank You to the City of Millcreek for Hosting our Board and Stakeholders Council**
42 **Meetings.**

43
44 Ms. Nielsen thanked the City of Millcreek for continuing to host the meetings.
45

1 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

2
3 There were no public comments.
4

5 **COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

6
7 Mayor Zoltanski expressed excitement that Sandy will host the CWC Board Retreat in November.
8 She wondered whether Board Members would be interested in seeing and hearing about the Sandy
9 City sustainability efforts. She would enjoy learning about efforts from other member cities as
10 well. Chair Silvestrini was supportive of that suggestion and thought time should be allotted for
11 this.
12

13 **ACTION ITEMS**

14
15 **1. (Action) Consideration of Resolution 2024-27 - Approving an Agreement with Sandy**
16 **City for a Traffic Control Service.**
17

18 **MOTION:** Commissioner Robinson moved to APPROVE Resolution 2024-27 – Approving an
19 Agreement with Sandy City for a Traffic Control Service. Mayor Zoltanski seconded the motion.
20 The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.
21

22 **2. (Action) Consideration of Resolution 2024-25 - Approving an Independent**
23 **Contractor Agreement with Karen Hevel-Mingo for Facilitation Services.**
24

25 **MOTION:** Mayor Zoltanski moved to APPROVE Resolution 2024-25 – Approving an
26 Independent Contractor Agreement with Karen Hevel-Mingo for Facilitation Services. Mayor
27 Weichers seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.
28

29 **3. (Action) Consideration of Resolution 2024-29 - Approving Engagement of Food**
30 **Caterers for the 2025 Central Wasatch Symposium.**
31

32 **MOTION:** Commissioner Robinson moved to APPROVE Resolution 2024-29 – Approving
33 Engagement of Food Caterers for the 2025 Central Wasatch Symposium. Mayor Knopp seconded
34 the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.
35

36 **4. (Action) Consideration of Resolution 2024-26 - Amending the CWC Bylaws.**
37

38 **MOTION:** Mayor Weichers moved to APPROVE Resolution 2024-26 – Amending the CWC
39 Bylaws. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous
40 consent of the Board.
41

42 **5. (Action) Consideration of Resolution 2024-28 - Releasing and Appointing Members**
43 **of the Stakeholders Council.**
44

45 **MOTION:** Commissioner Robinson moved to APPROVE Resolution 2024-28 – Releasing and
46 Appointing Members of the Stakeholders Council. Commissioner Ciraco seconded the motion.

1 The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.

2
3 **6. (Action) Consideration of Resolution 2024-30 - Approving an Interlocal Agreement**
4 **with Salt Lake City Public Utilities for Tri-Canyon Restroom Maintenance Funding.**
5

6 Ms. Nielsen reported that Resolution 2024-30 – Appointing an Interlocal Agreement with Salt
7 Lake City Public Utilities for Tri-Canyon Restroom Maintenance Funding is the agreement with
8 Salt Lake City Public Utilities. It allows them to contribute funding to the CWC to execute the
9 umbrella contract that is administered. It provides trailhead restroom maintenance for the Forest
10 Service trailhead restrooms in the tri-canyons. This is a group effort amongst many jurisdictions,
11 including Salt Lake City Public Utilities, the Town of Brighton, and CWC. The intention is to
12 centralize the many individual contracts into one contract. Director of Operations, Samantha
13 Kilpack, reported that the umbrella contract has already been executed with the Town of Brighton
14 and the Forest Service. This is the final piece of that contract. The agreement is largely unchanged
15 from the one seen last year.

16
17 **MOTION:** Mayor Knopp moved to APPROVE Resolution 2024-30 – Approving an Interlocal
18 Agreement with Salt Lake City Public Utilities for Tri-Canyon Restroom Maintenance Funding.
19 Mayor Bourke seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.

20
21 **OTHER BUSINESS**
22

23 There was no additional business.

24
25 **CLOSING**
26

27 **1. Chair Silvestrini will Call for a Motion to Adjourn the Board Meeting.**
28

29 **MOTION:** Chair Silvestrini moved to ADJOURN the CWC Board Meeting. Commissioner
30 Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.

31
32 The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

1 *I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Central*
2 *Wasatch Commission Board Meeting held Monday, October 7, 2024.*
3

4 Teri Forbes

5 Teri Forbes

6 T Forbes Group

7 Minutes Secretary

8

9 Minutes Approved: _____