



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MINUTES

February 15, 2022, 7:30 a.m.

Electronically Via ZOOM Webinar/UFA Headquarters – 3380 South 900 West SLC, UT 84119

1. Call to Order

Quorum was obtained

Chair Dahle called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None

Public comment was made available live and with a posted email address

Mayor Dahle awarded Chief Petersen his 5-Years of Service coin and certificate

3. Approval of Minutes

Council Member Stewart moved to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2022, UFA Board Meeting as submitted

Mayor Weichers seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

4. Administer Oath of Office for New Board Member Catherine Harris

Catherine (Rin) Harris was sworn in

5. Board Elections

a. Vice Chair Election

- CLO Roberts explained that this vote was held over from last month to allow Board Members the opportunity to consider this position
- With the many new Board Members, CLO Roberts felt that it was wise to pause on this position in order to allow new members the opportunity to experience a complete budget process prior to committing
- CLO Roberts is suggesting that appointment of this position be delayed until July
- Council Member Perry will fill the roll of VP for the coming months if necessary

Council Member Hull nominated Council Member Perry to act-in as Vice Chair until an election is held in July

Mayor Overson seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Overson	Y
Bourke	Y	Perry	Y
Butterfield	Y	Silvestrini	-
Dahle	Y	Stevenson	Y
Harris	Y	Stewart	Y
Henderson	-	Theodore	Y
Hull	Y	Weichers	Y
Kanter Hartman	Y	Westmoreland	Y
Knopp	Y		

6. UFA Board Ethics Policy

- CLO Roberts asked that all Board Members sign the Ethics Policy acknowledgement sheet now that they have had a month to review the policy

7. Consent Agenda

a. Review of January Disbursements

- No discussion, nothing out of the ordinary per CFO Hill

Council Member Perry moved to approve the January disbursements as submitted

Mayor Knopp seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

8. Committee Updates

- Benefits & Compensation Committee
 - Meeting held 2/14/22
 - Mayor Dahle gave an overview of the budget process for new Board Members
 - Explaining the work to achieve Top 3 for sworn
 - Mayor Dahle reviewed what was discussed at the meeting
 - SelectHealth and usage rates
 - CPI direction and inflation
 - Civilian Reviews and impact
 - Chief is recommending a 7% COLA to maintain the market position with other agencies which results in a 9% Member Fee increase
 - Mayor Dahle stated that outside of COLA, the increases that amount to the budget are small in terms of the asks
 - Love to hear where other Board Members are leaning and what has come up within their council meetings
 - HR Director Day will continue monitoring the market so that the Board Members can see just how aggressive others will be with COLA
 - Mayor Dahle stressed the importance of providing the UFA Finance Committee realistic numbers to work with
- Governance Committee
 - No meeting held
- Finance Committee
 - Next meeting 4/15/22
 - Chair Stewart stated that the next 30 days are critical to see where the market stands

- Reminded all Board Members that they are welcome to attend the upcoming meeting where the recommendations from Benefits & Compensation will be reviewed

9. Consider the Date of March 15, 2022 for a Public Hearing to Receive and Consider Comments on Proposed Amendments to the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget

Council Member Stewart moved to set the date of March 15, 2022 for a Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on proposed amendments to the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget

Council Member Hull seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

USAR (Urban Search & Rescue) Lease Update

- UFA is the sponsoring agency for USAR
- USAR is 95% funded by the Federal Government and leases space in the Logistics Building for all of the equipment
- The request is to allow the extension of the lease at the current rate of \$7,908 for the 24% of the space occupied and for 24% of the utility costs as well
- Mayor Dahle clarified that the \$7,908 is 24% of the overall lease
- Council Member Stewart asked that a memo of such be created to memorialize the agreement and solidifies the calculation of the rate such as was done with Brighton when the city council asked to utilize space in the station
- Mayor Dahle also asked if UFSA is the lessor
 - CFO Hill clarified that UFSA loaned the money to UFA to buy the building and UFA is paying UFSA back that loan
 - UFA owns the building
 - Mayor Dahle asked if the lease rate is at the legitimate market rate
 - CFO Hill stated that it's not really the lease market rate, it is the amount of payback to the UFSA for loaning the money to UFA and USAR is 24% of that as their prorated share
- CFO Hill stated that this information will be added to the agreement and be specifically listed

10. Seismic Retrofit Update

- Stations 110 and 116 Cottonwood Heights
 - The station structural retrofit work is underway on Stations 110 and 116 in Cottonwood Heights
 - Paulsen Construction is ahead of schedule at Station 116
 - All demo work and bracing upgrades have been completed
 - Expecting completion of that project at Station 116 in the next couple of weeks
 - Masonry retrofit is underway at Station 110 and expecting work to begin on the interior of the station at the end of this month
 - Crews will be somewhat impacted, but it is anticipated that they will not be required to move out of the station
 - Station 110 work is on schedule
- Stations 107, 109, 115
 - Design work on these stations should be wrapping up
 - Anticipate posting the RFP for general contractor services sometime in February
- 20 Non-Structural Retrofits
 - Aside from a few punch-list items, all work has been completed
 - Also included in this project are the three emergency generators

