



GREATER SALT LAKE

# Municipal Services District

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES GREATER SALT LAKE MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Held Wednesday, January 28, 2026

At 860 W Levoy Dr Ste 300  
Taylorsville, UT 84123

### **Trustees Present:**

Keith Zuspan, Chair  
Sean Clayton, (via Teams)  
David Brems  
Allan Perry  
Michael Jensen  
Laurie Stringham  
Jesse Valdez

### **Staff Present:**

Marla Howard, General Manager  
Brian Hartsell, Associate General Manager  
Stewart Okobia, Director of Finance  
Tabitha Mecham, Office Manager  
Lizel Allen, Director of Engineering (via Teams)  
Mark Schneider, Director of Information Technology  
Trent Sorensen, Director of Planning and Development Services  
Mark Anderson, Legal Counsel  
Tamaran Woodland, Engineering Manager (via Teams)  
Chad Anderson, Engineering Manager (via Teams)  
Joel Grant, Human Resources Manager (via Teams)  
Maridene Alexander, Communications Manager (via Teams)  
Richard Stephens, Assistant City Engineer (via Teams)  
Kirk Boyington, Chief Building Official (via Teams)

### **Others Present:**

Ryan Anderson, Salt Lake County (via Teams)  
David Brickey, Magna City Administrator (via Teams)  
Cameron Platt, Emigration Canyon Legal Counsel  
Neal Mahoney, White City Council  
Michelle Henry, Emigration Canyon Resident  
Robert McFarland, Emigration Canyon Resident  
Lyska Emmerson, Emigration Canyon Resident  
Jessica Steed, Emigration Canyon Resident  
Rick Thompkin, Emigration Canyon Resident  
Janet Haskell, Emigration Canyon Resident (via Teams)  
Pamela Carpenter, Emigration Canyon Resident

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### **Trustees**

**Keith Zuspan Sean Clayton David Brems Allan Perry Michael Jensen Laurie Stringham Jesse Valdez**  
Chair Vice Chair

## **1. Call to Order**

Chair Zuspan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **3. Public Comments**

Trustee Brems, who is the Emigration Canyon Mayor, acknowledged the presence of a number of residents from his community. He emphasized the need for a feasibility study to identify and evaluate the proposed Emigration Canyon Road Improvement Project and identify needs and concerns associated with the proposed Project. It was emphasized that approval of a feasibility study, which has the unanimous support of the Emigration Canyon Council, will not approve or greenlight the road improvement project.

The following Emigration Canyon residents addressed the Board to state their concerns and objections regarding the proposed Emigration Canyon Road Improvement Project: Michelle Henry (who also submitted a written statement), Robert McFarland (who also submitted written comments), Lyska Emmerson, Jessica Steed, Rick Thompkin, Janet Haskell, and Pamela Carpenter. The group expressed concerns that approval of a feasibility study could be a “slippery slope” and requested that the feasibility study be tabled. Their statements included concerns regarding possible property takings, doubt that the Project would make the canyon safer, their belief that a large majority of Emigration Canyon residents oppose the Project, concerns regarding non-resident bicyclists’ use of the canyon, slope stabilization concerns, and reservations regarding the cost of the study and of the Project, should it go forward.

## **9. Approve Contract with Avenue Consultants for Concept Planning for the Emigration Canyon Road Improvement Project.**

Chair Zuspan declared that Agenda item 9 would be considered out of order.

Tamaran Woodland responded to a series of taking and zoning questions posed by Trustee Jensen. Cameron Platt, Emigration Canyon Legal Counsel, stated that required setbacks won’t change and no zoning issues will arise from the proposed Project. Tamaran Woodland reviewed funding sources for the Project, the bulk of which will be covered by federal money. She used a PowerPoint presentation and responded to questions from Trustee Perry. Tamaran explained that, unless a feasibility study is completed, it won’t be possible to address the concerns of the Emigration Canyon residents.

**Trustee Brems moved to approve a Contract with Avenue Consultants for Concept Planning for the Emigration Canyon Road Improvement Project. Trustee Stringham seconded the motion. The motion carried with Trustees Zuspan, Brems, Clayton, Jensen, Perry, Stringham and Valdez each voting “aye”.**

#### **4. Elect Chair and Vice-Chair of the MSD Board of Trustees**

Chair Zuspan suggested, with four of the seven Trustees being new to the Board, that Vice Chair Clayton and Chair Zuspan should remain in office for one additional year.

