

PAYSON CITY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
Payson City Center, 439 W. Utah Avenue, Payson UT 84651
Wednesday, October 8, 2025

CONDUCTING Robert Mills, Assistant City Manager

MEMBERS PRESENT Lynn Abplanalp, PPC Flexible Packaging
 Kevin Johnson, Mountain View Hospital
 Jim Rowland, Payson Santaquin Chamber of Commerce
 Tyler Jones, Business Owner (7:50 a.m.)
 Kris Phillips, Stadium Cinemas

EXCUSED William R. Wright, Mayor
 Brian Hulet, Economic Development Director/City Council
 Ben Ford, Nebo School District
 David Charles, Business Owner
 Mark Kershaw, Resident
 Larry Skinner, Resident

STAFF Dave Tuckett, City Manager
 Robert Mills, Assistant City Manager
 Jill Spencer, Development Services Director
 Kim E. Holindrake, City Recorder

OTHERS Kirk Beecher, Planning Commission

1. Call to Order

Robert Mills called this meeting of the Economic Development Board of Payson City, Utah, to order at 7:38 a.m. The meeting was properly noticed.

2. Prior Minutes Approval

MOTION: Dave Tuckett – To approve the July 9, 2025, minutes. Motion seconded by Kevin Johnson. Those voting yes: Lynn Abplanalp, Kevin Johnson, Jim Rowland, Kris Phillips, Jill Spencer, Dave Tuckett. The motion carried.

3. Guest

Item not addressed.

4. Golf Event

Kris Phillips reported that there were 31 teams; and for the most part, it went really well. There were a couple glitches that will be addressed by the Golf Event Committee on October 23 including the highs and lows and how to improve. There were some assumptions that will be addressed as well.

Members of the State Legislature showed up and expected to play so teams were quickly put together for them. Jill Spencer took pictures of all the teams that will be shared at the next meeting. Participants and sponsors all want to participate in the golfing so that needs to be balanced and figured out.

Robert Mills noted it was super successful and Governor Cox was there all day. Winners will be posted on the golf course website.

Dave Tuckett explained Governor Cox was very gracious and stayed the entire time.

Jill Spencer stated this was the ninth year. For the tenth year, it would be nice to have a frame with the Payson logo and the Home to Adventure theme to bundle nicely and send to the participants. There were lots of new faces this year.

Kevin Johnson explained that this is an opportunity to fill all 18 holes with hole sponsors and exhibits to get the city's message out. Every team would reach every hole and receive a message about Payson. Messages would be only 3 to 4 minutes so playing isn't bogged down. All 18 holes need to be filled and the event is growing every year. The subcommittees of this Board should all be on a hole with information. The messaging, information, and displays should be well thought out. The city needs to drive home the theme Home to Adventure and messages on what is happening in Payson.

Dave Tuckett noted it doesn't need to be elaborate. WICP had pictures of its buildings and it didn't take a lot of time.

5. Innovation Center

Robert Mills hoped everyone toured the MTECH. The Innovation Center received a large shipment of equipment. Jace Woolstenhulme works for MTECH but will be the operations person at the Innovations Center. He's grateful for the MTECH partnership and contributing Mr. Woolstenhulme's time to run the center. There is a massive laser engraver, which needs ventilation. Staff at the center will be trained on the equipment to help those business owners who come in to use the equipment. He has visited a few innovation centers in the state. The Center should open at the end of October.

(Tyler Jones present 7:50 a.m.)

Jim Rowland noted the Chamber has the Garage to Great Workshop on October 23 at MTECH with about 100 people who will be introduced to the Innovation Center. Then on October 28 is the adventure and education chamber luncheon with 40 to 50 people to introduce to the Center.

6. Inland Port

Dave Tuckett reported the first meeting is coming up in November and the second in December, which need to occur before the Inland Port begins. The City is looking at other properties to add and help the city out.

Robert Mills noted the city is very pleased with the inland port policy change. It's a good program and has significant benefits.

7. Committee Reports, Assignments and Goals

Golf Event – Explained previously.

Business Retention – Robert Mills explained this committee usually meets before this meeting but will meet next month. He and Marty Dargel are working on visiting businesses to see how they are doing. She has some survey information being sent out.

