

# SALT LAKE COUNTY

2001 So. State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114  
(385) 468-7500 TTY 711



## Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, May 12, 2026**

**1:00 PM**

**Council Chambers, Room N1-110**

## County Council

# Minute Book, County Council, Salt Lake County

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Invocation - Reading or Thought - Pledge of Allegiance

### 1.1 Quorum Call—Roll Call Vote

Roll was called, showing the attendance to be as follows:

**Present:** Council Member Laurie Stringham  
Council Member Suzanne Harrison  
Council Member Natalie Pinkney  
Council Member Jiro Johnson  
Council Member Carlos Moreno  
Council Member Aimee Winder Newton  
Council Member Ross Romero  
Council Member Sheldon Stewart  
Council Member Dea Theodore

Council Members Johnson and Moreno were not present for the quorum call, but they arrived later in the meeting.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

**Ms. Dena Long** asked when the discussion from the April 21, 2026, meeting (Item 7.6: Informational Discussion on Jail Releases and Inmate Information) would continue. She asked if the Sheriff had been instructed to redact the information or if she acted on her own. She also asked what platforms the information had been redacted from, and how many inmates had been protected from the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) as a result of the redactions. Ms. Long requested to speak to a policy advisor about these issues.

**Council Member Winder Newton** stated any questions specific to the Sheriff's Office should be emailed to the Sheriff. The attorneys from the Legislature were going to meet with the attorneys from the County to discuss the legalities. She told Ms. Long she could speak to Alecia Williams, Senior Policy Advisor, Council Office, or Abby Evans, Senior Policy Advisor, Council Office, who were both in the room.

**Mr. Josh Craft**, Director of Government Relations and Public Affairs, Utah Clean Energy, spoke in favor of the County participating in the Utah Community Clean Energy Act Program. This program would be a great opportunity for the County, in partnership with utility providers, to bring on clean energy resources and cost-competitive local resources at scale. It would also be an opportunity to show leadership on air quality and clean energy in advance of the 2034 Olympic Winter Games.

**Ms. Cindy Thompson** stated she responded last week to comments made by Council Member Pinkney on the cost of the new Government Center. Council Member Pinkney had not mentioned the costs associated with renovating the newly purchased building, nor had she mentioned the cost of purchasing additional buildings for divisions that would not be moving into the main building. She felt that Council Member Pinkney's comments had been deceptive. Ms. Thompson was also disappointed to learn that several Council members attended a conference that was held in Maui, Hawaii, the week prior.

**Ms. Jill Peterson** stated the Council meeting was not streaming online.

**Council Member Winder Newton** looked into the situation and determined the meeting was streaming correctly.

### 3. REPORT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

#### 3.1 County Council Members

**Council Member Stringham** stated she had an opportunity to speak with both Representative Candice Pierucci and Representative Jordan Teuscher about the legal interpretation of the legislation that was the reason behind the Sheriff's Office redacting inmate information from its dashboard. It was determined that the attorneys from the County and the Legislature should come to an understanding on the issue.

**Council Member Harrison** stated she recently gave public comment in support of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), continuing Targeted Adult Medicaid (TAM). There have been several changes at the Federal level that threaten access to affordable healthcare. Many Utah residents require services for mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, and affordable healthcare. She was grateful to the Council members who signed a letter asking CMS to continue Targeted Adult Medicaid.

**Council Member Theodore** stated she recently attended the National Association of Counties' (NACo) Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference in Maui, Hawaii, which was funded by the Council Office's travel budget. Attending gave her an opportunity to network with other counties. Disaster, fire, and water are very relevant to the district she represents, and she learned a lot about those issues. The conference was discounted and attending was very beneficial for her.

Council Member Theodore also attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new playground at Big Cottonwood Regional Park.

**Council Member Romero** stated he also attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the playground at Big Cottonwood Regional Park. The ceremony was nice, and it was a good opportunity to see how County resources are being expended.

Council Member Romero also attended NACo's WIR Conference in Maui, and he felt it was important for the public to understand that Council members are obligated to continue learning and bringing back information and value from the meetings they attend. When he was in the Legislature, he was very concerned about emergency preparedness, and it continues to be a priority for him.

