# AGENDA

## LEGISLATIVE WATER DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

LEGISLATURE Thursday, October 22, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. | Electronic Meeting | Room 110 Senate Building

Members of the public may participate remotely in the meeting by visiting the commission's webpage to access the live streaming options: https://le.utah.gov/committee/committee.jsp?year=2026&com=SPESWD

**Approximate timeframe**

**8:00** **1. Commission Business**

- Call to order
- Approval of the meeting minutes from September 17, 2026
- Other commission business

**8:05** **2. Draft Legislation: Groundwater Management Amendments**

*The commission will consider draft legislation that addresses processes when water rights are subject to nonuse.*

- Rep. Rex Shipp
- Commission discussion/action

**8:20** **3. Draft Legislation: Water Rights Restricted Account Amendments**

*The commission will consider draft legislation that modifies purposes for the use of the Water Rights Restricted Account and prioritizes water rights adjudication.*

- Rep. Carl Albrecht
- Commission discussion/action

**8:35** **4. Draft Legislation: Colorado River Authority Membership Amendments**

*The commission will consider draft legislation that adds an additional member to the Colorado River Authority and addresses how members are appointed.*

- Rep. Scott Chew
- Commission discussion/action

**8:50** **5. Draft Legislation: Transfer of Water Interests**

*The commission will consider draft legislation that addresses water rights, shares in water companies, and their relationship to land conveyances.*

- Rep. Doug Owens
- Commission discussion/action

**9:05** **6. Aquifer Study**

*The commission will hear findings from an in-depth study of the Bountiful Sub-Area of the East Shore Area aquifer, including current groundwater status and the threat of salt infiltration into the aquifer.*

- Ronald Mortensen, Trustee, South Davis Water District
- Jake Ferguson, General Manager, South Davis Water District & President, North Canyon Water Company
- Commission discussion/action

**9:25** **7. Great Salt Lake Restoration**

*The commission will hear a presentation on technological advances, including in desalination and pipe manufacturing, and their potential impact on Great Salt Lake restoration.*

- Ian Harvey, Water Resources Innovation Consultant & Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Utah
- Commission discussion/action

**9:50** **8. Private Sector Initiatives Supporting the Great Salt Lake**

*The commission will hear presentations on private-sector efforts supporting preservation of the Great Salt Lake.*

A. Great Salt Lake Watershed Enhancement Trust
- Marcelle Shoop, Executive Director, Great Salt Lake Watershed Enhancement Trust & Saline Lakes Program Director, National Audubon Society
- Megan Nelson, Policy & External Affairs Director, The Nature Conservancy, Utah

B. Great Salt Lake Accounting
- Warren Peterson, member, Legislative Water Development Commission
- Commission discussion/action

**10:20** **9. Phragmites Removal Coordination**

*The commission will hear about the role of the Department of Agriculture and Food in phragmites removal.*

- Commission staff
- Rob Hougaard, Plant Industry Director, Department of Agriculture and Food
- Commission discussion/action

**10:30** **10. Adjourn**