



## UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MINUTES

June 17, 2025, 7:30 a.m.

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

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1. Call to Order

Quorum present

Chair Weichers called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Chair Weichers welcomed new Board Member Millcreek Council Member Cheri Jackson who will be replacing Mayor Silvestrini

Chair Weichers reminded all Board Members that there will be a Public Hearing tonight at 6:00 p.m. to discuss fee increases

2. Public Comment

- Council Member Harris thanked UFA crews at Station 119 for their quick response on a fire in Emigration Canyon
- A public comment was sent via email and forwarded to the Board, as it was past the submittal period, it was not addressed at the meeting or read into the meeting record

3. Approval of Minutes

Council Member Fotheringham moved to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2025 UFA Finance Committee Meeting, the May 20, 2025 UFA Board Meeting, and the May 28, 2025 UFA Governance Committee Meeting as submitted  
Council Member Hull seconded the motion  
All voted in favor, none opposed

4. Oath of Office for New Board Member

- Clerk Young administered the oath to Millcreek Council Member Cheri Jackson

5. Consent Agenda

- Review of May Disbursements
  - No discussion

Mayor Gettel moved to approve the May disbursements as submitted  
Council Member Buroker seconded the motion  
All voted in favor, none opposed

6. Committee Updates

- Benefits & Compensation Committee – Chair Silvestrini
  - No meeting
- Governance Committee – Chair Gettel
  - Meeting held 5/28/25
  - The Interlocal Agreement (ILA) was reviewed

- CLO Roberts explained that the ILA is to be reviewed every 5-years
- While there have been no issues and the ILA is working fine, the Committee decided to review the ILA in 6-months
- With the current facilitator process taking place with SLCo, it will be reviewed again in the event that anything arises from this process
- Chair Gettel stated that in January 2026 the Committee will be assembled to conduct a thorough review of the ILA, with the hope that the facilitation process will be completed
- Finance Committee – Chair Henderson
  - No meeting

7. Public Hearing to Receive and Consider Comments on Proposed Amendments to the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget

- CFO Hill reviewed the proposed amendments to the budget
- Council Member Fotheringham questioned the source of funds for the Wildland Division
  - CFO Hill explained that the revenues are directly accounted for
  - When crews are deployed, UFA makes the expenditures, the state then reimburses UFA for these costs
  - CFO Hill stated that the wildland program is completely funded through the Enterprise Fund

Council Member Fotheringham moved to open the Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on proposed amendments to the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget

Council Member Harris seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	-	Hull	Y
Bourke	-	Jackson	Y
Buroker	Y	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	-
Fotheringham	Y	Overson	Y
Gettel	Y	Stewart	Y
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	-	Westmoreland	Y
Huish	Y		

No public comments

Mayor Overson moved to close the Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on proposed amendments to the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Gettel seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	-	Hull	Y
Bourke	-	Jackson	Y
Buroker	Y	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	Overson	Y
Gettel	Y	Stewart	Y
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	Y	Westmoreland	Y
Huish	Y		

8. Consider Resolution 06-2025A to Approve Proposed Amendments for the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year

Council Member Buroker moved to approve Resolution 06-2025A amending the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget as presented

Council Member Fotheringham seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	-	Hull	Y
Bourke	-	Jackson	Y
Buroker	Y	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	Overson	Y
Gettel	Y	Stewart	Y
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	Y	Westmoreland	Y
Huish	Y		

9. Consider Request to Approve the Rollover of Funding for Two FY24/25 Projects

- Chief Burchett reviewed the memo explaining that there were two projects staff was unable to accomplish
- The request to the Board is to roll over the funds to allow the projects to be completed this coming year
- The first project is the replacement of the Flashover Prop at the Fire Training grounds that is at it's end of life, \$130,000
- The second project is the funding for professional development, \$20,000
  - An annual training for new and upcoming leadership was budgeted for, but due to internal scheduling conflicts, was unable to be scheduled
  - Rolling over the funding for this project will result in two opportunities for professional development this coming year
  - Both the CenterPoint cohort and another training offered by Mission Centered Solutions will provide professional development opportunities for administrative and operations personnel

Mayor Overson moved to approve the request to rollover funding for two FY24/25 projects as presented

Council Member Hull seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

10. Public Hearing to Receive and Consider Comments on the Final Budget for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year

Mayor Gettel moved to open the Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on the Final Budget for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year

