



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MINUTES

November 19, 2024, 7:30 a.m.

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

1. Call to Order

Quorum present

Chair Weichers called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Minutes

Council Member Stewart moved to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2024, UFA Board Meeting as submitted

Council Member Fotheringham seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

4. Approval of 2025 UFA Board Meeting Schedule

- Chair Weichers pointed out that the December meeting has been adjusted to the week prior as is normal practice

Mayor Knopp moved to approve the UFA Board Meeting schedule as submitted

Council Member Hull seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

5. Consent Agenda

- Review of October Disbursements
 - No discussion

Council Member Fotheringham moved to approve the October disbursements as submitted

Council Member Hull seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

6. Committee Updates

- Benefits & Compensation Committee – Chair Silvestrini
 - Next meeting 1/23/25
- Governance Committee – No current Chair
 - No meeting held
- Finance Committee – Chair Henderson
 - Next meeting 12/3/24

7. Public Hearing to Receive and Consider Comments on Proposed Amendments to the 24/25 Fiscal Year Budget

- CFO Hill reviewed the first set of amendments for the fiscal year
- Many of the amendments are grants that have been awarded to the organization
- Mayor Overson thanked staff for their work in researching and obtaining grants

Council Member Fotheringham moved to open the Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on proposed amendments to the 24/25 Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Knopp seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Huish	-
Bourke	-	Hull	Y
Buroker	-	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	MacCay	Y
Glover	Y	Overson	Y
Harris	Y	Silvestrini	Y
Henderson	Y	Stewart	Y
		Weichers	Y
		Westmoreland	-

No public comment

Council Member Hull moved to close the Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on proposed amendments to the 24/25 Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Overson seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Huish	-
Bourke	-	Hull	Y
Buroker	-	Kanter	Y
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	MacCay	Y
Glover	Y	Overson	Y
Harris	Y	Silvestrini	Y
Henderson	Y	Stewart	Y
		Weichers	Y
		Westmoreland	-

8. Consider Resolution 11-2024A Approving a Budget Amendment to the 24/25 Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Overson moved to adopt Resolution 11-2024A approving the budget amendments to the 24/25 Fiscal Year Budget as presented

Council Member Fotheringham seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Huish	-
Bourke	-	Hull	Y
Buroker	-	Kanter	-
Butterfield	Y	Knopp	Y
Fotheringham	Y	MacCay	Y

Glover	Y	Overson	Y
Harris	Y	Silvestrini	Y
Henderson	Y	Stewart	Y
		Weichers	Y
		Westmoreland	-

9. Approval of the FY25/26 Budget Calendar

- CFO Hill reviewed the calendar which is similar to the past couple years
- Chief Burchett plans to conduct another stress test this year as this resulted in finding many efficiencies last year
- An additional Benefits & Compensation Committee Meeting will be added in order to begin the wage discussion earlier
- As a reminder, the Board will have three meeting opportunities to discuss the budget with the final adoption June 2025

Council Member Hull moved to approve the FY25/26 Budget Calendar as presented
 Council Member Fotheringham seconded the motion
 All voted in favor, none opposed

10. Operations Report

- AC Dern presented the report from last month
- Incidents
 - AC Dern provided an overview of a structure fire in Holladay
 - Crews were able to rescue a trapped victim
 - One Firefighter was injured removing the victim and was transported and released later that day
 - AC Dern also provided an update on the two Firefighters burned on a fire in Riverton
 - Both were treated with minor injuries and are back to work
- WL/EMAC Season Report
 - DC Widdison provided an update on the season for Wildland and EMAC deployments
 - Fires within our region were very active
 - Crews were deployed to a fire in Oregon and to two in California
 - The 20-person Wildland Crew successfully fought 17 wildfires throughout the West, spending a total of 125 days on fire suppression
 - Work continues on obtaining interagency Hot Shot status
 - They are now in the final step of the process
 - The single resource program utilizes Operations personnel to fill various management positions on wildfires, they had 50 different deployments this summer
 - At Camp Williams, wildland fire suppression is provided for the base during the summer live fire drills
 - The Fuels Crew focused on prevention, preparedness, and mitigation within the UFA jurisdiction while at the same time, being ready for response

11. Fire Chief Report

- IST – Incident Support Team – OC Russell
 - OC Russell presented a slideshow with information on what the IST does during large scale emergency response when deployed
 - Many members of UFA participate in the IST in critical roles managing the 28 national USAR teams when deployed
 - The IST is responsible for management, command, and coordination of teams during disaster rescue efforts