### 3.2 County Mayor

**Mayor Jennifer Wilson** made the following announcements.

- Eric Biggart recently returned to the County to work as a Senior Policy Advisor and Communications Director for the Mayor's Office.
- Three Utah residents were among the passengers on the cruise ship where the hantavirus outbreak was detected. These individuals are currently isolated at a federally monitored medical facility. They will not be allowed to return home until federal and state officials confirm that it would be safe to do so. Once they are allowed to return home, their conditions will be monitored daily by public health officials for at least six weeks. Mayor Wilson asked Dorothy Adams, Director, Salt Lake County Health Department, to attend today's meeting so she would be available to answer any questions.
- Mayor Wilson echoed Council Member Harrison's concerns about the risk to the Targeted Adult Medicaid (TAM) program. This program is very important to the County's most vulnerable population. Any changes to the program would be a step back to the bipartisan efforts to serve this population.
- In kicking off the County's participation in the America 250 initiative, the County has asked eight local design teams to build large-scale American-themed sculptures made entirely of canned food. These sculptures will be on display at facilities throughout the County. The soft launch will be coming up, and the County will be working with the Utah Food Bank on this project. Once the sculptures are disassembled, the cans will be donated to the Utah Food Bank.
- The Mayor attended this year's National Association of Counties' (NACo) Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference in Maui, Hawaii, and it was the most impactful trip she has been on. This conference was specific to disaster preparedness, and she felt she returned from the conference with a much better toolbox.

- Mayor Wilson stated she felt that the Community Clean Energy Program, which the Council would be contemplating later in the meeting, was a program worth supporting. Recently, a Republican county commissioner from a rural area in Utah told her he was grateful that Salt Lake County is a thoughtful leader on so many issues. Mayor Wilson stated if the County did not invest in creative ways for renewable energy, there would be more data centers built and more traditional impacts on the limited land throughout the state.

**3.3 Other Elected County Officials**

Ms. Sheila Srivastava, Treasurer, stated the Treasurer's Office recently completed its 2025 annual reporting of tax collections with the Utah State Tax Commission. In 2025, the County billed approximately \$2.2 billion in taxes and successfully collected approximately \$2.14 billion in tax revenue, resulting in a collection rate of 97.3 percent. This is one of the highest collection rates in the State. Of the \$2.14 billion that was collected, \$33.3 million was recovered from delinquent taxes from prior years. This is remarkable because the volume of revenue was managed by a relatively small team. Salt Lake County remains the only county in the State and one of the only counties in the nation with a AAA bond rating.

The tax relief team administered \$17 million in tax relief, affecting more than 14,000 parcels countywide. More than 9,000 of those exemptions, totaling about \$15 million, supported veterans. The remaining amount provided support to County residents who are elderly, blind, or indigent. These extraordinary results are a reflection of the dedication and expertise of the employees in the Treasurer's Office.

**4. CONSENT ITEMS**

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**4.1 Consideration of Zoo, Arts & Parks Tier II**

26-455

**Appointments: Alex Aberman (District 1), Katie Mussel (District 6), Sarah Pearce (District 4), and Brian Van Ausdal (District 6)**

Attachments:

- 1. AbermanAlexPacket
- 2. MusselKatiePacket
- 3. PearceSarahPacket

4. VanAusdalBrianPacket

The vote on this consent item was approved.

**4.2 Consideration of Zoo, Arts & Parks Tier II Re-appointments: Patricia Hobfoll (District 6) and Paul Pehrson (District 2)**

26-457

Attachments:

1. HobfollPatriciaPacket\_Redacted
2. PehrsonPaulPacket\_Redacted

The vote on this consent item was approved.

**4.3 Consideration of Zoo, Arts & Parks Tier I Appointments: Rita Wright (District 4) and Amy McKay Butler (District 2)**

26-458

Attachments:

1. MckayButlerAmyPacket\_Redacted
2. WrightRitaPacket\_Redacted

The vote on this consent item was approved.

**4.4 Consideration of Approval of Sheriff's Office Civil Unit Fee Schedule Amendment**

26-479

Attachments:

1. Civil Unit Fee Schedule - 2026

The vote on this consent item was approved.

**5. APPROVAL OF TAX LETTERS**

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that the Tax Letters be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**5.1 Reduce 2025 Attached Personal Property Taxes**

26-471

Attachments:

1. 26-9011 26-471 Reduction on attached PPT \$3,200.81

The vote on this tax letter was approved.

**6. WORK SESSION**

**6.1 Informational Update on the Proposed Hire Report / Incentive Plans - \$3000 and Under / Weekly Reclassification Report** 26-481

Presenter: Hoa Nguyen, Council Budget and Policy Analyst  
(Less than 5 minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

- 1. Proposed Hire Report - 5-6-2026
- 2. Incentive Plans - \$3,000 and Under 5-6-2026
- 3. Weekly Reclassification Report 5-6-2026

**Ms. Hoa Nguyen**, Budget and Policy Analyst, Council Office, reviewed the new hires and incentive plans. There were no reclassifications.

