



LONE PEAK PUBLIC SAFETY DISTRICT DRAFT MINUTES

**Wednesday, July 9, 2025
7:30 am**

Approved November 19, 2025

Highland City Hall, 5400 West Civic Center Drive, Highland, Utah 84003

7:30 AM REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order: Chair Kim Rodela

Invocation: Board Member Jason Thelin

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kim Rodela as a regular meeting at 7:35 am. The meeting agenda was posted on the *Utah State Public Meeting Website* at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

PRESIDING: Kim Rodela, Chair

BOARD MEMBERS: Brittney P. Bills – via Zoom until work session
Kurt Ostler – present
Carla Merrill – present
Jason Thelin – present

STAFF PRESENT: LPPSD Executive Director Erin Wells, LPPSD Assistant Executive Director Shane Sorensen, Fire Chief Brian Patten, Sergeant Charlie Thurston, Recorder Stephannie Cottle, Finance Director David Mortensen

OTHERS PRESENT: Darci Brunson, Brent Rummler, Jeff Bassett

1. UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

Please limit comments to three minutes per person. Please state your name.

There were no public comments.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Regular Lone Peak Public Safety District Meeting – May 13, 2025 and May 14, 2025

b. Motorola Solutions Invoice

The Board will consider processing payment with Motorola Solutions Invoice for Motorola Spillman (CAD) which is the primary platform for managing emergency call handling, unit dispatching, incident reporting, and inter-agency coordination.

Board Member Kurt Ostler MOVED to APPROVE consent item 2a and 2b.

There was no SECOND.

The Board discussed the meeting minutes listed under agenda item 2a; Board Member Thelin stated that he sent an email* this morning suggesting some modifications to the minutes document. Board Member Merrill stated she did not have time to review the minutes or Board Member Thelin's email before this morning's meeting. Board Member Ostler stated that he did not receive the email. Board Member Thelin stated that Recorder Cottle did not receive the email either. Board Member Ostler asked if the proposed changes are minor or significant, to which Board Member Thelin answered significant. Board Member Ostler suggested continuing consideration/action on the minutes in order for the Board to review the minutes and Board Member Thelin's proposed changes. *The above referenced email was received, the proposed corrections were reviewed, and the May 13 and 14 minutes were approved as amended on November 10, 2025.

Board Member Kurt Ostler MOVED to Continue item 2a, the meeting minutes of May 13, 2025 and May 14, 2025, to the August meeting.

Board Member Carla Merrill SECONDED the motion.

The vote was recorded as follows:

<i>Board Member Kurt Ostler</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Board Member Carla Merrill</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Board Member Jason Thelin</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 3:0

Council Member Kurt Ostler MOVED to approve item 2b, Motorola Solutions Invoice.

Council Member Jason Thelin SECONDED the motion.

The vote was recorded as follows:

<i>Board Member Kurt Ostler</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Board Member Carla Merrill</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Board Member Jason Thelin</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 3:0

3. LEASE AGREEMENT WITH ZIONS BANCORPORATION FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Board will consider an equipment financing lease with Zions Bancorporation.

Finance Director Mortensen explained that in November 2022, a Rosenbauer Viper Aerial 109' Ladder Truck and a Rosenbauer Type 1-3 Engine were ordered, and delivery is anticipated by the middle of July 2025. Financing has been arranged with Zions Bancorporation to pay for the purchase of the ladder truck and type 1-3 engine. The first payment of the proposed lease financing would be due in July of 2026 and will be included in the proposed fiscal year 2026-2027 budget. He explained the lease financing will be funded for \$2,042,748 with an anticipated closing date on July 11, 2025. The first payment of \$261,598.50 will be due on July 11, 2026, with annual payments of the same amount for a 10-year term through July of 2035. It is anticipated that proceeds from the surplus of the existing 2008 Pierce ladder truck will pay off the remaining balance on the transport engine, which is the only other piece of equipment that currently has an annual lease payment due. Therefore, this new lease payment of \$261,598.50 will be the only annual equipment lease payment. This annual payment is higher than the budgeted lease payments line item in fiscal year 2026, but it is only slightly higher than the lease payments

budget line item from the time period when this purchase was approved by the Board and as it was presented to and approved by the Board at the time. For reference, the actual lease payments total from fiscal year 2022 was \$251,564 and fiscal year 2023 was \$210,299.

Board Member Ostler asked if there is a buyout clause in the lease agreement. Mr. Mortensen stated that at the end of the lease term, the District will own the equipment. Board Member Ostler inquired as to the interest rate for the lease, to which Mr. Mortensen answered 4.77 percent. Board Member Ostler asked if any existing leases will be expiring before the new lease takes effect. Mr. Mortensen stated many loans have been paid off recently and there is one piece of equipment for which the City still has a lease agreement with an annual payment of \$51,000 per year. There are three payments left on that piece of equipment; once the District receives the new ladder truck, the old truck can be surplussed and the proceeds of that sale can be used to pay off the remaining balance of the lease. This means the only lease payment the District will have is for these two new pieces of equipment.

