

MINUTES of the work session of the Uintah County Commission held **November 26, 2025** in the large Commission conference room of the Uintah County Building at 152 East 100 North, Vernal, Utah. The meeting commenced at 10:00 a.m.

PARTICIPANTS: Commissioners John Laursen, Sonja Norton, and Willis LeFevre.

ATTENDANCE: JC Brewer, Mike Wilber, Angela Hawkins, Caleb Hall, Deanna Nyberg, Travis Campbell, Matt Cazier, Crystal Clark, Angela Hawkins, Loren Anderson.
Minutes by Sheri Allen.

WELCOME: Commissioner Laursen, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. CONSIDERATION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF AGREEMENT WITH SPRINGBUK INC. to provide self-funded health insurance analytics - Loren Anderson, Deputy Civil Attorney

Springbuk is a data analytics company contracted to help reduce our healthcare costs. We initially signed an agreement last year, and this is the renewal for the upcoming year. When the item is proposed in Commission meeting we plan to request a renewal for the maximum legally allowed period, which is up to five years, to avoid annual reapplications. Springbuk's service is to maintain low healthcare costs through data analytics. There is no additional cost to us; any fees are covered as part of our existing GBS fee structure. Placed on December 2 Commission meeting.

2. RESOLUTION 11-26-2025, R1- AMENDMENTS TO THE UINTAH COUNTY GENERAL PLAN- Amending the Economic Development section- Travis Campbell , Economic Development

The current economic development section is being updated and refined with a two-part approach. The first objective is to update dated facts and figures (some from as far back as 2016) regarding: Population, Income, Housing, and Job numbers. These data points were sourced directly from the state. The second, and more substantial, objective is to create a new economic development strategic plan to guide both near-term and long-term efforts. This effort stems from the lack of a previously existing, comprehensive plan. The language and areas of focus for economic development efforts are also being updated. The updated document is intended to serve as a helpful tool and reference point for: providing personal direction in day-to-day efforts, public, Elected officials, future Commissions, and future Economic Development directors. It will serve as both a current outlook and a historical record of actions, rationale, and methods. The goals within the strategic plan were formulated using a comprehensive process that included: stakeholder input via community surveys, analysis of demographics, and a SWOT analysis. The document is designed to be implementable and, importantly, a living document that can be easily amended as the county evolves and as new developments occur. The key goals outlined in the plan are: Economic Diversification, Workforce Development (Workforce Goals), Infrastructure Improvements, Support for Small Businesses (Programs and Efforts), and Regional Coordination (with municipalities, neighboring counties, state offices, IGOs, and NGOs). Each goal is further broken down into specific policies and strategies that can be prioritized. A simple tracking matrix will be used to track progress, associated costs, priorities, and status, providing a clear tie-back to the overall strategy. The draft plan was presented to the Planning Commission, which approved it with two recommendations: minor language refinement, and emphasis on Water: The most significant change was the recommendation to strengthen the language in the "Section 3, Policy on the Support for Natural Resource Development." This was previously broad, and the revision now specifically highlights the importance of water in the context of growth and development within the county. The document is considered a "living document" that can be changed and updated as progress is made, time goes on, and the county's focus shifts. The Commissioners requested a chance to review the document in detail rather than going point-by-point in the meeting. Tentatively placed on December 2 Commission meeting.

3. RESOLUTION 11-26-2025, R2- AMENDMENTS TO THE UTAH COUNTY GENERAL PLAN-

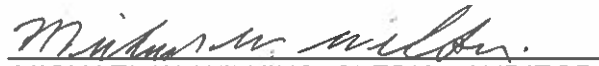
Adding a Water Use and Preservation element- Matt Cazier, Community Development

Matt Cazier, Community Development presented the update to the General Plan with adding a Water Use and Preservation section. Utah State is requesting a water management plan for all counties and are giving a \$10,000 state grant to implement this plan. All water districts were sent the updated plan, Ashley Valley and Jensen, provided feedback, though Ballard and others did not respond. The plan provides background on water use and preservation, noting current culinary water use at 2.29% and projecting a 0.96% growth rate. The County's role is not to manage the water industry but to support districts facing water supply pressure due to growth, emphasizing water preservation and preventing the conversion of agricultural water rights. Key goals include collaborating with water boards, reducing outdoor water use, helping districts develop conservation programs, supporting regional districts, seeking grants, and investing in water quality and source protection plans. The final plan, written by Horrocks, has been reviewed by Loren and distributed to the Commissioners. Tentatively placed on December 2 Commission meeting.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40 am.



JOHN LAURSEN, CHAIR



MICHAEL W. WILKINS, CLERK – AUDITOR

