

West Colorado River Watershed Council Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 @ 1:00 PM

Price City Public Works Complex - 432 W 600 S - Price, Utah 84501

Welcome, Introductions, and Ensure Quorum - Kevin Cotner/Kerry Cook

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Approval of Meeting Minutes, February 11, 2025 - Kevin Cotner/Kerry Cook

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Agenda Topic: Council Membership 21st Seat - Kevin Cotner/Kerry Cook

Agenda Topic: State Water Plan Overview, Feedback and Basin Discussion - Stephanie McGinnis, State Water Plan Manager

Agenda Topic: Review the Updated Watershed Map - Cody Allred

Agenda Topic: Plan a Council Tour for the Summer - Kevin Cotner/Kerry Cook

Agenda Topic: Plan for Cody's Presentation to the Utah Watersheds Council on April 10th

Open Time for Other Items from Council Members

Public Comment

Schedule Next Meeting Date, Time and Location - Kevin Cotner/Kerry Cook

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Adjourn - Kevin Cotner/Kerry Cook

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DRAFT MINUTES

West Colorado River Watershed Council Meeting

Date: February 11, 2025

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Price City Public Works Complex, Dome A Conference Room

Attendance At Meeting (Council Members)

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone #	Present	Zoom
Autumn Gillard	Piute Tribe	agillard@pitu.gov			
Bart Battista	Utah Wildlife Southern Advisory Council	bartb@bestfriends.org	(435) 275-2962		
Bart Jensen	Jones & Demille Engineering	b.jensen@jonesanddemille.com	(435) 201-2507	X	
Bill Butcher	Price River Conservation District	wrbutcher@gmail.com	(435) 613-9193	X	
Brian Peterson	Fremont Irrigation Company	bigrockcattle@scinternet.net			
Cody Allred	PacifiCorp	cody.allred@pacificorp.com	(435) 687-4306	X	
Dino Kiahtipes	Farmer	circlekdino@gmail.com	(435) 650-0039	X	
Jay Humphrey	Emery Water Conservancy District	Jay.humphrey@ewcd.org	(435) 381-2311	X	
Jeff Richens	Price River Water Improvement District	jrichens@prwid.gov	(435) 636-9402		
Kerry Cook	Wayne County Commission	kerry@wayne.utah.gov	(435) 691-5197		
Kevin Cotner	Carbon Canal Company	kevin@uniteddieselservice.net	(435) 650-4773	X	
Leland Pollock	Garfield County Commission	leland.pollock@garfield.utah.gov			
Mike Noel	Kane County Water Conservancy District	mnoel5603@gmail.com	(435) 644-3997		X
Miles Nelson	Price City	milesn@priceutah.net	(435) 637-5010	X	
Nick Sampinos	Rancher	nsampinos@emerytel.com.net	(435) 820-6191	X	
Randy Erwin	Green River Canal Company	randy@double-e-inc.com			
Russell Seeley	Price River Watershed Council	rseeley@utah.gov	(435) 650-8519	X	
Sue Bellagamba	The Nature Conservancy	sbellagamba@tnc.org	(435) 259-7607		X
Thomas DeHart	Trout Unlimited	thomas.dehart@tu.org		X	
Jaylene Mahleres	Price/Wellington Control Board	jmahleres@emerytel.com.net	(435) 650-1561	X	
Vacant Seat					

Attendance at Meeting (Liaisons to the Council)

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone #	Present	Zoom
Amy Dickey	Utah Division of Water Quality	adickey@utah.gov	(435) 501-9581	X	
Anthony Beals	Natural Resources Conservation Service	anthony.beals@usda.gov			
Cash Stallings	Water Rights	cstallings@utah.gov		X	
Kurt Robins	USFS, Fishlake National Forest	kurtis.robins@usda.gov			
Marc Stilson	Colorado River Authority of Utah	mkstilson@utah.gov	(801) 232-4790	X	
Mark Quilter	Utah Department of Agriculture and Food	mquilter@utah.gov	(801) 201-4397	X	
Michael Freeman	Water Rights Regions Engineer	mjfreeman@utah.gov			
Michele Gabb	Utah Division of Water Rights	michelegabb@utah.gov	(435) 820-4924		

Attendance at Meeting (Division of Water Resources)

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone #	Present	Zoom
Carly Payne	Watershed Councils Coordinator	carlypayne@utah.gov	(801) 600-5629	X	
Rachel Shilton	West Colorado River Area Planning Specialist	rachelshilton@utah.gov		X	

Attendance at Meeting (Others)

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone #	Present	Zoom
Kathy Sherman	Price City	kathys@priceutah.net	(435) 637-5010	X	
Tom Moore	Utah Division of Water Resources/West Colorado River Basin Area Planning Specialist	tmoore@utah.gov			X
Kit Quay	NRCS				X
Stephanie McGinnis	State Water Plan Manager				X

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:09 p.m. by Co-Chair Kevin Cotner.

