

Ute Water Conservancy District
Board Meeting
March 11, 2026

Meeting No. 1,017 of the Ute Water Conservancy District's Board of Directors and the Ute Water Activity Enterprise was called to order by President Ben Miller at 5:30 p.m. at the District office.

ROLL CALL

Board Members: Briana Board, Carl Conner, Dan Cronk, Tammy Eret, Robert Foster, Greg Green, Ken Henry, Sally Huddle, Ben Miller, Bruce Talbott, Troy Waters, and Bob Wilson were present. Pat Brennan and Bob Thome were absent.

Ute Water employees at the meeting included Justin Bates, Nick Bierman, Gary Coup, John Eklund, Jamie George, Natalee Hall, Ben Hoffman, Jesse Klingler, Jeremy Lyon, Tim Moore, Brett Murphy, Scott Olsen, Dave Priske, Tina Weber, and Greg Williams. Ute Water's general counsel, Chris Geiger was also in attendance.

One online participant who refused to provide more information for the record, identified as Michael, attended remotely.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

MINUTES

Treasurer Wilson made a motion to approve the February board meeting minutes, No. 1,016. Director Green seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor of approving the February board meeting minutes.

BILLS

Director Henry made a motion to approve the February bills. Director Huddle seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve the February bills.

INITIAL CONSIDERATION OF BYLAW REVISIONS

General Counsel Chris Geiger gave an overview of the revisions to the bylaws and explained the required process for amending bylaws. Treasurer Wilson made a motion to place the proposed bylaws on the April Board Meeting agenda for adoption. Director Eret seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

WATER & CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Water and Construction Committee recommended authorizing staff to proceed with a feasibility study to enlarge the Jerry Creek No. 1 Reservoir, with expenditures not to exceed \$100,000. The board voted unanimously in favor of the recommendation.

Mr. Williams provided an overview of the District's efforts towards strategic planning. Mr. Williams explained that the strategic plan effort focuses on six phases, which include developing and adopting foundational District philosophies, operationalizing the philosophies, performing an

asset assessment and SWOT analysis, operating and capital prioritization, developing the strategic plan, and board actions and rollout. Mr. Williams invited directors to share any input on the philosophies with him.

Treasurer Wilson asked if there was an existing strategic plan. Mr. Williams explained that the District has a strategic plan adopted by the board in 2014, but it has not been modified since, and it is outdated.

A motion was made by Director Foster to approve the Water and Construction Committee minutes with the addition of “The District has reviewed City’s invoice requesting reimbursement for water-related facilities constructed in 2025 (\$216,972.81)”, and that the District has “received conditional approval from Union Pacific Railroad to perform two boreholes necessary to collect geotechnical information in the railroad’s Right of Way on the west side of the Colorado River.” Director Conner seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor of approving the Water and Construction Committee minutes as amended.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT REPORT

No additional questions were asked of the Engineering department.

DISTRIBUTION DEPARTMENT REPORT

Distribution Superintendent Tim Moore stated that at 29 Road and 29 ½ Road along D ½ Road, a storm drain is being installed, so the District’s meters, hydrants, and lines will need to be moved. At 29 Road and North Avenue, sidewalks will be added, requiring the relocation of meters and hydrants.

TREATMENT & SOURCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

No additional questions were asked of the Treatment and Source department.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Finance Director Scott Olsen reported that the financial audit has been completed and found no concerns. Mr. Olsen also reminded the board of the Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday, March 17th.

HUMAN RESOURCES/RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT REPORT

Director Foster asked for an update on the two open claims. Human Resource/Risk Manager Jamie George stated that one property will be denied, and paying a portion of the claim amount for the other property will be discussed.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT REPORT

External Affairs Coordinator Natalee Hall provided the board with an update on outreach efforts, including a presentation with the City of Fruita, Newcomer’s Club treatment plant tour, and Water Law presentation at Chatfield Elementary.

Ms. Hall also reminded Directors Board, Cronk, Eret, Foster, and Talbott of their upcoming term expiration date, and if they wish to reapply, applications are due April 10th.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Greg Williams corrected his report to state that the Finance Committee meeting will be held on March 17th.

Mr. Williams stated that Western Slope water provider managers were invited to meet with Senator Michael Bennett to discuss the Colorado River, drought, and Western Slope water issues.

Director Foster asked about the 2026 Operating Guidelines update and the District's position on it. Mr. Williams referred to his letter to Commissioner Cameron on behalf of the District regarding the draft environmental impact statement comments for post 2026 operational guidelines and strategies for Lake Powell and Lake Mead.

GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

General Counsel Chris Geiger stated that the District is now under contract to exchange its judgment for the Fontanari Trust's ten parcels of land near Rapid Creek Road.

Vice President Waters asked about HB26-1323, concerning wildfire resilience by prohibiting the taking of beavers on public land in the state. Mr. Williams stated that the District is in opposition. Mr. Geiger explained that the District's concern is that the protection of beavers would result in obstruction of water flow into ditches, reservoirs, and pipelines.


Mr. Waters also asked about SB26-062, concerning designating second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides as restricted-use pesticides for the purpose of retail sales in the state. Mr. Williams stated that there will be no impact on the District.

GENERAL INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

There was no additional information or discussion.

President Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Briana Board, Secretary