



**THE COLORADO
RIVER AUTHORITY
OF UTAH**

PENDING MEETING MINUTES – NOT YET APPROVED

Colorado River Authority of Utah (CRAU)

Meeting Minutes

July 30, 2021

1:00 p.m.

World Trade Center

60 East South Temple, 3rd Floor

Salt Lake City, UT

1. **Call to Order** – Gene Shawcroft, Chair

Gene Shawcroft called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. stating there was a quorum of attendees with all six board members attending in person. Mr. Shawcroft thanked everyone involved with creating this new organization.

2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Mr. Shawcroft asked each board member to briefly introduce themselves:

- **Brian Steed** introduced himself as the Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources and the Governor's appointee to the Authority.
- **Dan Larsen** introduced himself as representing the Uintah Basin area, Duchesne and Uintah Counties.
- **Todd Adams** introduced himself as the Division Director for Utah Water Resources.
- **Jay Humphrey** introduced himself as the General Manager for the Emery Water Conservancy District.
- **Zach Renstrom** introduced himself as the General Manager of the Washington County Water Conservancy District.

Mr. Shawcroft introduced additional attendees:

- Lyndon Ricks, Acting Legal Counsel; Kristen Kerr, Consultant; Amy Haas, CRAU Executive Director; and Norm Johnson, Legal Counsel to Utah River Commissioner

3. **Overview of the Colorado River Authority of Utah Act and Authority Structure** – Lyndon Ricks provided

an overview of the Colorado River Authority of Utah Act stating it was created as an entity in the Governor's office by an act adopted as part of the 2021 General Legislative Session. Mr. Ricks stated the Mr. Shawcroft was appointed as Chair of the Authority through June 30, 2027. Mr. Ricks stated the mission of the Authority is to protect, conserve, use, and develop Utah's waters of the Colorado River system. Mr. Ricks provided a brief summary of the rules and regulations of the Authority structure and

leadership powers within the Authority, including advisory councils. Mr. Shawcroft concluded the vision for the Authority was to have the opportunity for more people with sound ideas together as we make decisions on the use of the Colorado river water.

4. **Election of Vice Chair** – Mr. Steed was nominated by Mr. Humphrey and the motion was seconded by Mr. Renstrom. The board unanimously approved Mr. Steed as Vice Chair.
5. **Selection of 2021 Regular Meeting Schedule** – Mr. Shawcroft reviewed the regular meeting schedule for the remainder of the year: August 30th 9am – 12pm, September 30th 1-4pm; October 29th 1-4pm and December 2nd 1-4pm. Mr. Steed motioned to approve the schedule and Mr. Humphrey seconded the motion. The meeting schedule was unanimously approved by the board.
6. **Open and Public Meeting Act Training** – Mr. Ricks showed a training video that provided an overview of open and public meeting requirements. Numerous requirements for public meetings were discussed. Details of this act can be found in Utah Code 52-4-104 and at resources.auditor.utah.gov. Mr. Ricks agreed to serve as the temporary records officer for the Authority.
7. **Public Hearing to Consider the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22** – Duncan Evans, Managing Director for the Governor’s Office of Planning & Budget, presented the FY2022 budget for July 1, 2021 through 6/30/2022. Mr. Evans explained the funding for the Authority is under the Governor’s Office and includes \$9M startup one-time funding, \$600K recurring annual funds, and \$1.4M in-kind donations. Mr. Evans explained that any funds not spent from the one-time money will rollover to future years and the budget can be modified as necessary throughout the year by the Authority. Mr. Shawcroft thanked Mr. Evans for his efforts
8. **Consideration of Resolution 2021-01 Approving the Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22** – Mr. Shawcroft opened the floor for public comments on the budget. There were no comments. Mr. Shawcroft closed the hearing and requested a motion to accept the budget which was given by Mr. Humphrey seconded by Mr. Adams. The board unanimously approved the budget.
9. **Consideration of Resolution 2021-02 Adopting and Electronic Meeting Policy** – Mr. Ricks introduced the resolution stating having this policy would allow electronic meetings to be held. Mr. Larsen motioned to approve the policy, which was seconded by Mr. Steed and unanimously approved by the board.
10. **Consideration of Resolution 2021-03 Adopting a Public Comment Policy** – Mr. Ricks introduced the resolution stating the policy governs public comment at meetings ensuring individuals have the opportunity to speak without fear of intimidation or retaliation. The policy was motioned for approval by Mr. Renstrom, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, and unanimously approved by the board.
11. **Consideration of Resolution 2021-04 Delegation of Certain Powers and Responsibilities to the Executive Director** – Mr. Shawcroft introduced the resolution delegating powers and responsibilities to

the executive director, noting that board members should be informed of any changes to the budget. Mr. Adams motioned for approval which was seconded by Dan Larsen and unanimously approved by the board.

12. Consideration of Resolution 2021-05 Adopting a Draft Procurement Procedure Rule for Submission and Public Comment

– Mr. Ricks stated the board needs to adopt a procurement procedure similar to state code and submit a rule for public comment in order to have it approved. Amy Haas, CRAU Executive Director, introduced Danny Schoenfeld as the new Director of Administration who has experience working with the Division of Administrative Rules. Mr. Schoenfeld briefly explained the process of having rules approved by the Office of Administrative Rules. Brian Steed motioned for approval which was seconded by Dan Larsen and unanimously approved by the board.

13. Public Comment - Mr. Zachary Frankel, Executive Director of the Utah Rivers Council spoke for two minutes, asking if this body works to curtail public oversight. Mr. Frankel expressed concern the bill was passed in just 28 hours and didn't receive meaningful input from the public. Mr. Frankel stated the Authority is not interested in public comment and he would like to be a part of one of the advisory committees.

14. River Commissioner's Report – Mr. Shawcroft provided a brief report stating the concern on the river right now is lack of hydrology and he has not seen a year this dry that came on this fast in his lifetime. Mr. Shawcroft stated they are in contact with the other basin states with regards to the completion of the interim guidelines which will end in 2025. Mr. Shawcroft stated that all of the discussions center around the hydrology and how quickly things are going dry.

15. Executive Director's Report – Ms. Haas stated it was an honor and privilege to represent the State of Utah as the first Executive Director with the Authority. Amy Haas introduced two new staff members, Danny Schoenfeld, Director of Administration, and Betsy Coleman, Executive Assistant. Ms. Haas stated that Mr. Schoenfeld comes from the State Insurance Department and will also serve as the CFO, Director of IT, and Chief Procurement Officer. Ms. Haas introduced Betsy Coleman as Executive Assistant to provide administrative support to Mr. Shawcroft and herself, as well as all the board members. Ms. Haas mentioned a director of communications position was still pending.

16. The Next Meeting – August 30th at 9am in the same location.

17. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Steed and seconded by Mr. Renstrom. The meeting was adjourned at 2:12pm.

Gene Shawcroft, Chair