Council Member Fotheringham seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Hull	Y
Bourke	-	Jackson	Y
Buroker	Y	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	Overson	Y
Gettel	Y	Stewart	Y
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	Y	Westmoreland	Y

Huish	Y		
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No public comments

Council Member Fotheringham moved to close the Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on the Final Budget for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year

Council Member Hull seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Hull	Y
Bourke	-	Jackson	Y
Buroker	Y	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	Overson	Y
Gettel	Y	Stewart	Y
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	Y	Westmoreland	Y
Huish	Y		

11. Consider Resolution 06-2025B Adopting the Final Budget for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year

- CFO Hill provided a brief overview of the budget, which is the culmination of 6-months of work and review
- This budget includes the rollover adjustments in the previous agenda item
- CFO Hill noted that the final exhibits are pay plans and benefits that have been vetted through both the Benefits & Compensation Committee and the UFA Finance Committee
- There are no further questions
- Council Member Fotheringham thanked staff for their efforts in providing a professional and carefully constructed document for the municipalities UFA serves

Council Member Hull moved to approve Resolution 06-2025B approving the Final Budget for the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year including the adjustments approved today by the Board

Council Member Buroker seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Hull	Y
Bourke	-	Jackson	Y
Buroker	Y	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	Overson	Y
Gettel	Y	Stewart	Y
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	Y	Westmoreland	Y
Huish	Y		

12. Administration & Planning Report

- Administrative & Planning Overview
  - AC Russell has been conducting a comprehensive review of the structure of all internal committees
    - The intent is to ensure all committees have goals and are running efficiently
    - This should translate into actionable outcomes and increased oversight
  - Professional development opportunities are also at the forefront of his focus
  - The Liaison Program is being reviewed to provide more consistent messaging, mentorship, efficiencies, and effectiveness, while ensuring the program is sustainable

- There will be some restructuring and realignment within the program
- These changes will be presented at the upcoming CFO/City Manager Meeting, 6/24
- More information will be discussed at the July 15 Board Meeting

### 13. Operations Report

- AC Dern presented the report from last month
  - Incidents are at 16,000 YTD
    - Just over 3,300 for May, up 255 from 2024
    - UFA is trending at about 1,000 more calls per calendar year, this is being closely tracked
      - Council Member Fotheringham inquired as to what could be attributed to the increase
      - AC Dern replied that possibly growth and more population density could be contributing to the increase
      - Within the 2025/2026 budget, the trial run of a Low Acuity unit may help to buffer the use of the larger apparatus on non-emergent calls
    - Council Member Buroker asked if fires from lithium batteries are identifiable, to which AC Dern replied that through the fire investigation the cause would be tracked
      - Council Member Buroker hoped that the cause would circle back to media posts or some sort of preventive message
      - AC Dern stated that yes, this would be addressed through Community Risk Reduction outreach
    - Council Member Buroker asked about the incidents wherein crews were dispatched but cancelled enroute and what is done with this information
      - When dispatched and cancelled, there are many categories of calls
      - We have identified and are working on properly categorizing this category of calls
      - AC Dern expects that with the current work taking place in these instances, the number of these calls will decrease in future reports
      - Council Member Buroker feels it would be valuable if staff was able to calculate the cost every time this happens and use this information as education for the public with the hope that public awareness reduces the number of calls
- Holiday Staffing
  - With the upcoming July holidays, UFA will upstaff three Type 6 and one water tender from noon until midnight July 4
  - The fuels crew and Camp Williams personnel will also be available
  - Historically crews are busier with vegetation fires and medical calls, this upstaffing has been valuable in managing the additional calls and containing fires quickly
  - Staffing will be reevaluated prior to the 24<sup>th</sup> holiday
- Swift Water Incident
  - AC Dern reviewed an incident near the mouth of BCC involving an adult stranded in the creek
  - Due to the water conditions, crews decided a traditional water rescue was a risk
  - Aerial apparatus was used to lower a rescuer to the individual using a rope system and safely pulled the individual out of danger
- Operations Chief Nathan Kay
  - AC Dern introduced the new Operations Chief, the position vacated by AC Russell

### 14. Fire Chief Report

- Hot Shot Status – DC Widdison
  - Division Chief Widdison provided an overview of the 2-day interagency evaluation process
  - Apparatus, a sand table exercise, administrative documents, and a field exercise were all part of the testing
  - It was decided to not certify the crew at this time