Strategic Plan/Web Site/Messaging - Kirk Beecher noted the committee hasn't met for a while. He needs data from Brian Hulet.

UVU/MTECH – Kevin Johnson reported a good job has been done pulling together partners with UVU, MTECH, and Nebo School District. The Advanced Learning Center now has a tool for business to request interns or projects, which gives experience to the interns. The luncheon is to fully promote this with the Chamber and get in front of the businesses. It has made good progress and has great participation with committee members. There is also a goal to do something with primary education (K through 12th grade) to connect businesses with education. The Committee has bought into the concept of how to instill adventure in education and make it different for real life experiences.

Downtown – Tyler Jones reported the Committee is putting together a decorating contest with the help of the Chamber. They will come up with something big and only award a first prize. Mayor Wright will be asked to judge. The goal is to have judging on November 26 and announce the winner at the Payson Christmas Festival, tree lighting. First Fridays will only be held during the summer and special events on other days. Once people are back to school, they aren't interested in this Friday event. They are discussing a valentines day event and maybe Halloween event or fall festival. There is a lot going on for Christmas. They are trying to support and join forces with other events and not conflict. Councilmember Rowley reached out about his opinion on two-hour parking in the downtown. He doesn't see a problem with parking and doesn't feel it's needed. If there is a problem, he's happy to help find a solution. A lot of parking was removed already so switching to two-hour parking will create upset people. Some areas could be two-hour parking but not all areas. He's happy to talk to the business owners to collect data and encourage employees to park in the parking lot. .

Dave Tuckett explained that there were some complaints on Utah Avenue where employees were parking on the street their entire work shift. If employers encouraged employees to park in the parking lots, it may not be an issue. The city adopted a resolution a couple years ago to not allow overnight parking in parking lots, but it hasn't been implemented. Apartment tenants can get a permit to park in the back overnight. It was brought up that some tenants park on the street. Enforcement is a challenge. Education and signage goes a long way. He will inform the council that staff is working on additional information before it's present to the council. The city wants it to work for everyone in the downtown area. There is an issue with some illegal apartments because of fire issues and building code issues.

Kevin Johnson questioned if two hours is enough to visit businesses.

Jill Spencer suggested using drones to address events, etc. to collect data but address it now as well.

Tyler Jones mentioned that the Main Street Program with the state has federal grants available to create apartments above buildings or revitalize interiors. These could help with getting some apartments up to code.

8. Retreat

Robert Mills asked if a retreat is a good idea and what discussion topics would be good. It's generally all day with lunch. February may be a good time.

Discussion that a retreat needs to be well organized and have a purpose. The previous retreat was good. It could be held at the MTECH building. Topics could focus on types of committees, breakout sessions with goals to kick start stronger committee participation, UVU speakers, Inland Port, business grants, business speakers, and discuss what is being done well and not well. The Education Committee is a good example of a good committee. Discuss what's happening in the city as far as new businesses, infrastructure, economic development, etc. The Small Business Administration could present about programs available. Business representatives could be present for a portion of it. The suggestion is to hold it on Thursday, February 26 starting with lunch and go from 1 to 6 p.m.

9. Report on Things Happening in Payson

Discussion that the theaters sold. Kris Phillips noted there is a lot of negative feedback out there. She is meeting with them this afternoon to get the correct messaging out. Angel Studios has a role there, but it's not straight Angel Studios movies. The production company has many different movies.

Jim Rowland is excited for the Chamber workshop on October 23. The Chamber held a fun round table with five business leaders in area to discuss funding, business growth, etc. The ribbon cutting for 7 Brew Coffee is on Friday, October 17 at 10:45 a.m. They have much more than coffee.

10. Report from City

Robert Mills reported that there is no announcement from Woodbury for new businesses. The sewer plant is moving forward. The Electric Department is working to ensure the city has a good grid. The City is getting ready for the Christmas season and building continues.

11. Other

Kim Holindrake noted that Ben Ford, Nebo School District, can't meet on the second Wednesday. Robert Mills noted that it's good to have a representative from the District. Dave Tuckett will get a recommendation from Ben Ford.

12. Adjourn

This meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.