

1 **MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WASATCH COMMISSION (“CWC”) BOARD**  
2 **MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020, AT 5:30 P.M. THE MEETING WAS**  
3 **CONDUCTED ELECTRONICALLY VIA UBERCONFERENCE**  
4

5 **Present:** Chair Chris Robinson, Mayor Andy Beerman, Mayor Harris Sondak, Mayor  
6 Jenny Wilson, Commissioner Marci Houseman, Commissioner Jim  
7 Bradley, Mayor Erin Mendenhall, Mayor Dan Knopp  
8

9 **Staff:** Executive Director Ralph Becker, CWC Attorney Shane Topham,  
10 Communications Director Lindsey Nielsen, Office Administrator Kaye  
11 Mickelson  
12

13 **1. OPENING**  
14

15 **A. Commissioner Christopher F. Robinson will Conduct the Meeting as Chair of**  
16 **the Central Wasatch Commission (“CWC”) Board.**  
17

18 Chair Chris Robinson welcomed those present via UberConference and called the meeting to order  
19 at approximately 5:30 p.m.  
20

21 **B. The Board will Consider Approving the Minutes of the April 6, 2020, Board**  
22 **Meeting.**  
23

24 The minutes were reviewed and discussed.  
25

26 **MOTION:** Mayor Sondak moved to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2020, CWC Board  
27 Meeting. Commissioner Bradley seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous  
28 consent of the Board.  
29

30 **C. Update on the Status of the Amendment to ILA (Ex Officio Members, etc.) and**  
31 **Admission of the Town of Brighton.**  
32

33 CWC Executive Director, Ralph Becker reported that several jurisdictions have approved the  
34 Interlocal Agreement (“ILA”) with a few remaining. He indicated that most jurisdictions are in  
35 the process of getting the issue their agendas and moving forward. The proposed changes to the  
36 ILA require approval from each of the member entities.  
37

38 **2. SHORT-TERM PROJECTS RECOMMENDATIONS**  
39

40 **A. Commissioner Jim Bradley will Present to the Commission the Recommended**  
41 **Projects for Implementation.**  
42

43 Commissioner Bradley reported that the Short-Term Projects Committee met on April 29 at which  
44 time they reviewed the list of proposals. A total of 35 projects were submitted with that number  
45 being reduced after further review. The updated list was provided to the CWC with a request for  
46 funding.

1  
2 The projects were described as follows:  
3

- 4 • **Restroom sponsorship.** The project is a partnership between the U.S. Forest Service and  
5 Snowbird and involves the maintenance of three specific restrooms facilities in the  
6 Canyons. A one-year commitment was requested. A matrix was provided showing the  
7 project cost of \$13,000 and other specifics. Mayor Knopp planned to propose to his Town  
8 Council that the Town of Brighton contribute \$20,000 for restrooms within the Town of  
9 Brighton in partnership with the Forest Service. Other sources of funding would also be  
10 pursued. The funds contributed by the CWC could perhaps be used to focus on facilities  
11 elsewhere in the canyon.  
12
- 13 • **Dog Lake Bridge via Desolation Trail.** The project involves \$20,000 to be matched by  
14 the U.S. Forest Service and Trails Utah. The project will provide watershed and  
15 environmental protection, recreational stewardship, and have a high user and long-term  
16 impact.  
17
- 18 • **Wag Bag Maintenance.** \$1,000 was requested from Save Our Canyons. The project will  
19 provide watershed and environmental protection and recreational stewardship. It was  
20 noted that a unique group of stakeholders will be impacted at a low cost.  
21
- 22 • **Chipper Day Sponsorship.** The \$2,000 request was in partnership with the Unified Fire  
23 Authority (“UFA”), the Utah Department of Natural Resources, and local jurisdictions.  
24 The CWC’s commitment would be to provide communication to property owners in the  
25 jurisdictions regarding the availability and timing of the service.  
26
- 27 • **Graffiti Abatement.** The \$2,600 cost would cover supplies to eradicate over 300 graffiti  
28 tags in the canyons. The project provides watershed and environmental protection and  
29 viewshed enhancement.  
30
- 31 • **Bonneville Shoreline Trail Land Acquisition.** The \$20,000 request was proposed in  
32 cooperation with the City of Cottonwood Heights, Dominion Energy, and others. A  
33 \$500,000 commitment from Salt Lake County was on hold and may not be available.  
34 Commissioner Bradley explained that this is a long-term effort to lock up the trail land to  
35 prevent development. He noted that there are serious partnerships involved.  
36
- 37 • **Gate Buttress Phase 2.** The request is for \$20,000 and will serve climbers. The tenets of  
38 the project involve recreational stewardship and environmental and watershed protection.  
39 While the project serves a unique user group, they have been very active and supportive.  
40
- 41 • **Desolation Trail Maintenance Project.** \$16,000 was requested and with the project being  
42 supported by Trails Utah and the U.S. Forest Service. The project promotes environmental  
43 and watershed protection and recreation stewardship.  
44
- 45 • **Geologic Signage.** The request was for nearly \$6,000 from the Utah Geological  
46 Association and the U.S. Forest Service. The project supports the tenets of Mountain