- Not much movement on those, still seeing long lead times
- Station 113
 - Contractor is still working with MSD to secure the building permit
 - That generator will be ordered once that permit is secured

8. Fire Chief Report

- 5-Year Progress Poster
 - All Board Members were given a 5-Year Progress poster reflecting all accomplishments over the past 5 years
 - UFA is proud of the work in the last 5 years and this poster reflects the reality of where UFA is now
- Women FF Leadership Symposium
 - Chief Petersen provided an overview of the symposium UFA is hosting February 24-25
 - This is strictly for women FF's from the local area and from a few larger communities out of state (Mesa AZ, Memphis TN, Tualatin OR, Sacramento CA, Spokane WA, Boise ID, Orange County CA, Fairfax VA)
 - The female sworn workforce has increased to 4.3% of the total workforce
 - Chief feels that the more diverse, particularly in this area, the better service provided to the community
 - There are many challenges that women FF's find when entering and working within a predominantly male field
 - Many issues have been addressed and Chief sees that this is a nationwide challenge that is unlike civilian work environments since crews live together for 48 hours
 - This leadership seminar will help our women FF's deal with challenges as they prepare to step into leadership roles
 - 50 slots were filled within a day, with a waiting list of over 10
 - The U.S. Fire Administrator appointed by President Biden is the keynote speaker
 - Have received sponsorship from many local entities to the point where there is no cost for UFA to host
- Legislative Update – AC Pilgrim
 - AC Pilgrim participates in the ChamberWest legislative group, the Utah Association of Special Districts, and closely monitors what's going on with the League of Cities and Towns
 - The goal is to make sure that all concerns and interests are being captured to help formulate our stance or our opinions on various bills
 - The State Fire Chiefs meet weekly on some of the bigger fire service issues that are impacting agencies within the state
 - Two retirement bills: House Bill 12 and House Bill 61 have gone through several iterations to this point
 - It is unknown if either of these are really going to have a positive impact on the fire service, there is definitely an advantage for law enforcement
 - Will continue to monitor them
 - HB 169, State and Local Employees Disaster Services
 - Has a bigger impact to our cities rather than UFA
 - This came about with the recent challenges with some local and national events

- SLCo in particular had a lot of challenges, staffing, vaccination clinics and testing locations, but all the while employees were sitting idle or maybe not trained or qualified to step into these roles
- The intent of this bill is to provide a locality, the ability to reassign employees to disaster related response versus their normal jobs
- There were some concerns initially that even for us as a fire service, where our primary function is emergency services, that reassignments could take place to something that's not traditional fire service
- This concern resonates with many of the cities as well
- DC Mecham has been heavily engaged with this bill, paying close attention to how it continues to evolve as well
- Public Safety Disability Benefits is another that is being watched closely
 - Unsure of any fiscal impact, it provides a long-term disability benefit to public safety personnel in the Tier 2 Retirement System
 - Currently the Tier 1 employees are provided a long-term disability benefit
 - Tier 2 is not quite the same, so this bill will require agencies to provide that benefit, which ultimately is a benefit to those employees and is the right thing to do to make sure that they're taken care of in the event that something catastrophic happens
- Senate Bill 46, Medical Cannabis Patient Protection Bill
 - UFA had a neutral stance on this based off of our internal policies and partnerships with federal government
 - UFA is held by strict regulations and standards and the Drug & Alcohol Policy is very clear on UFAs stance on all substances, not just marijuana
 - UFA employees are educated on that, but this is something that will continue to be monitored closely as it may potentially impact the fire service
 - UFA wants to ensure that policies and practices are in line with statute
- House Bill 23, First Responder Health Services
 - This one will require all public safety agencies to provide some sort of behavioral health services to the employee, their family members, and retirees
 - Currently UFA has done that to all the above, except for retirees, but have been exploring this before this legislation
- Council Member Stewart clarified that HB169 is being monitored rather than promoted
 - Council Member Stewart was also glad to see the progress on HB23 and feels that at the end of the day, make sure those in public safety have the help needed
- Council Member Hull asked what DC Mecham concerns would be on HB169
 - His concerns are based off of the unique experience with COVID
 - Working directly with SLCo, many times was faced with dealing with those challenges of trying to find employees to fill critical needs, knowing there are a lot of others who may be available, but unable to work based off of different job requirements, restrictions, or lack of training, etc.
 - There are several other states that have done this, Texas, Florida, Ohio, Indiana, California, have all implemented similar legislation
- Council Member Hull also inquired as to training of these individuals and whether it would take place prior to emergencies
 - AC Pilgrim explained that the intent would be every locality would have an emergency operations plan and within that plan, ideally there would be designated roles and training
- Council Member Stewarts concern originally was for his city, with UFA providing fire service, the impact that SLCo could potentially take and pull upon UFA, he felt like there needed to be more clearly defined lines

