

**CENTRAL UTAH WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS, OREM, UTAH
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2026
6:00 PM**

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Shelley Brennan, Chair	Kirk Christensen	Al Mansell
Greg McPhie, Vice Chair	Steve Farrell	Jim Riding
G. Wayne Andersen	Wade Garner	Jennifer Scott
Kevin Anderson	Marvin Kenison	Randy Vincent
Jon Bronson	Kathy Wood Loveless	Brad Wells

STAFF PRESENT

Gene Shawcroft, General Manager	Bruce Ward, Chief Engineer
Lisa Anderson, Executive Assistant	Shawn Lambert, Chief Financial Officer
Rob Moore, General Counsel	
Gerard Yates, Deputy General Manager	
Bart Leeftang, Assistant General Manager	
Ric Cantrell, Director of Strategic Engagement	

OTHER ATTENDEES PRESENT (SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

Chair Brennan called the hearing to order at 6:00 PM.

She welcomed attendees and had the Trustees introduce themselves. Chair Brennan explained that the hearing was to receive comments on the proposed tax increase and no other issues would be addressed. She then stated that this was the first of three hearings and then turned the time over to District Assistant General Manager Bart Leeftang.

Mike presented the District's operations, including the Central Utah Project and water treatment plants, and explained the need for the tax increase due to aging infrastructure, wildfire impacts, and necessary capital replacement projects. He shared the District's infrastructure needs, including \$65 million in recent investments and planned capital replacement projects totaling over \$3 million for Heber Valley and \$5 million for Vernal facilities. The proposed tax increase would raise revenue by \$2 million, from \$131 million to \$133 million, representing a 1.5% increase in the tax rate, with the maximum allowable rate

being 0.0004, which would raise the District's revenue by \$2 million. Mike also noted that multiple other entities within the District's boundaries are also proposing tax increases.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Gadd, Pleasant Grove, spoke against the tax increase, stating that as the Trustees are not elected officials, they should not have taxing authority. He recommended that the Trustees resign.

Karen Wignall, Orem, spoke against the tax increase, stating that as a citizen on a fixed income, even a small increase added to the other taxes makes it difficult for her to afford to live in her home.

Dallen Webster (Salt Lake City, online), expressed support for the balanced approach between affordable wholesale costs and infrastructure maintenance.

Mischelle Polish (Draper, online), asked if the District has considered multi-year planning, and alternatives to tax increases, and if the District has a rainy day fund to pull from.

Lynda Shumway (Eagle Mountain, online), expressed concerns about data centers' water taxation and water quality monitoring for them.

Philip Dagostini (Kamass, online), stated that he would like the District to charge for water usage and not raise taxes, as there is no motivation to conserve water.

Aleisa Eaton (email), stated that she would like the tax increase not to happen.

Chair Brennan stated that staff is available after the hearing to address questions raised during the hearing and that for those online, staff would follow up via email to address those who had questions and concerns.

Motion made by Brad Wells to adjourn the hearing at 6:40 PM.

The hearing was then adjourned.