



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MINUTES

February 18, 2025, 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 7:30 a.m.

2. Public Comment

Public comment was available live and with a posted email address

- Coralee Blake, Mayor Rob Dahle, Council Member Sheldon Stewart, and Jeremy Robertson all made public comment regarding HB267-Public Sector Labor Union Amendments
- All encourage and support UFA administrations continued collaboration with Local 1696
- This partnership was vital in helping UFA move forward after the 2016 State of Utah Audit
- Mayor Silvestrini echoed the comments encouraging the continuation of allowing Local 1696 a voice and the opportunity for input
- Jeremy Robertson, past President of Local 1696, asked CLO Roberts to interpret the legislation openly to ensure the relationship continues

3. Approval of Minutes

Mayor Silvestrini moved to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2025, UFA Board Meeting as submitted

Council Member Buroker seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

4. Administer Oath of Office for New Board Members

- Midvale Mayor Dustin Gettel was sworn in

5. Annual Board Member Requirements

- CLO Roberts provided an overview of the UFA Ethics Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy, and the designation of board alternates
- CLO Roberts also noted that it is required that the ILA be reviewed every 5-years
 - The document will be distributed to municipalities for review

6. Consent Agenda

- Review of January Disbursements
 - No discussion

Mayor Gettel moved to approve the January disbursements as submitted

Council Member Fotheringham seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

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

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

Mayor Mayor Knopp seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

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

No comments

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

Mayor Silvestrini seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

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

8. Consider Resolution 02-2025A to Approve Amendments to the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget

Council Member Stewart moved to approve Resolution 02-2025A amending the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget as presented

Mayor Gettel seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

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

9. Committee Updates

- Benefits & Compensation Committee – Chair Silvestrini
 - Meetings held 1/23/25 & 2/13/25
 - Next meeting 3/13/25
 - Discussed at the last meeting was moving to a 7-year rolling CPI average, based on the All Cities index
 - This compromise was reached between the Board and Local 1696
 - Also discussed was compression between the ranks and the need for incentive to progress
 - Also included for recommendation was the merit adjustments for sixteen civilian positions
 - This recommendation to the Board will result in a 3.6% COLA
 - Council Member Stewart pointed out that he previously suggested that the Board consider a 90th percentile rather than the Top 3 concept
 - No further discussion
- Governance Committee – No current Chair
 - No meeting held
 - Chief Burchett noted that the ILA is up for its 5-year review
 - A Governance Committee Meeting will be scheduled in the coming months
 - Anyone interested in joining or Chairing the Governance Committee, please reach out to Chief Burchett
- Finance Committee – Chair Henderson
 - Next meeting 4/10/25

10. Administration & Planning Report

- Legislative Update
 - AC Pilgrim provided an update to current bills
 - HB048 – Wildfire Risks
 - There remain many questions on risk, costs, etc.
 - A proposal to set up an assessment program is proposed
 - UFA or the Utah State Fire Chief's Association (USFCA) will be at the table for discussions
 - UFA and USFCA will be working collaboratively with Forestry Fire & State Lands (FFSL) on solutions based on the final bill
 - HB307 – Cooperative wildfire system funding mechanism
 - HB65 – FF Cancer bill amendments to increase the presumptive cancers from 4 to 15
 - Multiple EMS/Ambulance bills are on the watchlist as well
 - This has been a busy session, with a lot of challenging last minute meetings
 - 2024 Accomplishments Poster
 - The Board reviewed the final draft poster
 - The goal of the poster is to catch all the work and accomplishments from 2024 as identified in the Strategic Plan

11. Support Services Report

- EM Hazardous Mitigation Plan
 - Emergency Manager Behunin provided an overview of what EM has been working on
 - SLCo sought and received federal funding that allowed pre/post mitigation funding
 - Activities and hazards within SLCo were reviewed and updated
 - Once the mitigation plans are complete, they will be reviewed by FEMA
 - Following FEMA's approval, the plans will be shared with the municipalities and approved

