

APPROVED

NOVEMBER 19, 2025

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MINUTES OF THE **WORK SESSION** OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CENTRAL UTAH WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2025, AT 11:30 AM AT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, OREM, UTAH.

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Shelley Brennan, Chair
Wayne Andersen, Vice Chair
Jon Bronson
Kirk Christensen
Steve Farrell
Wade E. Garner

Max Haslem
Marvin Kenison
Kathy Wood Loveless
L. Alma Mansell
Greg McPhie

Eldon Neves
Jim Riding
Jennifer Scott
Randy Vincent
Brad Wells

TRUSTEES EXCUSED

Steve Hanberg

STAFF PRESENT

Gene Shawcroft, General Manager
Lisa Anderson, Board Executive Assistant
Rob Moore, Legal Counsel
Kirk Beecher, Engineering Manager
Gary Brimley, Project Engineer
Ric Cantrell, Director of Strategic Engagement
Heath Clark, Engineering Manager
Kent Cottle, IT Manager
Chris Elison, Engineering Manager
Matthew Gregg, Computer System Specialist
David Imlay, Raw Water Operations Manager
Shawn Lambert, CFO
Bart Leeftang, Assistant General Manager

Alex Lowell, Project Engineer
Rick Maloy, Project Coordinator
Roger Pearson, CUPCA/Special Programs Manager
Brad Perkins, Engineering Manager
Mike Rau, Finished Water Operations Manager
Zack Seipert, Marketing and Comms Specialist
Bronson Stewart, Controller
Amanda Strack, Water Conservation Manager
Sarah Sutherland, Environmental Program Manager
Bruce Ward, Chief Engineer
Paulette Webster, Contract Administrator
Mike Whimpey, Assistant General Manager
Gerard Yates, Deputy General Manager

Chair Shelley Brennan called the meeting to order at 11:34 am.

Chair Brennan announced that a sign-up sheet for upcoming conferences is available and encouraged trustees to register if interested. She also noted that staff are evaluating the use of iPads in place of printed packets and asked trustees to indicate their preference on the sheet so arrangements can be made.

Rob Moore, Legal Counsel, reported that the District's employee handbook was reviewed in compliance with Utah Code Section 17B-1-802 and federal law, with no revisions required.

Amanda Strack, Conservation Program Manager, presented the 2025 Water Conservation and Efficiency Plan. The Plan will guide District conservation efforts for the next five years and meets State Code requirements for a reduction goal, implementation timeline, and notification procedures. Stakeholder feedback identified cultural norms and resistance to change as major barriers. Cities requested regional campaigns, grants, cost-share programs, rebates, and funding support. Surveys showed that 50% of respondents have participated in District programs, and over 80% are willing to make landscape changes. The proposed Plan retains existing programs, expands several, and introduces four new initiatives. Trustee Bronson commended the Plan's comprehensive approach.

Gene Shawcroft, General Manager, reviewed the professional services contract for strategic and legislative communications (Prep60). He explained that the initiative began with the “Slow the Flow” campaign and evolved into a collaborative effort among four water districts (JVWCD, WBWCD, WCWCD, and CUWCD) to develop a statewide water plan and address legislative and public relations needs. Prep60 played a key role in creating the Statewide Water Infrastructure Plan (SWIP), a 50-year roadmap adopted by the State. The current contract, managed by JVWCD, expires this year, with costs shared among the districts to ensure consistent messaging while maintaining autonomy. Gene emphasized that the team consists of experienced water and communications professionals.

In response to a question from Trustee Wells, Gene noted that the District is not aware of Representative Owens’ efforts to secure federal funding for a Gunnison water project. He emphasized that the District is focused on maintaining CUPCA funding as a separate federal budget line item and remains cautious about pursuing additional federal revenue sources.

Zack Seipert, Marketing and Communications Specialist, presented the Nebo Regional Water Project video, designed to educate the public and recognize the pioneers who developed water resources in South Utah and Juab Counties. The production incorporated historical photos and documents provided by the Strawberry Water Users Association and High Line Canal Company.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

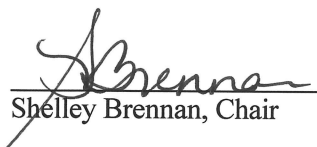
Gene Shawcroft provided an update on Colorado River negotiations, highlighting three main discussion points:

1. **Upper Basin Initial Units** – Debate over whether water released from Lake Powell, Navajo, Flaming Gorge, and Blue Mesa should belong to the Lower Basin without conservation obligations.
2. **Upper Basin Commitments** – Questions on whether Upper Basin states can commit to specific release volumes despite uncertain natural inflows or reductions under certain conditions.
3. **Lower Basin Reductions** – Proposal for a 1.5 MAF reduction through “intentionally created surplus” (ICS), with concerns about whether ICS use represents a true reduction.

Gene noted that California and Arizona have not agreed on moving beyond the 1.5 MAF reduction.

The November 11 deadline was to ensure sufficient progress has been made to continue discussions, not a signed deal; the final recommendation is due to the federal government by February 14, 2026. He stated that the federal government prefers not to impose a deal but has not indicated what an imposed solution would entail. Negotiations involve seven Basin State Commissioners and three federal representatives: Assistant Secretary Andrea Travnicek, Acting Commissioner Scott Cameron, and Deputy Commissioner David Palumbo.

The meeting adjourned at 12:19 pm.


Shelley Brennan, Chair


Gene Shawcroft, General Manager