



WASATCH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 • 6:00 PM MST

25 N Main Street
Heber City, Utah 84032

Councilmembers in Attendance: Erik Rowland, Colleen Bonner, Fire Board Vice Chair Karl McMillan, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Fire Board Chair Spencer Park.

Absent: Mark Nelson

Staff Present: Chief Eric Hales, Jason Provost, Assistant Chief/Operations; Clair Provost, Assistant Chief/Director of EMS; Stacy Carpenter, Deputy Chief Financial Officer; Kierstan Smith, CPA

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Park called the Wasatch County Fire Protection Service District Budget Hearing meeting to order on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 6:31 pm.

RESOLUTION 25-05 OPENING AND AMENDING THE 2025 BUDGET

Chief Hales reported the most notable changes with the 2025 amended revenue is the increase to delinquent taxes. The District initially budgeted for \$350,000; however, based on information from the previous year the District received approximately \$650,000 in delinquent taxes. There was also a significant increase in ambulance revenue due to increased call volume and the District working with Medicare to update information on claims and reimbursements. The District was also reimbursed for the Yellow Lake Fire, which resulted in approximately \$114,000 in additional revenue. Mountainside Foundation donated \$150,000 to purchase two Wildland Rangers that have wildland suppression capabilities to use on the mountain for lightning strikes and better access. In addition, the District received proceeds from Heber City Corporation to purchase property for the 160 East Turn Pocket Road Project in front of Station 51.

Chief Hales reported the minor changes to the 2025 amended expenditures include employer 401k contributions on overtime wages, which resulted in higher expenses. The issue has since been rectified going forward. The District's professional services have increased due to contracting IT services with Wasatch County. There have been some unanticipated expenses for repairs to District vehicles, e.g. 75-foot aerial truck that needed a new transmission. Due to the delayed start of the design and construction of Station 56 the expenditure was less than what was anticipated and budgeted for in 2025. As a result of these delays, there are more funds available at year end that can be transferred for future capital project use.

Chief Hales reported the few changes to the capital projects 2025 amended budget. The District collected more impact fees than anticipated due to growth and commercial development. As previously mentioned for the 2025 General Fund budget, delays in the design and construction

of Station 56 resulted in more funds available at year end that can be transferred from the General Fund for future capital project use. That is all the budget amendments for 2025.

Chair Park opened the budget hearing for Resolution 25-05 Opening and Amending the 2025 Budget for public input. Any members of the public, either online or in person raise your hand if you're online and come to the podium to speak if you're in person. Since there was no public in person or online, Chair Park closed the budget hearing and brought the resolution to the board for action.

A motion was made by Councilmember Crittenden to approve Resolution 25-05 Opening and Amending the 2025 Budget for Wasatch County Fire Protection Special Service District, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bonner, and it passed unanimously.

RESOLUITION 25-06 ADOPTING THE 2026 BUDGET

Chief Hales reported the most notable for revenue in the 2026 budget is that the mill levy did not increase since that was an item of discussion when the EMS sales tax was passed. The property taxes have a slight increase due to growth and that is to be expected. The District is being more conservative again with budgeting for the collection of delinquent tax revenue. The proposed budgeted revenue amount is \$400,000. The ambulance revenue budgeted amount for \$1.9 million has decreased from the 2025 budget due to additional Medicare B payments that are not expected to continue in 2026. The District is not anticipating donations or proceeds from Sale of Capital Assets in 2026.

Chief Hales explained that in the proposed 2026 expenditure budget the District is requesting additional staff for the new Station 56 once it has been completed. In addition, the District has several senior members retiring in 2026, and as part of the policy, the District will pay out a portion of sick leave and vacation. These anticipated payouts are included in the 2026 budget along with the 3% COLA. The training and certification budget has increased due to the request for 4 SCBA's that are self-contained breathing apparatuses that total approximately \$66,000. This has been requested by the District's training department. The line for Professional Service has increased as a result of a slight increase in the County IT contract as well as an increase in the District's records management system. The federal government is switching from NFIRS, (National Fire Incident Reporting System), to the NERIS (National Emergency Response Information System) platform. The District is transitioning the records management system to NERIS, which will combine the ePCR, (electronic patient care reporting) and the NERIS reporting into one platform. There has been an increase in assessment fees paid to the Department of Health Care for Medicaid. The proposed total for Capital Projects budget is \$12.3 million and includes the training tower, design and construction of Station 56, design of Station 57, Engine 110, and Ladder 155.

Chair Park opened the budget hearing for Resolution 25-06 Adopting the 2026 Budget for public input. Any members of the public, either online or in person raise your hand if you're online and come to the podium to speak if you're in person. Since there was no public in person

or online, Chair Park closed the budget hearing and brought the resolution to the board for action.

A motion was made by Vice Chair McMillan to approve Resolution 25-06 Adopting the 2026 Budget for Wasatch County Fire Protection Special Service District, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Crittenden, and it passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 25-07 SETTING THE DATE AND TIME OF THE 2026 MEETINGS

Chief Hales reported that the Wasatch County Fire Protection Special Service District has proposed the following 2026 meeting schedule for the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30pm.

A motion was made by Councilmember Crittenden to approve Resolution 25-07 Setting the Date and Time of the 2026 Meetings for Wasatch County Fire Protection Special Service District, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Crittenden, and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURN MEETING

Chair Park called for a motion to adjourn the December 9th budget hearing at 6:56 pm.

A motion was made by Councilmember Bonner to adjourn the December 9th budget hearing at 6:56pm. A motion was seconded by Councilmember Searle, and it passed unanimously.