

## SEARCH AND RESCUE ADVISORY BOARD

Taylorsville State Office Building  
4315 S 2700 W  
Taylorsville, UT 84129

December 5, 2025

### **Members Present**

#### **In-Person**

Jim Porter	Board, Co-Chair, Utah Sheriff's Association
Kris Hamlet	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Sheriff Tracy Glover	Utah Sheriff's Association, Kane County
Tara Behunin	Citizen-at-Large
Sheriff Chad Jensen	Cache County Sheriff's Office
Alan Bergstrom	Salt Lake County Search and Rescue

### **Other Attendees Present**

#### **In-Person**

Angelia Crowther	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Genevieve Keys	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Rich Jorgensen	Utah DPS/DEM Legal Counsel

#### **Virtually**

Julia Surkis	Utah Division of Emergency Management
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### **Board Members Absent**

Sheriff Nathan Curtis	Board Chair, Sevier County Sheriff
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Meeting opened at 10:02 am

### **Welcome**

Co-chair James (Jim) Porter opened the meeting with a welcome and announcement that Sheriff Curtis was unable to attend due to a family funeral.

### **Public and Open Meetings Act Training**

Richard Jorgensen, Legal Counsel for the Utah Department of Public Safety provided public and open meetings act training to the board as an annual requirement.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Review minutes from a quarterly SAR meeting on 8/27/25 and a special meeting on 10/8/2025.

**Motion:** Motion to approve meeting minutes from 8/27/25

**Moved by:** Tara Behunin

**Second:** Alan Bergstrom

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

**Motion:** Motion to approve meeting minutes from 10/8/2025

**Moved by:** Sheriff Glover

**Second:** Tara Behunin

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously, Chad Jensen abstained from voting because he was not present.

### **End of Year Formula Discussion**

Angelia opened the discussion, explaining that this agenda item is from the past two meetings that needed to be brought into the next meeting to discuss possible changes to R704-1. Search and Rescue Financial Assistance Program, particularly R704-1-6 Distribution Process. The board members brought their concerns and want to know more about creating a cap on funding to help with some of the high-ticket items for equipment that also throws the formula off. The board all agreed that they would like to have DEM Finance do some examples to see if it will distribute funds more efficiently and equally. Utilize a county's average equipment reimbursement request to run different scenarios using a cap in the formula.

Rich talked about the process of how to change the rule to help guide and remind the board of how to change the rule.

### **First Responder/SAR Statistical Tracking Software**

Sheriff Glover explained that the board who is in charge of allocating funding is still working to get organized. Money won't be available until 2027, and the board is just barely being established and is watching to see how the tracking software may end up affecting or supporting the Utah SAR tracking board for statistical purposes.

### **2026 USARA & Marketing Campaign**

Genevieve announced that she and Angelia are working with UCI to get quotes for printing posters and stickers for USARA. Currently, they are requesting 300 (75 of each flyer (4)) in like 18"x24" and 500 smaller round stickers. We will print samples first, then if we like them, we will order the rest. The posters can also be distributed through email in a PDF version for SAR programs to print their own and hang them where they wish. The larger posters can be posted and hung in large box stores, visitor centers, government agency offices, etc.

Genevieve also mentioned that they are working on becoming ADA-compliant at DEM and that she has reached out to Tyler Tech, who will be sure to update the USARA website to ensure compliance.

Sheriff Glover mentioned he'd love to link to the USARA webpage, which links to other webpages. Genevieve mentioned that it is also something she is working towards and will explore further in the future.

### **Review of Applications for Reimbursement**

**\*A report of discussed applications will be attached to the minutes of each quarterly meeting. Each SAR Advisory Board member is assigned counties to review after the initial admin review. Any applications with cause to discuss before the board are presented at each SAR Advisory Board meeting.**

Voting will occur at the end of the application reviews for approval, denial, or those that need further research for approval.

### **Review of Applications needing additional discussion before approval**

#### **Applications that are pre-approved and ready for approval**

See the attached Spreadsheet with a list of pre-reviewed applications that met all requirements and are ready for approval from the board.

Requested the board to review and voice any concerns about pages 1-16 of the provided report containing cases for review. Pages 1-16 were for applications ready for approval. The board did not have any concerns or questions.

**Motion:** To approve applications that are ready to approve on pages 1-16 and lines 1-176 of the report.

**Moved by:** Sheriff Glover

**Second:** Sheriff Jensen

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

#### Washington

25W0062

Search: \$564.84

Approve

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

25006379

Search: \$480.82

Approve

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

#### Wasatch

2508-0215  
Search: \$535.24  
Approve

2509-0002  
Search: \$112.48  
Request better information on the location of the callout to ensure it wasn't a routine medical callout. Angelia will follow up with Wasatch, and if it is clear that SAR was required, go ahead and approve on behalf of the board.

**Motion:** To ask Angelia reach out to Wasatch and get a better description of the location of the callout, and approve on the board's behalf, unless it is unclear if it was a SAR call, then bring it back to the board.

**Moved by:** Sheriff Glover

**Second:** Sheriff Jensen

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

2509-0519  
Search: \$95.89

Need more details to ensure this is not a law enforcement activity. Angelia will follow up with Wasatch, and if it is clear that SAR was required, go ahead and approve on behalf of the board.

**Motion:** To ask Angelia reach out to Wasatch and get a better description of SAR activity and approve on the board's behalf, unless it is unclear if it was a SAR call, then bring it back to the board.

**Moved by:** Sheriff Glover

**Second:** Alan Bergstrom

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

#### Washington

Utah Sheriffs SAR Sand Hollow Conference 2025

Training: \$19632.08

Approve

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

#### Summit

25-L25843

Search: \$429.1

Approve

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

#### Grand

25-069

Search: \$17.50  
Approve - fuel log was included

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

25-070  
Search: \$70.70  
Approve - fuel log was included

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

25-072  
Search: \$9.10  
Approve - fuel log was included

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

EQ 08262025 Jail Ink Polos  
Equipment: \$67.00  
Deny - the logo doesn't include "Search and Rescue" in the logo. The rule states that it must include identifiers for the Sheriff's Office and SAR.

**Motion:** To Deny. The logo doesn't represent an eligible Search and Rescue activity per the rule

**Moved by:** Kris Hamlet

**Second:** Sheriff Glover

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

Sanpete

251002174

Search: 846.30

There was a miscalculation, and Angelia reached out to Sanpete to fix it and added that note in the application.

Approve

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

Utah

25UC11147

Search: \$211.20

Deny - not an eligible activity (vehicle recovery) for Search and Rescue per the rule, due to there not being a victim needing to be rescued.

**Motion:** To deny based on the rule that this is an ineligible activity

**Moved by:** Chad Jensen

**Second:** Alan Bergstrom

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

25UC13501

Search: \$648.81

Approve

Will vote to approve at the end of reviewing applications

The board went into voting to approve all reviewed applications that needed additional review.

**Motion:** To approve reviewed applications needing additional review and that were approved by the board.

**Moved by:** Sheriff Jensen

**Second:** Alan Bergstrom

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

### **Satellite Communication Subscriptions & Personal Phones**

Sheriff Curtis couldn't be there to talk about this topic, but Alan Bergstrom mentioned that he could discuss it on his behalf. Alan mentioned that the board will see more satellite capabilities come to cellphones and wanted to know how that could affect reimbursement processes if the capabilities were added to personal cellphones.

Rich reviewed the rule, and it is a little grey; it could be an issue if subsidizing personal cellphones used for both personal and official business, but he did mention that it could open up the ability for personal devices to be GRAMA requested if they were used for official government business. The idea that they were volunteers also further complicated this, and Rich said that he would further do research and report out on it next meeting.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Next meeting:** March 25, 2026

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting

**Moved by:** Sheriff Glover

**Second:** Sheriff Jensen

**Motion Carried:** Unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 12:21 PM.