- Chief Petersen shared a similar concern that UFA remain the primary responders
 - The focus continues to be the impact to UFA and our communities when looking at all legislation
 - Chief Petersen also noted that there lacked verbiage allowing one independent entity from reassigning personnel from a separate independent entity
 - Chief Petersen likes the idea of making it happen, it would make sense to make this fit if training was provided
 - It would all be internally within your own entities to make those decisions
- Fire School 101
 - Local 1696 Vice President Young announced the date for Fire School 101 2022 and extend an invitation to board and council members
 - A brief overview of what Fire School 101 entails was given
 - This introduction to the fire service and what UFA employees do for the public is the focus of the day spent at the Fire Training Grounds in Magna
 - May 13, 2022, an invitation is pending
 - Chief Petersen explained how this gives Board Members the chance to feel what it's like to wear an airpack, fight a fire, climb the ladders, etc.
 - Reminding all not to worry about their physical capability, the pace is controllable
 - Council Member Hull expressed how positive the experience was for her and how it helped her appreciate what FF's go through daily, their strength and ability and mental toughness
 - Highly recommend it
- Mapleton FD Donation Request – AC Burchett
 - A request for expired turnouts was received from Mapleton FD
 - Requests such as this are outside of the current Surplus Policy and is being brought before the Board
 - Logistics has ample surplus turnouts to accommodate this request
 - These turnouts have no value
 - Council Member Stewart inquired as to the additional items on the request
 - AC Burchett stated that UFA will be unable to fill the request for the additional items listed on the request as much of it was given to JATC
 - There were no further concerns or questions from the Board, the turnouts will be donated to Mapleton FD
- Naming of Fire Stations – AC Burchett
 - The discussion in the past has been to develop an avenue for the community to take ownership in naming of the stations
 - Currently there are 3 stations with official names, but it is unknown as to how this came about and how the names were chosen
 - AC Burchett is asking to formalize a process that provides parameters
 - Mayor Overson expressed the importance that the name gives as a connection for the community and the station
 - AC Burchett stated that naming of the station funding is available through the bond, but for stations already constructed, this will need to be budgeted for and the cost would land with the owner of the station
 - Board Members felt strongly about the importance of this being a community involved project and were in full support

- Chief Petersen stated that each community can determine this method for themselves and each council can determine the pace with their community on this project, reach out to AC Burchett directly going forward
 - AC Burchett will begin conversations with Mayor Stevenson and Mayor Bourke as they both are prepared to begin this project

Mayor Dahle reminded the Board

- Fire Chief Process Ad Hoc Committee meeting on March 9 to review the questions and issues then the Meet and Greet will take place that evening, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- The results from the 360's will be received prior to the 9th
- Interviews on March 10, 8:00-5:00
- March 15, 2022 Board Meeting, deliberation in Closed Session in preparation for recommendation to the full Board

9. Closed Session

None

10. Adjournment

Council Member Stewart moved to adjourn the February 15, 2022, meeting

Council Member Hull seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Council Member Kathleen Bailey

Council Member Chrystal Butterfield

Council Member Catherine Harris

Mayor Robert Dahle

Council Member Trish Hull

Lisa Hartman, SLCo,

Catherine Kanter Alternate

Mayor Marcus Stevenson

Mayor Dan Knopp

Council Member Jared Henderson

Mayor Kristie Overson

Mayor Mike Weichers

Council Member Allan Perry

Council Member Sheldon Stewart

Mayor Roger Bourke

Mayor Jeff Silvestrini

Mayor Tom Westmoreland

Council Member Dea Theodore

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Deputy Mayor Catherine Kanter

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

CFO Tony Hill

Chief Petersen

CLO Roberts

Cynthia Young, Clerk

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Aaron Whitehead

Anthony Widdison

Aaron Lance

Bill Brass

Brad Larson

Brian Case

Calogero Ricotta

David Chipman, public

Dom Burchett

Dustin Dern

Erica Langenfass

Embret Fossum

Jay Torgersen

Justin Noall

Kate Turnbaugh
Kiley Day
Kiyoshi Young
Lana Burningham
Larson Wood
Lee Ascarte
Nathan Cherpeski, Herriman
Nile Easton
Patrick Costin
Paul Fotheringham
Rachel Anderson
Riley Pilgrim
Stephen Higgs
Steve Quinn
Tim Tingey, CWH
Zach Robinson
Tua Tho