1 Accord and provides good exposure for the CWC. It also meets the needs of the user  
2 groups in the canyons.

3  
4 Commissioner Bradley reported that there is \$60,000 in the budget this year with the current  
5 \$20,000 for a total of \$80,000 for projects. In total, the projects described total \$101,000. He  
6 asked that the Board consider taking additional money from Fund Balance to fund all of the  
7 projects.

8  
9 **B. The Board will Approve Project Proposals/Recommendations.**

10  
11 Commissioner Houseman suggested that the Board approve the \$78,680 worth of projects that  
12 were selected. With regard to the restroom sponsorship project, if the Town of Brighton's efforts  
13 come to fruition, she suggested that they take the CWC portion and put it toward the unfunded  
14 projects.

15  
16 Mayor Mendenhall recalled that a decision was made previously to prioritize bridges over trail  
17 maintenance.

18  
19 Mayor Peterson referred to a comment that the Bonneville Shoreline Trail ("BST") might be a  
20 short-term project and may need to be funded this year. Chair Robinson clarified that the project  
21 involves land acquisition.

22  
23 Mayor Wilson asked if any excess fourth quarter funds could make up the difference. Possible  
24 limitations on how the monies can be spent would have to be explored. Procedural issues were  
25 discussed.

26  
27 Mayor Peterson supported spending \$78,680 and pointed out that the CWC has taken some  
28 criticism for not being productive. At the Retreat, the Board emphasized the need to look at short-  
29 term and interim projects rather than just the federal legislation.

30  
31 Chair Robinson suggested they approve \$60,000 worth of projects today and leave the remaining  
32 projects until after the budget is approved for the new fiscal year. That way they will have a better  
33 idea of revenues going forward and can decide whether to utilize fund balance.

34  
35 Mayor Sondak suggested that perhaps the Dog Lake Bridges come off of the list of projects that  
36 are funded today since it is eligible for fourth-quarter money.

37  
38 Mayor Beerman commended the Short-Term Projects Committee for presenting diverse projects.  
39 He believed that was what the Committee set out to do.

40  
41 Mayor Silvestrini agreed that they should pursue fourth-quarter funds or see what transpires with  
42 the budget. He indicated that the City of Millcreek will make its full contribution.

43  
44 Chair Robinson commended the committee for their work. He stated that one project that can be  
45 delayed is the Bonneville Shoreline Trail Project proposed by Utah Open Lands as it does not need  
46 to be funded until October.