**6.2 Discussion and Direction on Council Office Space at the new County Campus** 26-473

Presenter: Aimee Winder Newton, Salt Lake County Council Chair  
(30 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

- 1. Council Space Letter Newton
- 2. 20260505\_Council Workspace Presentation

**Ms. Megan Hillyard**, Director, Administrative Services Department, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Workspace Options for Salt Lake County Council. She reviewed the vision for the new campus; guiding principles; and space allocation criteria. She stated all three options were architecturally viable, and the project team did not have a preference or recommendation for any of the options. This project was the product of many years of development. Ms. Hillyard added for the record that constituent meeting rooms and shared spaces were being built throughout the building for ease of access.

**Council Member Winder Newton** continued the presentation, reviewing Council Space Option 1; Council Space Option 2; and Council Space Option 3. She noted that the costs for Council Space Option 1 were already factored into the plan, but Council Space Option 2 would require an additional \$125,000 to \$150,000 and Council Space Option 3 would require an additional \$185,000 to \$225,000.

**Council Member Johnson** stated he did not feel that the open-space collaborative areas were as important because the current open-space areas the Council Office currently has usually go unused. Instead, his preference would be to modify Council Space Option 3 to have 11 private offices, six workstations, and a conference room.

**Council Member Romero** stated there would be enough conference rooms throughout the building that would suit the Council Office's needs. He felt putting together a new proposal at this point would be challenging and would result in delays.

A motion was made by Council Member Romero, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that Council Space Option 3 be adopted.

**Council Member Stringham** asked Ms. Hillyard if it would be possible to modify Council Space Option 1 to add three offices to the middle section. This would allow additional offices that Council Member Johnson requested. It would also allow for two huddle spaces for the two caucuses.

**Council Member Stewart** asked, as a point of order, if Council Member Stringham was prepared to make a substitute motion.

**Council Member Stringham** stated she needed to find out if the substitute motion was viable first.

**Ms. Hillyard** stated the three offices would have to be smaller than the standard size, and deviating from standardization would put everything down a different path.

A motion was made by Council Member Romero, seconded by Council Member Stewart, that Council Space Option 3 be adopted. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Johnson, Council Member Moreno, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Theodore.

Nay: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder Newton.

**Council Member Harrison** stated she opposed Council Space Option 3 because she felt Council Space Option 1 allowed for more collaboration. She also felt the additional funds required for Council Space Option 3 could be better spent.

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**Council Member Winder Newton** stated she voted in opposition for the same reasons as Council Member Harrison.

**6.3 Consideration of Council Countywide Strategic Priorities and Goals (5-Year Horizon) 26-485**

Presenter: Aimee Winder Newton, Salt Lake County Council Chair; Jiro Johnson, Salt Lake County Council Member  
(5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Goals\_Priorities SLCO Council

**Council Member Winder Newton** stated these priorities were pretty broad, as they should be, because as the departments dial in more specifically, they will have their own goals and priorities.

**Council Member Johnson** stated the Council understood that decisions it made could not bind future councils, but it did want to give the public an idea of the broad strokes the Council would be leaning from.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Theodore, that this agenda item be approved.

**Council Member Romero** asked if there was any type of budget allocated to this plan. He was not sure he understood the need for formality. He asked if there had been collaboration with the Mayor's Office on the plan.

**Council Member Winder Newton** stated most of the components of the plan were already part of the budget or priorities that have been stated in other forums. This was mostly to memorialize that. The Mayor's Office was able to collaborate on the plan.

**Council Member Pinkney** stated she agreed with Council Member Romero that there was no need to formalize things.

**Council Member Stringham** stated she would like to see something added to the Safe and Healthy Communities section that would touch more on disaster mitigation and emergency planning.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to add item number 6 to the Safe and Healthy Communities section stating that the County would work with local communities as it implemented a disaster

mitigation and emergency management plan.

**Mayor Jennifer Wilson** stated that while her office did attend the retreat, her team was not deeply involved in this. That said, she did not oppose anything regarding the general framing of the plan. She was concerned, however, that nothing was mentioned regarding elections management.

**Council Member Winder Newton** stated item number 5, Transparent, Effective, and Accountable Government, covered elections.

