

Central Wasatch Commission Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting to Review the Central Wasatch National
Conservation and Recreation Area Act
Thursday, April 5, 2018 – 12:00 P.M.
Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, Board Room
3430 East Danish Road, Cottonwood Heights, UT 84093

The Central Wasatch Commission Board members met in open meeting on April 5, 2018, at 12:00 p.m. in the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy, Board Room.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Andy Beerman	Commissioner	Excused
Jackie Biskupski	Vice Chair	Excused
Carlos Braceras	Commissioner	Excused
Jim Bradley	Commissioner	Excused
Ben McAdams	Commissioner	Excused
Chris McCandless	Chair	Present
Mike Peterson	Commissioner	Present
Shane Topham	Legal Counsel	Excused
Laura Briefer	SLC Public Utilities Director	Present
Carly Castle	SLC Special Projects Manager	Present
Janine Calfo	Executive Assistant	Present

A. Welcome:

Chris McCandless welcomed the attendees.

B. Central Wasatch Commission Update:

Chair McCandless gave the update. Still interviewing director candidates. Three to four candidates will be interviewed at the next meeting. There is not a quorum present at this meeting. The budget has been adopted. All of the commissioners know the importance of the CWC and are anxious to move forward.

C. Review of Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area Act with Representatives of Congresswoman Mia Love's Office:

Mr. Josh Sattersfield gave an update of the Central Wasatch National Conservation and Recreation Area Act. The bill has not been introduced yet as there are a number of amendments that need to be issues. There have been letters from several ski resorts that have requested changes with regard to avalanche control. The Forest Service has requested changes to some maps. In addition, there is a pending lawsuit. These things will be resolved on a local level.

Is there any questions or feedback that would be helpful to the congresswoman's office. There are questions about the infrastructure. The Chairman and sub-committee were very aggressive about concerns. More information about transportation and what the plans look like is needed.

Mr. Bill Simmons mentioned that the last meeting was with Congressman Curtis. Ms. Linda Hull, UDOT, indicated that the EIS will meet in October and can send information about the timeline.

Mr. Simmons asked if there were some other questions that were lingering from December of last year concerning that the BLM does what they had committed to do. How mature is the transportation component?

Chair McCandless asked if it is necessary for the EIS to be completed for this legislative season? Josh says that there is a concern about putting "the cart before the horse." Ms. Briefer spoke about the sequencing of the timeline. She hopes that the commission and the stakeholders can assure that the momentum won't be lost in putting forward all of the components. All components are important and need to move forward at the same time.

Mr. Simmons noted that all of the components have been negotiated over decades and asked for input from the ski resorts. Chair McCandless asked to keep the input from the panel to the end of the session.

Chair McCandless asked what the process and schedule will be to move forward. Mr. Sattersfield indicated that there is not a concrete time table at this time. Chair McCandless asked if it would be possible to get a checklist of items that need to be completed and if the checklist can be delivered to Mrs. Briefer for distribution to the commission.

Chair McCandless asked about the minor modifications and how to distribute the information to the community. Mr. Sattersfield said that the most transparent process available. April 23rd will be the next CWC meeting and the Congresswoman's staff will be invited to the meeting. Chair McCandless will add it to the agenda for that meeting.

Mr. Simmons asked about the timing. If we modify it, will there have to be another hearing? No, it is not required. Mr. John Curtis is now on the committee. The bill can be marked up after the July recess. Would anything happen after the recesses? Looking to get a markup by June. Mr. Sattersfield was not able to have a hard date for a deadline but will include it in the expected schedule.

The bill can move through the House, but the Senate is another issue. It will need to pass early enough in the House of Representatives to get into the Senate queue. It would be better to get it done and marked up as soon as possible.

Chair McCandless opened for public comment for those who wished to make comments about the bill.

Mr. Bill Clayton, a property owner, wants to protect public lands, ski areas and citizens' rights. Small property owners feel that they were not kept in the loop and were unable to vet the bill before vote. There were some items in the bill that alarmed Mr. Clayton and asked Congresswoman Love to reach out to small, private property owners.

Mr. Mike Maughan, Alta Ski Resort, talked about the growth aspect. How do we work with all of the entities to manage growth? The Accord process indicated that they were willing to give up land for transportation. No longer interested in trading all of the land; Grizzly Gulch is off the table. There will be increasing traffic in the canyon will need to be addressed. Concerned about the overlays. Need avalanche control. Allow ski areas to accommodate growth through transportation and parking solutions (use of private lands).

Mr. John Knoblock, Mount Olympus Community Council, wanted to reiterate the concern that the bill never got through the public review process. No details came out before 2016 with respect to the Bonneville Shoreline trail. The boundary lines were not accommodating and were not resolved. It was indicated that the bill was introduced by Congressman Chaffetz and changes would be disallowed. There is concerned that the utilities are unclear. Mr. Knoblock would like to see a public forum before the bill is reintroduced to Congress.

Mr. Bob Bonar, Snowbird Ski Resort, is very supportive to see the legislation move forward. Need to keep in mind that this is Federal legislation and we are asking for an act of Congress. It will be tough. Still very hopeful that we can work together to achieve the goals of Mountain Accord. Mr. Bonar thinks that there is value in the land exchange. Snowbird would like to exchange close to 1000 acres for parking lots, to continue to focus on recreation for the growing population and public safety.

Mr. Carl Fisher, Save Our Canyons, indicated that his group was able to testify before Congress and wanted to make a point that this piece of the Mountain Accord is very important. There is wiggle room with the legislation, but not enough to keep momentum. Need to have more concrete maps than a sketch on the back of a napkin. The pressure is mounting with the land bill. Disappointed with the Grizzly Gulch elimination. Not comfortable about using already leased land. Looking forward to working with the Congresswoman's office.

Ms. Barbara Cameron, Big Cottonwood Canyon Community Council, indicates that we can solidify the planning process over the years. Concerns about environmental issues and the publicity of the bill.

Chair McCandless mentioned at similar comments and issues have been voiced. We will make as much time available as possible to allow voices to be heard. There is a lot of common ground that we need to move toward. It is important that this gets done. We hope to not only be your voice, but will put these issues on the agenda to make sure they are listened to and be decided upon in a manner that is open to all. Need to get this taken care of before 2019.

D. Other Business:

Ms. Briefer recognized Mr. Mike DeVries from the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy for hosting the meeting.

Chair McCandless mentioned that there are some Mountain Accord books available for people who need them. More will be available at subsequent meetings.

L. Adjournment:

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Janine Calfo, Executive Assistant