



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MINUTES

JULY 15, 2025, 7:30 AM

Electronically via Zoom Webinar/UFA Headquarters-3380 South 900 West SLC, UT 84119

- Call to Order

Quorum present

Chair Weichers called the meeting to order at 7:30 am

- Public Comment

None

Public comment was available live and with a posted email address

- Mayor Silvestrini Service Award

The UFA Board presented a service award to Mayor Jeff Silvestrini, recognizing and thanking him for his years of dedicated service on the Unified Fire Authority Board.

- Board Elections-CLO Roberts

Mayor Gettel made a motion to appoint Council Member Paul Fotheringham as Chair of the UFA Board. Council Member Harris seconded the motion, and all voted in favor; none opposed.

Council Member Harris made a motion to appoint Mayor Gettel as the Vice Chair of the UFA Board. Council Member Buroker seconded the motion, and all voted in favor; none opposed.

- Minutes Approval

a. June 17, 2025 Board Meeting

b. June 17, 2025 Special Board Meeting-Fee Increase

Council Member Stewart made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2025, UFA Board Meeting as well as the approval of the June 17, 2025, Special Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Council Member Huish seconded the motion, and all voted in favor; none opposed.

- Consent Agenda-CFO Hill

a. Review of June Disbursements

Council Member Bourke asked what the small disbursements were for some of the cities. CFO Hill informed the Board that the disbursements are utility fees that are due for some of the fire stations. Mayor Gettel made a motion to approve the June disbursements as submitted. Mayor

Weichers seconded the motion, and all voted in favor; none opposed.

- Committee Updates

- a. Benefits and Compensation-Chair election will be in January 2025

- No meeting was held

- b. Governance Committee-Chair Gettel

- No meeting was held

- c. Finance Committee-Chair Henderson

- No meeting was held

- Administration and Planning Report-AC Russell

- Liaison Format Change

- AC Russell highlighted that adding and staffing the fourth battalion has allowed for a change in the liaison program. Under this new model, each of the municipalities has been assigned either a Battalion Chief or Division Chief as primary liaison. This additional enhancement to the program is the formal involvement at the Assistant Chief level. Each AC will oversee five municipalities, and they will be attending one city council meeting per month on a rotating basis.
 - Council Member Hull stated that she is excited about the new changes and is looking forward to seeing the Assistant Chiefs at some of the meetings.

- Support Services Report-AC Robinson

- UFA/BLM WL Fire Station Update

- On June 26, 2025, the BLM notified UFA that they had signed the lease agreement for 1.5 acres of ground at UFA's Fire Training facility. The BLM has authorized the start of the design phase for the shared BLM/UFA fire station that will be built on the UFA Fire Training grounds. This is not an agreement for the construction phase, and a new agreement will need to be signed for construction.
 - AC Robinson highlighted the 16,000 sq feet station design that was included in the board packet. This new building does not impact the current training buildings or the SLCO salt pile that is currently located on the site.

- Operations Report-AC Dern

Cancelled in Route Incidents Update

- As a follow-up from the last Board Meeting, there are two primary types of calls that fall into the Cancelled in Route category: false alarm calls as well as roadway incidents. AC Dern explained these types of calls and how UFA typically responds to these calls. After researching these calls, UFA has identified that there are some calls dropping into this category that should not have been. This has been corrected for future reports, as well as all reports for 2025.

Operations Report

- UFA has responded to almost 20,000 calls so far this year, 3,000 calls in the month of June.
- The 90th percentile turnout times have not changed, which is great for this time of year.
- Review of the five busiest stations, with Station 101 remaining the busiest.
- There has been an increase in brush and grass fires due to the higher temperatures. UFA has responded to 38 brush/grass fires in the last month. AC Dern stated that the UFA crews are doing a great job responding quickly and effectively to these calls.
- The UFA Fuels Crew is responding to many of the brush/grass fires for initial attack. The crew is also providing long-term support on these calls so that the station crews can get back into service as soon as possible, making a very positive impact on service delivery.

Holiday Staffing

- UFA staffed three Type 6 engines, a water tender and the Fuels Crew to stay on duty of the days of July 4-5. UFA also staffed Prevention and Special Enforcement. The fire impact for the 4th of July holiday was minimal. UFA will be staffed similarly for the upcoming July 24th holiday.