Roll Call

The above checked off were in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Nick Sampinos motioned to approve the minutes of October 7, 2024 with a correction made to the Agenda Topic "Ongoing Projects Within the Watershed" Bullet #3. Change Pump Station projects to Pump Storage Hydro projects. Motion seconded by Jay Humphrey and carried.

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
Update from Utah Watersheds Council July Meeting	Cody Allred
<p>Discussion Conversation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cody Allred highlighted the key factors regarding the past two (2) Utah Watershed Council meetings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First Meeting Key Factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There was a presentation given by the Executive Director of the Great Salt Lake Watershed Enhancement Trust. Their main focus is protecting and enhancing water flows into the Great Salt Lake. ▪ The Jordan River, West Desert and Uintah Watershed Council are getting their feet on the ground by doing tours. ▪ There was a discussion on a Legislative Sub-Committee making changes to the Watershed Act. The committee is there for any legislative issues we may have. ○ Second Meeting Key Factors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The second meeting was held in Kanab. Three (3) councils gave a presentation on their reports; Kanab Creek & Virgin River, Sevier Creek and Cedar & Beaver. Some highlights that came of their report was regarding invasive species. Most express they are seeing value in the Watershed Council but feel like they are lacking in direction and purpose. ○ Crucial Elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils can add seats that are not stated in the legislation as long as you do not go over twenty-one (21) members (e.g. a need for recreation). ▪ Create a new State Water Plan and update every five (5) years. ▪ Water infrastructure fund study is online to review. ▪ Our committee is required to complete the Open and Public Meetings Act Training. Link will be emailed to Council Members. ▪ The 2025 meetings are scheduled for July and October. ▪ Our report is due for presentation on April 10th. 	

Conclusion Closing: Cody Allred "One goal of this council is we want to take ground level issues and needs we have in our basement and push up to the State Council".

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
Council Membership	Kevin Cotner
<p>Discussion Conversation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Council Membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kevin Cotner nominated Jaylene Mahleres to fill one (1) of the vacant Council seats of a twenty-one (21) member panel. Kevin stated that Jaylene would make a perfect candidate to fill the vacancy due to her knowledge in AG and she currently sits on the Price/Wellington Control Board. Cody Allred motioned to approve Jaylene Mahleres as a Council Member of the West Colorado River Watershed Board. Motion seconded by Bill Butcher and carried. ● Vacancy Seat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council agrees the remaining vacancy seat should be someone from either the Green River or Southern area. <p>Conclusion Closing: Mike Noel will pursue someone in the Southern area. Cash Stallings will reach out to his network in the Southern and Green River areas.</p>	

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
Review & Discuss Interactive Watershed Map	
<p>Discussion Conversation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tom Moore created a map of the area in which the Council represents. The map displays major streams, larger canals and pipes, how the water is being distributed along with AG and secondary water systems. ● Form a committee dedicated to creating the map even further. Cody, Sue, Jaylene, Kevin and Cash have volunteered to be on the committee thus far. ● Add layers with county lines, an index, canal companies & municipal areas. ● An option would be to create a GIS story map that would add a lot more possibilities. ● Cody Allred will present the map we have to the State Watershed Council. <p>Conclusion Closing: Cody Allred "We want to create a solid basemap as a tool to identify our needs and projects".</p>	

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
Ideas for Future Agenda Items – Tours, Presentations and Discussions	
<p>Discussion Conversation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Council needs to schedule some tours at the next meeting for early or late summer. ○ Locations could be in the northern or southern corridor. The Council needs representation from the southern corridor in order to schedule tours within that area. ○ Projects in the northern corridor include the Lower Basin Reservoir location, Olsen Reservoir, Mud Creek Projects, Energy Loop & Emery County Conservancy District projects. 	

- **Presentations**

- Schedule Stephanie McGinnis, State Water Plan Manager on the next agenda to outline the State Water Plan and to receive input, feedback and thoughts from the Council.
- Cash Stallings can arrange to have the Division of Water Rights do a presentation on topics that can be helpful to the Council.
- Marc Stilson has a presentation of the Colorado River Authority issues that can be added as an agenda item.

Conclusion Closing:

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
Other Items	
Discussion Conversation:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Salinity Control Funding Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marc Quilter explained the Salinity Control Funding Program will be open soon and they are hoping for more applications this year. ○ The program can be beneficial for the Carbon Canal. ○ Contact Marc Quilter for further information regarding the program. 	
Conclusion Closing:	

Public Comment

There was no public comment for discussion.

Next Meeting (Date, Time & Location)

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 @ 1:00p.m. – Public Works Complex

- The Council will decide the next meeting date at the conclusion of each meeting.

Adjourn

Bill Butcher motioned for the meeting to adjourn at 2:25 p.m.. Motion seconded by Bart Jensen and carried.