- UFA understood this would be a challenging process, however this outcome is disheartening as work has been ongoing for the past 5-years to meet the national standards
- Work is being done to seek additional clarification of what needs to be done to meet the standards
- UFA is proud of the crews and the UFA Board's continued support
- Council Member Buroker asked how soon UFA can reapply and what is the course of action
  - DC Widdison stated that this is an unknown and that the certification team didn't know either
  - To this point, no one has been able to communicate what needs improvement and this has now been taken for review to a higher level with the hope of getting some clarified guidance
- Council Member Harris has been following this process for years and is proud of the crew
- DC Widdison noted that the crew has been deployed to a fire in Wyoming
- Chief Burchett pointed out that only two other crews have attempted this certification in the past 10-15 years with the three levels of bureaucracy
  - UFA will continue working with the coordination group to explore the next steps
  - This is a setback, but will be used as an opportunity to improve, we will not give up
- Chief Burchett acknowledges the amount of work that has been done and the great leadership given to the crew, they are ready and will continue to pursue Hot Shot status
- Information Outreach Event Season – Captain Barker
  - Captain Barker provided an overview of the upcoming events
  - On duty crews will attend events pending 911 response needs
  - Mayor Gettel discussed informing the community of when to call 911 and when to not
    - Captain Barker clarified that early activation of a response for a fire is paramount
  - Mayor Overson thanked Captain Barker for his expertise during the Taylorsville Dayzz planning meetings and for voicing vulnerability and safety issues
- UFA Board Elections
  - Chief Burchett reminded Board Members that Chair Weichers agreed to remain as Chair through the budget process and will now be stepping down
  - Please reach out to Mayor Weichers or Chief Burchett if interested in serving as Vice Chair
  - Council Member Fotheringham is currently serving as Vice Chair with the intent to advance to Chair for the coming two years
  - Also noted is that the Chair for Benefits & Compensation will need to be elected at the next Benefits & Compensation Committee Meeting
  - Elections will take place at the July 15, 2025 Board Meeting
- Executive Assistant Position
  - Chief Burchett introduced Micayla Dinkel who will be replacing Cyndee Young following her retirement in July
- Olympic Preparations
  - Chief Burchett intends to get ahead of the planning process for the Olympics
  - Work has begun to identify funding, grants, staffing, and resources that will be needed
  - A review of the impact to the organization and funds that were available during the 2002 has begun as well
  - Chief Burchett wants to make sure that UFA is in the position to be successful
  - If any Board Members hear of any funding opportunities, please reach out
  - Council Member Hull asked about venues within the service district
    - Chief Burchett replied that what venues will be used is still unknown



15. Closed Session  
None

16. Adjournment

Council Member Fotheringham moved to adjourn the June 17, 2025 UFA Board 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  
Council Member Paul Fotheringham  
Council Member Trish Hull  
Mayor Dustin Gettel  
Council Member Sheldon Stewart  
Mayor Tom Westmoreland

Mayor Dan Knopp  
Mayor Kristie Overson  
Mayor Mike Weichers  
Council Member Tyler Huish  
Council Member Tish Buroker  
Council Member Cheri Jackson  
Council Member Jared Henderson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Deputy Mayor Catherine Kanter  
Mayor Roger Bourke

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Dominic Burchett  
CFO Tony Hill

CLO Brian Roberts  
Cynthia Young, Clerk

ATTENDEES:

AC Dern  
AC Robinson  
AC Russell  
Aaron Whitehead  
Adam Park  
Amanda Lawrence  
Anthony Widdison  
Ben Porter  
Ben Reeves  
Bryan Case  
Calogero Ricotta  
Chet Ellis  
Chris Cawley  
Chris Stavros, UFSA Board  
Courtney Samuel  
Dave Ulibarri  
Debbie Cigarroa  
Embret Fossum  
Erica Langenfass  
Erik Van Duren

Jared Gerber  
Jay Torgersen  
Jill Tho  
Jon Wilde  
Kate Turnbaugh  
Katherine Petersen  
Kelly Bird  
Kenneth Aldridge  
Kiley Day  
Kiyoshi Young  
Krystal Griffin  
Meisha Marriott  
Micayla Dinkel  
Mike Greensides  
Molly McClellan  
Nile Easton  
OC Kay  
Rob Ayres  
Station 125  
Steve Bowen

Steve Quinn  
Tara Behunin  
Tony Barker  
Tyler Lintz  
Val Greensides  
Wade Watkins