Herriman Incident

- AC Dern highlighted an incident in the Herriman/Riverton area where a three-vehicle crash caused a gas-fed fire. A full alarm structure assignment was dispatched. While UFA was in route, two bystanders rescued two occupants out of the vehicles, risking their own lives and saving the occupants.
- Upon arriving at the scene, UFA encountered multiple injuries to civilians and a large amount of fire impacting the Dominos, Jimmy John's, and Super Cuts, as well as a burning vehicle with unknown occupants. During the response, a gas explosion occurred, displacing walls, collapsing a portion of the roof, sending debris across the scene.
- The Battalion Chief immediately called for a PAR check, which is a personal accountability report for all personnel on scene. All personnel were unharmed, and UFA continued operations.

- UFA crews demonstrated their ability and dedication during a complex and dangerous incident. AC Dern thanked the South Jordan, West Jordan, Bluffdale, and Draper Fire Departments. AC Dern also thanked Enbridge Energy, Riverton PD and Herriman PD for all of their coordination and support during the incident.
- Council Member Fotheringham stated that this incident is one more example of how having a large regional resource helps in an incident like this. He thanked the crews for their hard work on this call.
- Council Member Bailey thanks the crews for their hard work on the Copperton Fire.

Type VI Staffing Prioritization

- AC Dern informed the Board that when UFA has additional staffing, UFA will be staffing two additional Type 6 Engines to help with the possible threat of wildland fire during the summer months. The engines will be stationed at Station 125 in Midvale and Station 253 in Eagle Mountain.

• Fire Chief Report-Chief Burchett

Hot Shot Status Update

- Chief Burchett stated that he and DC Widdison had met with a few members of the Great Basin Coordination Group. After the meeting, a letter was drafted from UFA to the Great Basin Coordination Group stating what the next step would be for UFA. The letter had a detailed action plan to address the deficiencies that the Hot Shot Steering Committee had identified. The response to the letter was really good, and the Great Basin Coordination Group agreed to allow the crew to remain a trainee crew this year and to retest for certification next Spring. Chief Burchett thanked DC Widdison and the crew for keeping their heads high during a challenging time.

• Lithium Ion Battery-Chief Burchett/DOC Easton

- DOC Easton gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board Members regarding Lithium Batteries and the fire dangers that come with these batteries. Information Outreach will be launching a campaign to educate the public on the dangers of the batteries, which will include some safety tips.
- The Board Members asked that the social media campaign be passed on to the municipalities so that they can support and share with the public as well.

• USAR Update-Chief Burchett

- The Urban Search and Rescue team was mobilized on July 9, 2025, and they were sent to New Mexico. Chief Burchett stated that a typical deployment for USAR is 14 days, but it will depend on the weather and the needs of the incident.

- Cyndee Young Thank You-Chief Burchett

- Chief Burchett thanked Executive Administrative Assistant Cyndee Young for her years of dedicated service to UFA, the Board, and to the Command Staff team. Cyndee is leaving UFA on 07/15/25 and will be enjoying a well-deserved retirement. The Board Members thanked Cyndee for her service to the Board and for a job well done.

- Possible Closed Session

None

- Adjournment

Council Member Hull moved to adjourn the July 15, 2025 UFA Board Meeting. Council Member Harris seconded the motion, and all voted in favor; none opposed.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Council Member Kathleen Bailey
Mayor Roger Bourke
Council Member Chrystal Butterfield
Council Member Catherine Harris
Council Member Paul Fotheringham
Council Member Trish Hull

Mayor Dustin Gettel
Deputy Mayor Catherine Kanter
Mayor Dan Knopp
Mayor Kristie Overson
Mayor Mike Weichers
Council Member Tish Buroker

Council Member Cheri Jackson
Council Member Tyler Huish
Council Member Sheldon Stewart

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Council Member Jared Henderson
Mayor Tom Westmoreland

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Dominic Burchett
CFO Hill
CLO Brian Roberts
Clerk Cyndee Young
Clerk Micayla Dinkel

ATTENDEES

AC Dern
AC Robinson
AC Russell
Anthony Widdison
Ben Porter

Tara Behunin
David Chipman
Bill Brass
Rachel Anderson
Nile Easton

Courtney Samuel
Embret Fossum
Kiley Day
Mike Greensides