Board Member Jason Thelin MOVED to approve the resolution approving the form of lease/purchase agreement with Zions Bank and authorize the execution and delivery thereof.

Board Member Kurt Ostler SECONDED the motion.

The vote was recorded as follows:

<i>Board Member Kurt Ostler</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Board Member Carla Merrill</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Board Member Jason Thelin</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 3:0

4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. Administration

LPPSD Executive Director Wells stated that one of the items the Board requested at their last meeting was work to create a finance committee; Administration is still working on that item and will eventually need recommendations from the Board relative to who they would like to serve on that committee.

b. Police Department

There was no report from the Police Department.

c. Fire Department

Chief Patten reported there were no major issues over the 4th of July holiday and that is largely due to the efforts of residents to observe fireworks restrictions and be safe; there were a few small fires, but nothing major.

5. WORK SESSION: LONE PEAK PUBLIC SAFETY DISTRICT FACILITATOR

The Board will have a discussion with Jeff Bassett regarding the Interlocal Agreement for Lone Peak Public Safety District as it relates to the funding allocation.

LPPSD Executive Director Wells introduced Jeff Bassett, who was highly recommended as the best individual to facilitate conversations about the best way for a shared public safety entity to be organized and funded. Mr.

Bassett is the former Fire Chief of South Davis Fire District and that entity went through a similar situation to the LPPSD. She looks forward to the expertise he can offer to the District.

Mr. Bassett stated that he cares about helping cities and districts move in the right direction of prioritizing and increasing awareness of public safety; he will help the Board and Administration figure out what will work best for the future of the District. He provided a brief background on his career as a Fire Chief as well as some of the work he has done to help other cities and districts on these types of matters. He then facilitated discussion and entertained input from the group on issues that have arisen in Highland and Alpine and how those issues compare with the other entities he has assisted. Each member of the Board expressed their most pressing concerns relative to the makeup of the District and split in financial responsibilities and questioned Mr. Bassett about the thresholds he has seen in other entities that have driven splitting a district and causing partner cities to handle public safety independently in-house. This led to discussion among Mr. Bassett, Chief Patten, and the Board regarding past studies relating to appropriate staffing levels; growth in the area covered by the District; and call volume data driving the need to increase staffing levels.

Brent Rummel and Jason Thelin left the meeting at 8:51 am.

Chair Rodela asked Mr. Bassett if he has an initial recommendation for the Board based upon discussion thus far. Mr. Bassett stated that all the issues the Board has encountered are connected to one another; the Board can solicit an evaluation that will answer the major questions the Board has in terms of staffing models, fair split of financial responsibility for each city, needed apparatus and stations, and taxation of the area covered by the District. The Board discussed the goals of an evaluation or study but concluded they do not want to spend the money on an evaluation.

Board Member Ostler stressed that he and the Highland City Council will likely push to leave the District if the assessment formula is not adjusted commensurate with the population and levels of service for both Highland and Alpine; he feels Highland City is paying more money but receiving less service than Alpine City. Board Member Merrill stated that Highland City is closer to mutual aid options, and she feels the staffing levels and assignments are appropriate. Mr. Bassett stated that the district model can still work based upon the feedback he has heard from both Highland and Alpine representatives; if the District is dissolved and each city is on its own, both will need to rely heavily on mutual aid. The group concluded that another meeting is needed with Mr. Bassett, and they discussed the timing of involving the City Councils of both Highland and Alpine; the next meeting will be held on September 3 with just the LPPSD Board and Mr. Bassett. Proposals decided upon at that meeting will be sent to each City Council for review and Mr. Sorensen indicated it will be important for the proposal documents to be based upon the same data. Ms. Wells agreed and stated that population numbers used to determine assessments can be used for the proposals.

Board Member Merrill stated she would like to have the actual costs of full time versus part time staffing; she would appreciate a list of pros and cons regarding full and part time staffing models. Ms. Wells and Chief Patten indicated they can work on preparing that information.

6. CLOSED MEETING

The Board may recess to convene in a closed meeting for the purpose of discussing items as provided by Utah Code Annotated §52-4-205.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Carla Merrill MOVED to adjourn the regular meeting and Board Member Kurt Ostler SECONDED the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 am.

I, Stephannie Cottle, Recorder, hereby certify that the foregoing minutes represent a true, accurate and complete record of the meeting held on July 9, 2025. This document constitutes the official minutes for the Lone Peak Public Safety District Board Meeting.



Stephannie Cottle, CMC, UCC
LPPSD Recorder