

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

**Date:** February 17, 2026

**Location:** Conference Room, Uintah Recreation Center, 610 South Vernal Ave., Vernal, Utah

**1. Call to Order:** 5:33 PM.

## **Participants/Staff:**

Joel Brown, Joe McKea, Shaun Murray (via Zoom), Commissioner Willis LeFevre, Bruce McKee, Ed Long, Ross Morton  
Mike Harrington (Legal Counsel), Executive Director Cheryl Meier, Shawna Weaver, Amanda Wilson, Dustin Hinkle, Joe Barton, Tara Alsip

## **Absent/Excused:**

## **Public Attendees:**

N/A

**2. Prayer:** Commissioner Willis LeFevre **Pledge of Allegiance:** Joe McKea

**3. Approval of Minutes** Ross Morton made a motion to approve the January 14, 2026 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**

- A swearing-in ceremony was conducted for newly appointed Board Member Edward Long.
- The Board discussed the option to remove open public comment from the agenda. It was suggested to include an email address for comments on the agenda.
- Ed Long raised questions about the expansion building. The Board requested that the builders attend the April meeting to provide an update.
- Executive Director Cheryl Meier informed the Board of the potential need for a contingency plan for watering parks and USSD1 properties.

## **5. RFP Update**

Executive Director Cheryl Meier provided an update on the RFP for a forensic audit. The RFP was issued in January and closed on February 2 to evaluate whether funds should be transferred from USSD1 to the Transportation District. Three bids were received, ranging from \$51,600 to \$128,906.

The Board discussed the cost of the proposals and the availability of existing financial audits and data. The option of utilizing current auditors, Keddington & Christensen, to review and explain financial information was considered as an alternative to hiring a new firm.

The Board also questioned the scope and purpose of a forensic audit, including concerns regarding cost, non-binding results, and whether both parties would accept the findings. Clarification was requested on reported balances, expenditures, and restricted funds. The Transportation District has requested approximately \$12 million; Board members questioned the accuracy of this amount and discussed potential impacts on current capital projects.

*Shaun Murray made a motion to approve the RFP with the lowest bidder at \$51,600. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.*

The Board discussed next steps, including further discussions with the Transportation District, requesting justification for the amount requested, and exploring alternative review options. The Board emphasized the importance of timely resolution supported by clear financial data.

*Shaun Murray was excused for the remainder of the meeting.*

## **6. Financials**

The financial reports were made available for Board review.

**7. Closed Session** - to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, or to discuss a proposed development agreement, project proposal, or financing proposal related to the development of land owned by the state or a political subdivision.

*Ross Morton made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, or to discuss a proposed development agreement, project proposal, or financing proposal related to the development of land owned by the state or a political subdivision and adjourn following.*

*Willis LeFevre seconded the motion.*

*LeFevre Aye, Long Aye, McKee Aye, Morton Aye, McKea Aye, Brown Aye.*

## **8. Adjournment**

*Willis LeFevre made a motion to adjourn the meeting.*

*The meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.*

*Minutes recorded and written by Board Clerk Amanda Wilson*