- There are 19 functional positions that require highly trained professionals with extensive experience in this type of work
- This experience provides UFA with valuable incident management experience for use here at home
- The IST is responsible for focusing the right amount of personnel and resources where they can do the best good
- Recreation Area Funding
 - Last year, this was the Canyon Contribution Funding that addressed the amount of funds given from the SLCo General Fund for services in the recreation areas
 - Much work was done last year with the SLCo Council to develop a policy and update a map defining these areas
 - The mayor is now presenting to the SLCo Council a new proposal and a new conversation on looking at the use of centrally assessed funds
 - Council Member Fotheringham asked if UFA was the sole provider for services in these areas, to which Chief Burchett responded “yes”, however, some mutual aid from other agencies is required at times
 - Deputy Mayor Kanter provided some information on the Mayors proposal and the potential 10%-20% decrease to the Recreation Area Funding for 2024 and 2025
 - DM Kanter stated that at the end of the day, it is a policy question, and that the Mayors office sees it as a gap in revenue and expenses in the recreation area of roughly \$3M
 - Council Member Henderson is interested in hearing the methodology used to arrive at the 20% potential decrease
 - UFA has a clear methodology to provide services, and the methodology for use of the recreation fee is simple from the UFA’s position
 - As a reminder to SLCo, the UFA is different from UFSA, and all UFA members are contributing to the cost to provide the services to the recreation areas
 - All of us are contributing to services to SLCo wide areas
 - If SLCo does not want to pay UFA for services, that may be the line that UFA will need to draw, and SLCo may need to look elsewhere for those services
 - Council Member Bailey added that as a UFSA member, Copperton and Magna benefit from the entire group and wonders how the thought arose that contribution is only for these two stations
 - DM Kanter stated that there was no scientific methodology to arrive at the 10-20%
 - The intention from the Mayors Office is not to impose a large production that would impair UFA to operate
 - The 10% was just a number to bring the conversation to light
 - There will be a recommendation to bring in a third party facilitator to wrestle with this issue
 - DM Kanter said that SLCo dealt with this with UPD, and the large question has to do with service districts and dealing with them on a global scale
 - There is a need to focus on the question of when the General Fund is asked to cover these costs, where SLCo sees additional funding, how is the system working
 - The circumstances have changed since the recreational funding has been in place and it is SLCo’s responsibility to have the council revisit it
 - Council Member Henderson reiterated that there is a difference between the service provider and UFSA and their members
 - UFSA pays for it’s members portion for services, not the 4 cities
 - UFSA members do not participate in that revenue

- Council Member Harris stated that the town of Emigration is not represented on the recreation fee map
 - Chief Burchett clarified that the map excludes the town but covers the area of the canyon being used as recreation, thereby treating all municipalities equal
- Eagle Mountain Dispatch
 - Eagle Mountain stations are dispatched from Central Dispatch, not VECC
 - There have been some issues with units being dispatched from two different centers
 - Work has been taking place to improve service from Central Dispatch, but their technology has limitations, such as no AVL
 - UFA continues talks with VECC on the possibility and what it looks like if VECC takes over dispatching for Eagle Mountain
- PM Student Addition for Spring
 - Chief Burchett updated the Board on the addition of a PM student for the upcoming class
 - This is not typically how this works, if the budget is for 13, 13 attend, but there is another individual ready to go and it is a benefit for UFA to get another PM out to the field
 - There will be no budget increase as the additional cost can be covered through cost savings in the Medical Division
- Fire Prevention Specialist Smolka
 - Congratulations to Thomas Smolka for 50 years in the fire service industry
 - Tom is the first in the URS system to have 50 years in fire service

12. Closed Session
No closed session

13. Adjournment
Council Member Hull moved to adjourn the November 19, 2024 meeting
Council Member Fotheringham 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
Acting Mayor Paul Glover, Midvale Alt.
Mayor Dan Knopp
Council Member Jared Henderson

Mayor Kristie Overson
Mayor Mike Weichers
Council Member Tyler Huish
Deputy Mayor Catherine Kanter
Mayor Jeff Silvestrini
Council Member Sheldon Stewart
Council Member Tahnee MacCay, Riverton Alt.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Roger Bourke
Council Member Tish Buroker

Mayor Tom Westmoreland
Mayor Stevenson (resigned)

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Dominic Burchett
CFO Tony Hill

CLO Brian Roberts
Cynthia Young, Clerk

OTHER ATTENDEES:

AC Dern
AC Pilgrim
AC Robinson
Adam Park
Anthony Widdison
Ben Porter
Bill Brass
Brad Larsen
Bryan Case
Calogero Ricotta
Chad Simons
Courtney Samuel
Debbie Cigarroa
Embret Fossum
Eric VanDuren
Erica Langenfass
Jared Gerber
Jay Torgersen
Jill Tho
Jon Wilde
Kate Turnbaugh
Kelly Bird

Keri Lawson
Kiley Day
Kiyoshi Young
Krystal Griffin
Lana Burningham
Lee Ascarte
Molly Doyle
Nile Easton
OC Russell
Rachel Anderson
Riley Pilgrim
Rob Ayres
Saskia DeVries
Shelli Fowlks
Station 116
Station 117
Station 125
Steve Prokopis
Steve Quinn
Tara Behunin
Tom Smolka
Tony Barker