**Trustee Zuspan moved to have himself and Trustee Clayton remain in the Chair and Vice-Chair positions for one additional year. Trustee Clayton seconded the motion. The motion carried with Trustees Zuspan, Brems, Clayton, Jensen, Perry, Stringham and Valdez each voting “aye”.**

#### **5. Approve the Approved Vendor List for Small Construction Projects as Recommended by the MSD Evaluation Committee as follows: VanCon, Inc.; Lyndon Jones Construction; Cal Wadsworth Construction; MGC Contractors, Inc.; Newman Construction, Inc.; Strong Solutions, LLC; Staker and Parsons Companies; Beck Construction and Excavating; and PNL Construction, Inc**

Trustee Clayton left the meeting at this time.

Chad Anderson explained that Statements of Qualifications from vendors were reviewed and scored by a three member MSD Evaluation Committee as required by the Utah Procurement Code and the MSD's purchasing rules, which resulted in the recommended Approved Vendor List for Small Construction Projects. Mark Anderson noted that having an approved vendor list will facilitate entering into contracts for small construction projects costing up to \$2,500,000.

**Trustee Jensen moved to approve the Approved Vendor List for Small Construction Projects as Recommended by the MSD Evaluation Committee as follows: VanCon, Inc.; Lyndon Jones Construction; Cal Wadsworth Construction; MGC Contractors, Inc.; Newman Construction, Inc.; Strong Solutions, LLC; Staker and Parsons Companies; Beck Construction and Excavating; and PNL Construction, Inc. Trustee Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried with Trustees Zuspan, Brems, Jensen, Perry, Stringham and Valdez each voting “aye”.**

#### **6. Discuss FY2025 Audited Financial Statements**

Stewart Okobia reported that the fiscal year 2025 independent audit of the District's finances will not be completed before January 31<sup>st</sup>, but will be completed during the grace period.

#### **7. Approve Human Resources Generalist Position at an Initial Cost of \$110,000**

Joel Grant explained the need to create and fill an HR Generalist position at an initial cost of \$110,000 per year.

**Trustee Jensen moved to approve a Human Resources Generalist position at an initial cost of \$110,000 per year. Trustee Jensen seconded the motion.**

Trustee Stringham asked for a job description and cost breakdown for the position before voting on the motion.

**Trustee Jensen withdrew his motion and Chair Zuspan withdrew his second.**

This item was tabled until the next Board meeting.

**8. Select two Board Trustees to Serve on the MSD Audit Committee**

Chair Zuspan explained the function of the MSD Audit Committee, stated that two new members need to be selected, and asked for volunteers. Since Chair Zuspan is a check signer, he cannot serve on the Committee.

Trustee Jensen and Trustee Perry each volunteered for the assignment. Trustee Perry recommended that Trustee Jensen act as Chair.

**Trustee Stringham moved to appoint Trustees Jensen and Perry to serve on the MSD Audit Committee with Trustee Jensen to act as Chair. Trustee Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried with Trustees Zuspan, Brems, Jensen, Perry, Stringham and Valdez each voting “aye”.**

**10. Discussion on Conflict-of-Interest Policy for the MSD Board of Trustees**

Mark Anderson briefly described the MSD's Conflict-of-Interest Policy and stated that a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form (which was given to the Trustees) must be filled out, signed and provided by each Trustee to the MSD Clerk, Stewart Okobia, by no later than January 31, with a new signed Disclosure Form required each year.

**11. General Manager report**

Marla Howard presented her General Manager's Report:

- The MSD has hired a Deputy Clerk/Recorder to start on February 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Mark Schneider is working with CISA and looking into options for Emergency Notification Systems. The Starlink equipment has been ordered, and Mark is working on a Drone Policy.

**12. Other City, Town, Unincorporated County, and Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District business**

Trustee Stringham stated that Homeland Security is coming to view the Olympic Oval in Kearns.

Stewart Okobia stated that a budget training session would be held on January 29 for the cities and towns served by the MSD.

**13. Identify future agenda items**

No future agenda items were suggested.

**14. Discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property (Possible closed meeting pursuant to Utah Code Ann. §52-4-205(1)(d))**

This agenda item was not needed.

**15. Discuss the deployment of security personnel, devices or systems (Possible closed meeting pursuant to Utah Code Ann. §52-4-205 (1)(f))**

This agenda item was not needed.

**16. Discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual (possible closed meeting pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 52-4-205(1)(a))**

This agenda item was not needed.

**17. Discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation (possible closed meeting pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 52-4-205(1)(c))**

This agenda item was not needed.

**18. Adjourn**

**Trustee Stringham moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Jensen seconded the motion. The motion carried with Trustees Zuspan, Brems, Jensen, Perry, Stringham and Valdez each voting “aye”.**

Chair Zuspan declared the meeting to be adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

**Approved by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Salt Lake Municipal Services District on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2026.**

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Keith Zuspan, Chair

**ATTEST:**

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Stewart Okobia, Clerk