1  
2 Commissioner Bradley pointed out that the BST is timely and the proposal with the strongest  
3 outside support. He did not want to soften their commitment to seeing that come to fruition. He  
4 was not sure that delaying it sends that message. It was noted that the Dog Lake Bridges and  
5 Desolation Trail are heavily used. If they are looking to promote the CWC for its work on behalf  
6 of canyon users, that project should be seriously considered.  
7

8 Mike Reberg stressed the importance of funding commitments. There is an October deadline and  
9 various sources of funding. He agreed with Commissioner Bradley that the project should remain  
10 a priority.  
11

12 Mayor Peterson echoed the timeliness of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail because of the grants that  
13 are involved. Chair Robinson suggested that the Board identify and approve \$60,000 worth of  
14 projects today. They should then finalize the 2021 budget in the next six weeks after which at  
15 least \$20,000 will be available to fund additional projects.  
16

17 Mayor Beerman proposed that the Board approve \$58,680 worth of projects, which would include  
18 everything except for the Dog Lake Bridges. They could then approve \$20,000 for the Dog Lake  
19 Bridges contingent upon the funds being allocated in the budget. Mayor Mendenhall was  
20 concerned that this is the most significant project in terms of users and they are gambling on  
21 whether the County has excess fourth-quarter funds. County participation in the project was  
22 discussed. It was noted that the County's portion of the funding would not be known until later in  
23 the week.  
24

25 **3. 2020/2021 FISCAL YEAR TENTATIVE BUDGET**  
26

27 **A. Budget/Finance Committee Report: Budget Officer Blake Perez and/or His**  
28 **Designee, Commissioner Jeff Silvestrini, will Present to the Board the**  
29 **Tentative 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget.**  
30

31 Mayor Silvestrini reported that the intent was to propose a resolution adopting a tentative budget  
32 and conduct a public hearing. He pointed out that Millcreek has adopted its tentative budget which  
33 includes matching their previous contribution of \$75,000. The hope was that others will follow  
34 their lead. The proposed CWC budget will borrow from fund balance and preserve \$1.1 million.  
35 The updated member contribution numbers were estimated at \$623,500. Other projected member  
36 contributions were reviewed and discussed.  
37

38 Mayor Beerman commented that Park City's contribution will depend on timing. They are making  
39 deep cuts in their budget and if requested now, will not be approved.  
40

41 Mayor Knopp reported that the Town of Brighton plans to meet the following Wednesday and is  
42 scheduled to approve a tentative budget of \$13,500. There were assumptions about sales tax  
43 revenue that were of concern so he was unwilling to ask for more than \$13,500. He questioned  
44 whether he would be able to get more than a \$10,000 contribution.  
45

1 Mayor Peterson reported that the City of Cottonwood Heights is projecting a 20% reduction in  
2 sales tax revenue. The intent was to pursue a \$45,000 contribution, which reflects a 10% reduction.

3  
4 Possible adjustments were discussed as well as discretionary expenses. Chair Robinson suggested  
5 that they budget for the expenditures and try to obtain the revenues shown. Mayor Mendenhall  
6 stated that Salt Lake City's contribution is budgeted at \$180,000 but she will be seeking \$200,000.  
7 Mayor Wilson was also seeking \$180,000 from the Salt Lake County Council. While she would  
8 not recommend a reduction, she acknowledged that there have been recent challenges. The sense  
9 was that the CWC needs to be proactive, which she believed was taking place now.

10  
11 Chair Robinson suggested that the Board table further discussion on expenses and allow time for  
12 jurisdictional commitments to be firmed up to approve a budget. Mayor Silvestrini stated that a  
13 tentative budget should be approved today after which a public hearing should be conducted.

14  
15 **B. Consideration of Resolution 2020-15 Adopting a Tentative Budget for the**  
16 **Period of 1 July 2020-30 June 2021; Providing for Public Inspection of Such**  
17 **Budget; Establishing a Time and Place of Public Hearing to Consider**  
18 **Adoption of Such Budget; and Providing for Newspaper Publication of Such**  
19 **Public Hearing.**  
20

21 **MOTION:** Commissioner Bradley moved to approve Resolution 2020-15 tentatively approving  
22 the \$20,000 contingency showing a withdrawal of \$14,100 from reserves. Mayor Silvestrini  
23 seconded the motion. The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.