A substitute motion was made by Council Member Stringham, seconded by Council Member Johnson, to add item number 6 to the Safe and Healthy Communities section stating that the County would work with local communities as the Council implemented a disaster mitigation and emergency management plan. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Theodore, Council Member Winder Newton.

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Stewart.

**6.4 TIME CERTAIN 2:00 PM**

26-475

**Informational Presentation on 2026 Snowpack, Runoff, and Water Availability**

Presenter: Kade Moncur, Director Flood Control Engineering; Robert Thompson, Manager Flood Control Engineering Watershed Planning & Restoration Section; Jacob Young, General Manager/CEO Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District; Laura Briefer, Director Salt Lake City Corporation, Department of Public Utilities; Lisa Hartman, Associate Deputy Mayor (30 minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

1. 2026 Runoff Snowpack Water Availability Presentation - FINAL

**Mayor Jennifer Wilson** stated the County is currently experiencing a designated stage 2 severe drought. January through April of this year ranked as the 22nd driest start to a year over the past 132 years. Combined with a historically low snowpack, these conditions were reducing water availability. While there were reserves from 2023, it was still important to act responsibly and proactively. The County would be encouraging residents and businesses to voluntarily reduce their water use, and

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specifically outdoor water use, by ten percent this summer. Salt Lake County would continue to lead by example. The community has consistently shown that when everyone does a little, everyone can save a lot.

**Mr. Kade Moncur**, Director, Engineering and Flood Control Division, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled 2026 Runoff Update. He reviewed the Big and Little Cottonwood Creek runoff outlook; the City Drain - Lift Station Improvement Project from Rose Park, Salt Lake City; and the Parleys Creek pipe rehabilitation.

**Mr. Robert Thompson**, Watershed Section Manager, Engineering and Flood Control Division, continued the presentation, reviewing the 2026 Snowpack Update. He reviewed the Western United States precipitation water year; the Utah Basins snow water equivalent (SWE); the Jordan Basin SWE; the Little Cottonwood SWE at Snowbird; the Salt Lake County SWE dashboard; soil moisture at 2 inches and 20 inches; a seven-day precipitation forecast; a May precipitation forecast; a seasonal precipitation forecast; a May temperature forecast; an extended seasonal temperature forecast; a seasonal streamflow forecast; the fullness percentage of the Wasatch Reservoirs; the fullness percentage of the Utah Lake; the Utah drought monitor; and the drought forecast.

**Mr. Jacob Young**, General Manager/CEO Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District, continued the presentation, reviewing the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District's 2026 Drought Response Summary. He reviewed the drought monitoring committee; the drought monitoring plan; level 2 drought response actions; member agency ten percent delivery reduction; and rate surcharge. He also reviewed the 2026 messaging discussion and the Jordan Valley Water 2026 Community Education Campaign.

**Ms. Laura Briefer**, Director, Salt Lake City Corporation Department of Public Utilities, continued the presentation, reviewing a water resources update. She reviewed information about the Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities; an overview of water sources; Salt Lake City's water sources; drought and water resource conditions; current drought conditions; current reservoir and stream forecast conditions; water shortage response; the Salt Lake City Drought and Water Shortage Contingency Plan; stages and actions in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan; the Water Shortage Response Plan (2026); current water demand; and water conservation resources.

## **6.5 Consideration of Approval of the Division of Behavioral Health Services FY 27 Area Plan**

26-480

Presenter: Tim Whalen, Division Director, Division of Behavioral Health Services; Jeannie Edens, Associate Director, Division of Behavioral Health Services; Alysa Stuart, Substance Use Prevention Program Manager, Health

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Department  
(30 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 2027 Area Plan PP 5-6-26
2. Final Area Plan 5-6-26
3. Behavioral Health Services Acronym Legend
4. Form D - Signature Page - Salt Lake County FY24 Area Plan

**Ms. Kelly Colopy** stated it was important to understand there are many players in behavioral health. As with physical health, there is not a single coordinating agency. There is a lot of coordination going on. The proposed area plan being presented was closely aligned with the recommendations from the Leifman Group.

**Ms. Jeannie Edens**, Associate Division Director, Behavioral Health Services, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Salt Lake County Area Plan Fiscal Year 2027. She reviewed the area plan timeline; the mental health section; the substance use disorder narrative section; new and notable programs; coordination of care; and provider data and outcomes.

**Ms. Alysa Stuart**, Substance Abuse Prevention Program Manager, Salt Lake County Health Department, continued the presentation, reviewing the prevention narrative section; comprehensive substance use prevention in action; measurable impact; and other information.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Mr. Tim Whalen**, Director, Behavioral Health Services Division, stated he was glad to have the support of the Council for this.