12. Operations Report

- AC Dern presented the report from last month
 - Compared to January 2024, there has been an increase of 229 calls
 - Although it was a lean snow year, calls in the canyons have also increased
- Canyon Response Update
 - AC Dern explained the staffing in the canyons and the increase from 3 to 4 handed crews
 - This change in the response model has helped
 - There are now ample individuals to handle emergent calls
 - Transport turnaround time for the ambulance to return up the canyon impacts response
 - For non-emergent calls now, an ambulance comes from the valley and the care is transferred to them
 - The crew can now go back into service in the canyon quicker
 - The change in the model is doing what it was intended to do
 - Council Member Fotheringham questioned the status of the SLCo recreation funding
 - Chief Burchett replied that the process is ongoing
 - SLCo is working to identify a facilitator
 - No further information
 - Council Member Buroker inquired as to any information/data on the high number of cancelled/enroute incident types
 - AC Dern explained that this is a Wicked Issue as there is a possibility for cost savings, however, it is difficult to solve
 - Data is kept on cost per hour of operating time for each apparatus
 - Solutions are being explored to possibly manage various calls with a low acuity response unit, rather than sending the heavy apparatus
 - Work is currently being done to address this exact issue
 - Mayor Gettel asked if data is kept on how often Narcan is administered
 - AC Dern explained that yes, use is tracked, and a community risk reduction program will be focused on hot spots for Narcan overdoses, interventions, etc.
 - This information is available to municipalities if requested

13. Fire Chief Report

- Introduction to Women FF Class UFRA
 - Local 1696 Vice President Swenson explained her role in overseeing the Utah Fire & Rescue Academy (UFRA) women FF class
 - UFRA hosts the event and Engineer Swenson recruits women from other agencies as mentors
 - There are multiple camps for those under 18, but few for women over 18
 - This event is advertised on social media and through all agencies throughout Utah
 - Mayor Gettel stated that Midvale would be interested in helping support this effort in the future
- Federal Funding Update
 - Chief Burchett stated that there is a lot of uncertainty and there are no solid answers with these cuts
 - Chief has asked all Divisions to report their reliance on federal funding
 - USAR and Emergency Management are the main Divisions in UFA that currently receive funding and they are confident that their daily operations will not be impacted
 - Although, future grant opportunities are unknown
 - Funding for deployments shouldn't be impacted
 - This is all being watch closely
 - The funding for the BLM Station Project at Fire Training is fully funded through the design process
 - The BLM is hoping to get the funding for phase 2, building the station

- UFA is comfortable moving forward with the design phase
- Chief Burchett is just looking for a general consensus from the Board on continuing to move forward with the design phase
- No comment, no one opposed

14. Closed Session

None

15. Adjournment

Council Member Fotheringham moved to adjourn the February 18, 2025 meeting

Mayor Knopp seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Council Member Catherine Harris

Mayor Roger Bourke

Council Member Sheldon Stewart

Council Member Paul Fotheringham

Council Member Chrystal Butterfield

Mayor Dustin Gettel, Midvale

Mayor Dan Knopp

Council Member Jared Henderson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Council Member Kathleen Bailey

Council Member Tyler Huish

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Dominic Burchett

CFO Tony Hill

ATTENDEES:

AC Pilgrim

AC Robinson

Aaron Whitehead

Anthony Widdison

Nate Bogenschutz

Embre Fossum

Ben Reeves

Bill Brass

Bryan Case

Chris Cawley

Coralee Blake (Moser)

Courtney Samuel

Dan DeVoogd

Erica Langenfass

Evan VanDuren

Gary Davis

Mayor Kristie Overson
Mayor Mike Weichers
Deputy Mayor Catherine Kanter
Council Member Tish Buroker
Mayor Jeff Silvestrini

Council Member Trish Hull
Mayor Tom Westmoreland

CLO Brian Roberts
Cynthia Young, Clerk

Rachel Anderson, UFSA

Rob Ayres

Rob Dahle, Holladay

Sam Christensen

Shelli Fowlkes

Sherri Jackson, Millcreek

Station 102

Station 115

Station 121

Station 111

Steve Prokopis

Tara Behunin

Tony Barker

Val Greensides

Wade Watkins