24  
25 **4. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**  
26

27 **A. Commissioner Mike Peterson, Chair of the Transportation Committee, will**  
28 **Give an Update on that Committee's Work to Date. Commissioner Peterson**  
29 **will Provide a Recommended Edit to the Mountain Transportation Scoping**  
30 **Report. The Board will Discuss and Decide on the Prioritized Attributes and**  
31 **Objectives of the Mountain Transportation System Initiative.**  
32

33 Mayor Peterson reported that at the most recent Board Meeting held on April 6, they approved the  
34 Mountain Transportation System Public Comment Recommendations Report. The report contains  
35 contradictions with respect to connecting Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons. The proposed  
36 verbiage modification was presented. Mr. Becker explained that it was brought to staff's attention  
37 after the action taken at the last meeting to approve the Scoping Report. The maps show a potential  
38 transit connection between Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons and the Wasatch Back. Some of  
39 the language specifies that there should be a connection between the two canyons. They are simply  
40 clarifying the language to support the map and the intent of the remainder of the report to specify  
41 that the Commission wishes to proceed to investigate, analyze, and consider a potential connection.

42  
43 Mayor Peterson stated that the modification was also presented to the Transportation Committee  
44 who supported the adjustment.  
45

1 **MOTION:** Mayor Peterson moved to provide language corrections to the Mountain  
2 Transportation System Public Comment Recommendation Report to clarify that the connection  
3 between Big and Little Cottonwood Canyons be analyzed and not accomplished as stated in the  
4 document presented to the Board tonight. Mayor Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed  
5 with the unanimous consent of the Board.  
6

7 Mayor Peterson reported that in April the Transportation Committee approved the Mountain  
8 Transportation System Public Comment Recommendation that identified the geographic scope,  
9 attributes, and objectives. It was recommended that they prioritize the attributes and objectives.  
10 CWC Deputy Director, Blake Perez summarized the results. They engaged the Stakeholders  
11 Council and the Transportation Committee and assigned a value to each of the attributes and  
12 objectives from 1 to 7. The second survey involved ranking the top four priorities.  
13

14 Tier 1 included the attributes and objectives that scored the highest with the greatest number of  
15 people be represented. It was reported that the Screening Alternatives Report for the Little  
16 Cottonwood Canyon Environmental Impact Statement will be released in the next 45 days in  
17 addition to memoranda related to technical reports. It was not anticipated that any modes will be  
18 put through the filter of attributes and objectives until after that time. Staff, however, should be  
19 given direction on whether the attributes and objectives presented are correct.  
20

21 Commissioner Houseman reported that the Sandy City Council had a conversation about the  
22 attributes. The discussion aligned well with what has been identified with the data analysis in  
23 terms of moving people efficiently and effectively. Mayor Peterson stated that it has been  
24 suggested that the Environmental Dashboard data be applied directly and involved in the analysis.  
25

26 Mr. Becker reported that over 336 comments were received regarding more than 1,000 individual  
27 topics. The intent was to summarize the comments and recommend how to proceed and evaluate  
28 alternatives and modes against what has been identified as important for the Mountain  
29 Transportation System. The goal was to prioritize the various attributes and objectives against the  
30 alternatives as they are developed.  
31

32 Mr. Becker stated that the experts are beginning to develop the alternatives so that as they analyze  
33 the various modes, they can identify the attributes of each.  
34

35 **5. STAKEHOLDERS COUNCIL UPDATE**

36  
37 **A. A Written Briefing Will Provide Update on the Stakeholders Council of the**  
38 **CWC, which may be discussed by the Board.**  
39

40 **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

41  
42 The following public comments were received:  
43

44 *John Knoblock* commented on the budgeted small projects. He was sad to see the Small Project  
45 Budget shrink next year and had hoped that a large number of deserving small projects would have  
46 encouraged a larger budget next year. He pointed out that if the timing for selecting projects was

