



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 13, 2019, 3:30 p.m.

Committee Members In Attendance:

- ✓ Chair Silvestrini
- ✓ Mayor Westmoreland
- ✓ Councilmember Snelgrove
- ✓ Mayor Overson

Committee Members Absent:

- ✗ Councilmember Bush

Staff:

- ✓ Chief Petersen
- ✓ Cyndee Young
- ✓ CLO Roberts
- ✓ AC Ziolkowski

Guests:

- ✓ Bob Cameron – BCC
- ✓ Keith Zuspan – BCC
- ✓ Kate Turnbaugh
- ✓ Rachel Anderson – UFSA Legal Counsel
- ✓ IAFF Local 1696 – Steve Schmidt
- ✓ Councilmember Bowen
- ✓ Konrad Hildebrandt – Riverton
- ✓ Ryan Carter - Riverton

Call to Order

Chair Silvestrini called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

Public Comment

Bob Cameron, BCC resident, expressed appreciation for all Chief Petersen has done in support of SB187

Approval of Governance Committee Minutes from January 9, 2019

Councilmember Snelgrove moved to approve the Governance Committee Minutes from January 9, 2019

Mayor Westmoreland seconded the motion

All voted in favor

Continuation of Discussion on Interlocal Agreement:

- Withdrawal
 - Verbiage was changed to be more explicit as to the execution
 - Mayor Silvestrini questioned the deletion of the language addressing early withdrawal
 - CLO Roberts stated that it could be complex and unnecessary to make further distinction
 - With regard to a parting member's voice and representation on the Board

- Mayor Silvestrini stressed the value of allowing the member to maintain their seat on the Board
 - Attendance in closed sessions is allowed unless conversation relates to disputes on property or the withdrawal process itself
 - All agreed that if a Chair/Vice Chair position is held by a parting member, they should relinquish these seats as well as any Committee Chair seats they hold
- Disposition Stations of Equipment/Improvements
 - Clarified that if an item cannot be decoupled from the physical property, a depreciated cost will be assessed
 - Mayor Silvestrini questioned stations owned by UFSA, this is a different issue and is not addressed in this agreement
 - Ryan Carter clarified that this Interlocal does not supersede any Interlocal agreement previously made
 - This is addressed within this Interlocal agreement and operates under those terms
 - Ryan Carter questioned the practice of handing over end-of-life equipment/apparatus
 - Wants the agreement more flexible to explore the option of maintaining/assuming the loans or buying out the note
 - Chief Petersen stated that it is difficult to break items out that are part of a large purchase finance plan, but understands this and wants to keep the units servicing those areas
 - Mayor Silvestrini wants this conversation addressed in the Interlocal and also subject to mutual agreements as well
 - CLO Roberts will continue working on this, Ryan Carter will provide CLO Roberts with some draft ideas on how to handle these situations
- Personnel
 - Chief Petersen wants to clarify the intent of how personnel is handled within the Interlocal
 - Wants employees of UFA considered for positions prior to other hires
 - Does not want to have to RIFF anyone
 - Wants personnel to have stability and maintain benefits
 - All agreed with Chief Petersen and feel that these situations are usually mutually beneficial
- URS Retirement Liability
 - There is no liability as the fire service has only one rate, one pool of funds
 - No impact if a community withdrawals
 - The Insurance Premium Tax essentially equalized any liability of the benefit pool
 - Any changes affect everyone within the fire service equally
 - CLO Roberts will work to clarify verbiage to address if withdrawing party calculations differ from UFA's calculations
 - Chief Petersen stated that this impact will be studied and URS will be included in the calculations as well
- Admission of New Parties
 - A key goal is to balance the initial conversation between the Chief, Board Chair, and Board Members
 - No separate or side agreements are allowed
 - Language was added to ensure this
- Feasibility Study
 - Chief Petersen wanted this concept added
 - This helps prepare the Board in knowing the possible impact of a potential member
 - This is a best practices baseline only, all agreed they want to have the flexibility to eliminate or add items as necessary
 - CLO Roberts will change language to grant this flexibility

- It was suggested making this a separate policy/exhibit
 - Riverton requested that if made separate, it be brought in with the Interlocal agreement so that it does not fall through the cracks
- Chief Petersen also mentioned that other Authorities have a package of initial buy-in to ensure that incoming entities have equipment that meets certain standards
 - Helps to ensure that incoming entities do not become a burden
 - The Interlocal mentions conducting a study to assess any additional fees/needs, but language must be added to address what happens if standards are not met
 - The Board can then determine whether or not to assess, as incoming entities may offer other advantages that override their shortcomings
- Board Representation - SLCo
 - There have been no discussions with SLCo as of yet
 - It was decided to allow SLCo to share the vote if a weighted vote was requested
 - Clarification on how their voting will be handled will be added to the Interlocal
 - Chief Petersen felt that there was value in having both SLCo representatives present
 - All in attendance agreed this was fair
- Board of Directors
 - Rachel Anderson noted that UFSA does not allow flexibility for alternate Board Members
 - There should be consistency on both boards
 - Mayor Silvestrini has concerns as to accountability, it should be an elected official
 - Chief Petersen explained the extensive training of Board Members and necessary knowledge of UFA for the right decisions to be made
 - All agreed that Board Members must be elected officials and part of a municipality governing body
 - This ensures they are representing the people
 - No alternates allowed
- Stipend
 - Mayor Silvestrini, Councilmember Snelgrove, Mayor Overson were against it
 - Riverton did not agree, feels there may be competing values and may cause problems between UFA and smaller entities
 - It was suggested the municipalities compensate their representatives, this is more transparent
 - Chief Petersen noted that Board Members are representing their communities interests and balancing that with the interests of the collective
 - Chief Petersen wants this to go before the Board for further conversation
 - Governance recommends that stipends are not granted
- Councilmember Bowen requested the change of Township to Metro Townships
- CLO Roberts will make necessary corrections/changes and redistribute to Governance Committee
- Interlocal Draft #5 slated for Board Meeting in April
- All agreed

Closed Session

None

Adjournment

Mayor Overson moved to adjourn the meeting

Mayor Westmoreland seconded the motion

All voted in favor