

West Colorado River Watershed Council Meeting Agenda

Thursday, January 15, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

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

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

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Approval of Meeting Minutes, October 16, 2025 - Kevin Cotner/Kerry Cook

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Agenda Topic: Stephanie McGinnis: 1. Public Scoping Meeting Summary (October 22nd) 2. Select a Local Success Story to Highlight in the State Water Plan.

Agenda Topic: Draft a Council Mission Statement.

Agenda Topic: Draft Councils Goals & Objectives.

Agenda Topic: Projects Inventory

Agenda Topic: Mike Noel: Letter Regarding Water Quality.

Agenda Topic: Carly Payne: Discuss a Future Meeting with Conservation Team to Touch on Landscape Ordinances for Cities and Counties.

Agenda Topic: Rachel Shilton: Map Layer for Wildfire Scars.

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: Thursday, October 16, 2025

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: Emery Water Conservancy District Office – 50 South 100 East – Castle Dale

Attendance At Meeting (Council Members)

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone #	Present	Call
Autumn Gillard	Paiute Tribe	agillard@pitu.gov			
Bart Battista	Utah Wildlife Southern Advisory Council	bartb@bestfriends.org	(435) 275-2962		X
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		
Brian Peterson	Fremont Irrigation Company	bigrockcattle@scinternet.net			
Cody Allred	PacifiCorp	cody.allred@pacificorp.com	(435) 687-4306	X	
David Schmucker	Mayor of Big Water Utah	dwschmucker@gmail.com	(928) 660-1777		
Dino Kiahtipes	Farmer	circlekdino@gmail.com	(435) 650-0039		
Ellie Oakley	Nature Conservancy	ellie.oakley@tnc.org			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) 650-4173		
Leland Pollock	Garfield County Commission	leland.pollock@garfield.utah.gov			
Mike Noel	Kane County Water Conservancy District	mnoel5603@gmail.com	(435) 644-3997		
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		
Thomas DeHart	Trout Unlimited	thomas.dehart@tu.org			
Jaylene Mahleres	Price/Wellington Control Board	jmahleres@emerytel.com.net	(435) 650-1561	X	

Attendance at Meeting (Liaisons to the Council)

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone #	Present	Call
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			
Duane Houston	Utah Department of Agriculture and Food	dhouston@utah.gov	(435) 722-4621	X	
Kurt Robins	USFS, Fishlake National Forest	kurtis.robins@usda.gov			
Marc Stilson	Colorado River Authority of Utah	mkstilson@utah.gov	(801) 232-4790		
Michael Freeman	Water Rights Regions Engineer	mjfreeman@utah.gov			
Michele Gabb	Utah Division of Water Rights	michelegabb@utah.gov	(435) 820-4924	X	

Attendance at Meeting (Division of Water Resources)

Name	Affiliation	Email	Phone #	Present	Call
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	Call
Kathy Sherman	Price City	kathys@priceutah.net	(435) 637-5010	X	
Monroe Magnuson	Emery Water Conservancy District	monroe@emerywater.gov	(435) 749-1027	X	

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:34 AM by Council Member Cody Allred.

Roll Call

An X signifies those in attendance on conference call or in-person.

Approval of Minutes

Nick Sampinos motioned to approve the minutes of Wednesday, August 6, 2025 . Motion seconded by Jaylene Mahleres and carried.

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
Development of a Council Mission Statement & Goals UPDATE: Mike Noel's Letter Regarding Water Quality	
Discussion Conversation: Tabled for next meeting on, Thursday, January 15, 2026 - To ensure a productive session, please review the shared document and live links that Carly Payne will email, and come ready to contribute your perspectives on our mission statement, goals, and objectives. - Status of Mike Noel's letter regarding Water Quality.	

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
State Water Plan Update REMINDER: Public Scoping Meeting – Wednesday, October 22, 2025	
Discussion Conversation: Public Scoping Meeting - Wednesday, October 22, 2025 @ 6:00 PM – Castle Dale - Meeting attendance has been low, so we encourage all members to attend. - Stephanie McGinnis will have a general presentation of the contents in the State Water Plan. - Stephanie McGinnis will solicit input on the following three (3) categories: - Vibrant Communities - Productive Agriculture - Healthy Water Sheds - Carly Payne will email flyer to members to circulate. - Carly Payne and Rachel Shilton will coordinate with Stephanie and her team to ensure there is a media plan that includes placing advertisements in local newspapers and on radio stations.	

Lunch & Tour

LUNCH: Provided by, Emery County Conservancy District

TOUR: Adobe Reservoir

Adobe Reservoir is part of the larger network of canals and reservoirs (including Swasey Diversion Dam and Joes Valley Reservoir) managed by the EWCD for supplemental irrigation in Emery County.

Conservation measures at the reservoir level primarily involve:

- System Integration
- Storage Management

The EWCD, which manages the water resources in the area, including the Cottonwood Creek-Huntington Canal and related reservoirs, employs several key conservation and efficiency measures:

- Real-Time Monitoring and Control System (RTMCS)
- Infrastructure Improvements
- Water Allocations
- Supporting End-User Efficiency:

The main conservation strategy in this area is a high level of technological monitoring and control over the agricultural water delivery network, moving away from unmonitored, less efficient methods.

Agenda Topics

Topic	Presenter
Water Projects Inventory	
Discussion Conversation: • The template that was emailed from Carly Payne contains the five (5) major drainages within our boundary. This is an active document. • To ensure a complete and accurate inventory record, we require the Southern council members to provide their current inventory details. • Cody Allred would like to see two (2) documents. One (1) specifically related to Environmental projects. • Rachel Shilton will receive the list from UWIP end of October and she will add those projects along with any board funded projects to the Map Inventory. • Rachel Shilton will email a copy of the list to the members. • Rachel Shilton will investigate the survey link for submitting projects.	

Open Time for Other Items from Council Members

- UWIP Water Scoping Meeting in Utah
 - Public meetings held in October 2025 for Utah's new Unified Water Infrastructure Plan (UWIP).
 - These meetings, hosted by the Utah Division of Water Resources, are an opportunity for the public to learn about the new plan and provide input on how state funds will be used for water projects in the future.
 - Next meeting will be held tonight, Thursday, October 16th in Vernal, Utah, Zoom is also available.
 - Michele Gabb will email link for the meeting to members.
- Agenda Items:
 - Presentations
 - Drinking Water Source Protection
 - Utah Post-Wildfire Protection
- Wildfires
 - Add a layer to the map depicting the burn scar areas.
 - Invite Regional presentation from the Forest Service to discuss local issues(e.g., fuels management).
- State Council Representative for City's & Towns
 - They are looking for a recommendation for an individual with water interests that works for a city or town.

Public Comment

There was no public comment for discussion.

Next Meeting (Date, Time & Location)

Thursday, January 15, 2026 @ 1:00 PM – Price City Public Works Complex – 432 W. 600 S. – Price

Adjourn

Cody Allred motioned for the meeting to adjourn at 11:42 AM. Motion seconded by Nick Sampinos and carried.