1 moved to the end of February, projects could be submitted to the Utah Outdoor Recreation  
2 Matching Grant Program that has a due date the end of March. He was disappointed to see that  
3 over two-thirds of the budget is going toward overhead costs.  
4

5 *Sarah Bennett* commented on the Bonneville Shoreline Advancement Act and stated that Trails  
6 Utah is a trail advocacy and facilitation organization. While they strongly support the spirit and  
7 intent of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail Advancement Act (“BSTAA”) they realize that wilderness  
8 advocates feel that it detracts from the larger CWC National Conservation Recreation Area  
9 (“NCRA”) bill. They are in constant contact with Representative Curtis and his staff and are  
10 looking for ways to appease wilderness advocates and still get needed wilderness boundary  
11 adjustments for the BST. The recent pandemic has illustrated the importance of adequate trails  
12 and open space access close to where people live. One possible solution was to move forward  
13 with the Utah and Cache Counties pieces and wait for the Salt Lake County piece of the BST to  
14 be settled with the CWC NCRA should it move forward. Trails Utah and their partners were  
15 willing to support an agreed-upon window of time for the passage of the CWC NCRA with the  
16 BST portion intact. If the larger bill fails to pass, the Salt Lake County BST Wilderness  
17 Adjustment Proposal should go forward separately. The goal was to find the best solutions to  
18 provide sustainable recreational trails while protecting treasured landscapes.  
19

20 There were no further public comments.

## 21 22 7. COMMISSIONER ACTIONS

### 23 24 A. Short-Term Projects.

25  
26 **MOTION:** Mayor Peterson moved to accept the Short-Term Project Committee’s report and fund  
27 all of the projects on the list at \$58,680 as prioritized to their limit. The Gate Buttress Phase 2  
28 Project should be moved down with consideration of other projects in the immediate future.  
29

30 Mayor Mendenhall made a friendly amendment to specify that if the \$20,000 is approved for the  
31 Short-Term Projects that are identified in the upcoming budget discussion, that they fund the Gate  
32 Buttress Phase 2 Project with that amount.  
33

34 Mayor Peterson accepted the friendly amendment.  
35

36 Mayor Silvestrini clarified that this action does not preclude the Board from determining whether  
37 the County can help fund one of the transportation-related projects such as Dog Lake.  
38

39 **The motion was not seconded.** The motion passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.  
40

41 Commissioner Bradley pointed out that short-term projects continue to be submitted. He  
42 suggested that Mayor Knopp discuss the Spruces Campground and possible initiatives. Mayor  
43 Knopp reported that they have been in contact with Zinnia Wilson with the U.S. Forest Service in  
44 an effort to get more parking in the Spruces in the Campground. The intent is to utilize restrooms  
45 that are already open with a trail to the sledding hill to get cars off the road. Commissioner Bradley  
46 agreed to obtain specific information to share at a future meeting.

1  
2           **B.     Mountain Transportation System Attributes and Objectives Prioritization.**  
3

4 **MOTION:** Mayor Beerman moved to approve the Mountain Transportation System Attributes  
5 and Objectives Prioritization. Mayor Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed with the  
6 unanimous consent of the Board.  
7

8           **C.     Recommended Edits to the Scoping Report.**  
9

10 The above item was discussed earlier in the meeting.  
11

12 **8.     ADJOURNMENT**  
13

14 Mayor Wilson thanked Commissioner Robinson for his leadership and was pleased with the  
15 direction the CWC was going. She commented that she will strongly support Salt Lake County's  
16 full participation going forward.  
17

18 **MOTION:** Mayor Silvestrini moved to adjourn. Mayor Wilson seconded the motion. The motion  
19 passed with the unanimous consent of the Board.  
20

21 The Central Wasatch Commission Board Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

1 *I hereby certify that the foregoing represents a true, accurate, and complete record of the Central*  
2 *Wasatch Commission Meeting held Monday, May 4, 2020.*

3

4 Teri Forbes

5 Teri Forbes

6 T Forbes Group

7 Minutes Secretary

8

9 Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_