## **6.6 Informational Presentation on Community Clean Energy Program** 26-472

Presenter: Emily Paskett, Sustainability Director; Lisa Hartman, Associate Deputy Mayor  
(20 minutes)

Informational

Attachments:

1. URC Timeline & Fee Info 2026

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2. URC 1pgr 2026
3. URC-Informational\_Presentation\_5.12.2026

**Council Member Harrison** stated she has served as a representative on the Utah Renewable Communities Board for the past three years. She was asking for the Council's support on the Community Clean Energy Program. Passing this would allow for the fastest and cheapest way to add new energy to the grid. It would also add new jobs. Residents would be allowed to choose whether to participate.

**Ms. Emily Paskett**, Sustainability Director, Office of Regional Development, delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled Information Briefing: Community Clean Energy Program. She reviewed an outline; information about the program; program facts; the program development process; the Public Service Commission; the initial program rate/residential flat fee; how customers qualify for the low-income offerings; the initial program rate: non-residential volumetric rate; the customer opt-out option; long-term program rates; the ordinance requirement; and a summary and next steps.

**Council Member Harrison** asked for the record if it was true that there was no future financial commitment for municipalities because this would be paid by participant fees.

**Ms. Paskett** stated this was correct. The communities will only have to pay noticing costs. There will be a mailer and an electronic bill notification. This would be capped at \$18,000.

**Council Member Moreno** stated the Kearns City Council voted against this yesterday and many of the residents of Kearns oppose it.

**Council Member Stewart** stated he did not like that consumers had to opt out instead of opting in. He considered this to be passive enrollment.

**Council Member Theodore** stated she would also prefer that people opt in. However, she has reached out to entities in her district who support this. She believed Rio Tinto was one of them. She also liked that account holders had a six-month window to opt out.

**Ms. Lisa Hartman**, Associate Deputy Mayor of Regional Operations, stated Rio Tinto did not want to weigh in on the issue, but the company had a strong record of being supportive of renewable energy.

## 7. PENDING LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

**7.1 First Reading of an Ordinance Enacting Chapter 9.97 of the Salt Lake County Code of Ordinances, 2001, Entitled "Community Clean Energy Act Program Ordinance," Establishing Salt Lake County's Participation in the Utah Community Clean Energy Act Program, Allowing a Qualified Utility to Provide Clean Energy Resources to Participating Customers Within Unincorporated Salt Lake County** 26-470

Presenter: Suzanne Harrison, Salt Lake County Council Member; Jiro Johnson, Salt Lake County Council Member

Lisa Hartman, Associate Deputy Mayor; Emily Paskett, Sustainability Director (15 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. 260507 Salt Lake County Renewable Energy Ordinance\_RATF

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Johnson, that this agenda item be forwarded to the May 17, 2026, Council meeting for formal consideration. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Council Member Harrison, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Pinkney, Council Member Romero, Council Member Theodore.

Nay: Council Member Moreno, Council Member Stewart, Council Member Stringham, Council Member Winder

**Council Member Winder Newton** stated she was a big fan of renewable energy, but she did not believe government getting involved in this way was the best way to go about it. She also had concerns over account holders having to opt out instead of opting in.

**7.2 Consideration of Countywide Policy 1050 Revisions** 26-454

Presenter: David Delquadro, Council Fiscal Manager (5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

1. Policy 1050 - Redline - Council

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2. Policy 1050 - Clean - RAFL

Mr. David Delquadro, Chief Financial Manager, Council Office, reviewed the revisions to policies 1050 and 1060 concurrently.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Moreno was absent for the vote.

7.3 Consideration of Countywide Policy 1060 Revisions

26-454

Presenter: David Delquadro, Council Fiscal Manager  
(5 minutes)

Discussion - Vote Needed

Attachments:

- 1. Policy 1060 - Redline - Council
- 2. Policy 1060 - Clean - RAFL

Mr. David Delquadro, Chief Financial Manager, Council Office, reviewed the revisions to policies 1050 and 1060 concurrently.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Harrison, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote. Council Member Moreno was absent for the vote.

8. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING COUNCIL APPROVAL

9. OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS to come before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM until Tuesday, May 19, 2026.

LANNIE CHAPMAN, COUNTY CLERK

By   
DEPUTY CLERK

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By *Amiee Underwood*  
CHAIR, SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL