Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Uintah Special Service District 1 Board

Date: November 12th, 2025
Location: Conference Room, Uintah Recreation Center, 610 South Vernal Ave. Vernal, Utah

WORK SESSION: 5:30 PM

1. Call to Order: 6:37 PM.

Participants/Staff:
Joel Brown, Joe McKea, Wayne Simper, Uintah County Commissioner Willis LeFevre, Ross Morton, Shaun Murray, Jo Gardner, Robin O'Driscoll (VIA ZOOM), Mike Harrington (Legal Counsel), Executive Director Cheryl Meier, Shawna Weaver, Amanda Wilson, Dustin Hinkle, Tara Alsip, Amber Hadlock, Wendy Harris, Mitch Morley.

Absent/Excused:
Jamey Smuin

Public Attendees:
Mark Jensen, Morgan Richardson, Danielle Cipriano, John Cipriano, Scott Hardman, Amy Doebele, Alaina VanLeuven, Robert Karren, Jenn Northern, Melanie Silcox

2. Prayer: Ross Morton **Pledge of Allegiance:** Joe McKea

3. Approval Of Minutes Shaun Murray made a motion to approve the October 8th 2025 Board Meeting Uintah Special Service District 1 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Joe McKea seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Board Input, Follow-up on Minutes, Committee Reports

- The All Wheels Park Grand Opening was a major success.
- There will be a grand opening/ribbon cutting at the lounge at Dinaland Golf Course on November 20th at noon.
- The recreation center expansion is currently on schedule and on budget.

5. Public Input
No Public Input

6. 2026 Preliminary Budget Approval

Joe Mckea made a motion to approve the 2026 Preliminary Budget.
Ross Morton seconded the motion.
Gardner Aye, LeFevre Nay, Murray Aye, Morton Aye, McKea Aye, Brown Aye, O'Driscoll Aye.

7. Policy 520 - Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace (Second Reading)

Joe McKea made a motion to approve Policy 520 - Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace for the second reading.
Willis LeFevre seconded the motion.
Gardner Aye, LeFevre Aye, Murray Aye, O'Driscoll Aye, Morton Aye, McKea Aye, Brown Aye.

8. AVAHA Hockey Discussion

Morgan Richardson addressed the Board on behalf of AVAHA Hockey, emphasizing the need for expanded hockey opportunities in the Basin. She noted that hockey participation has grown significantly, with membership more than doubling over the past four years. However, available ice time at Western Park is no longer sufficient to meet the demand for all ice-related activities. To support this growth, Richardson proposed establishing a year-round ice rink in addition to the facility at Western Park. A second rink would allow for multiple teams, tournaments, and other ice sports, while also keeping economic activity local. She identified potential funding sources—including grants, support from Mammoth, and possible Olympic-related funds—and recommended completing a feasibility study to assess the town's capacity and logistical requirements.
Robert Karren, Uintah High School's hockey coach, also spoke in favor of a year-round rink, stating that families are deeply committed to the sport and that demand justifies an additional venue for ice activities.
Melanie Silcox of Western Park added that the facility is funded by ZAP tax revenue and that public skating remains its primary source of income.

9. Over The Air Recreation TV Discussion

Executive Director Cheryl Meier provided an update on Over-the-Air Recreational TV, with Mitch Morley reporting on recent improvements, including upgraded wiring, a heat pump installation, and grounding and cleanup of equipment racks, which have kept the system operational. Some older and mismatched equipment is still awaiting installation and reprogramming. Signal reliability has improved, reducing service calls, and the Board discussed next steps for moving forward, including whether to issue an RFP or contract maintenance on an hourly basis. Preparations are also being made to protect the building and equipment from lightning storms, though access remains limited in winter due to a 10-mile road that is not maintained.

10. Transportation Discussion

Joe McKea requested further discussion on the asset transfer agreement with the transportation district, noting that a previous motion regarding fund or debt transfers had failed and the issue remained unresolved. A proposal was made to engage an outside forensic audit to examine transportation-related documents, including how transferred funds were interpreted, project expenditures, and maintenance assessments. Firms will be researched for a forensic-level audit, which would analyze base and source documents to determine a fair division of costs and debts. The suggested process is for USSD1 to hire its own auditor and provide a written recommendation, with the transportation district potentially hiring a second auditor if needed, allowing mediation to resolve any discrepancies.

Shaun Murray made a motion to begin the RFP process to hire an auditor to determine the amount owed to the transportation district.
Joe McKea seconded the motion.

Gardner Aye, LeFevre Aye, Murray Aye, O'Driscoll Aye, Morton Aye, McKea Aye, Brown Aye.

11. Financials

The financial reports were made available in Dropbox for review.

12. Closed Session

- **Discussion of the Purchase, Exchange, or Lease of Real Property**
- **Discussion of the Professional Competence of an Individual**

Willis LeFevre made a motion to enter Closed Session to discuss the purchase, exchange or lease of real property and the professional competence of an individual, with the meeting to adjourn immediately following the Closed Session.
Joe McKea seconded the motion

Gardner Aye, LeFevre Aye, Murray Aye, O'Driscoll Aye, Morton Aye, McKea Aye, Brown Aye.

13. Adjournment

Joe McKea made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting adjourned 8:47 PM

Minutes recorded and written by Board Clerk Amanda Wilson