

Davis Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 13, 2026

Google Meet joining info: <https://meet.google.com/zpf-eatu-kne> or dial: (US) +1 678-653-6991 PIN: 393 324 027#

Present: Commissioner Lorene Kamalu; Carrie Batte, Commission Office Manager; Kelly Sparks, Davis County Sheriff; Troy Rawlings, Davis County Attorney; Todd UT zinger, Managing Legal Defender; Johnnie Blackmon, Davis County Pretrial; Rex Coleman, Utah Department of Corrections; Andi Faulkner, UWAC; Travis Olsen, Davis County, Health Department; Elizabeth Myers, USARA;

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items
1-Introductions	Commissioner Kamalu welcomed attendees and noted the meeting would focus on partner updates and questions. She shared that John Volker Academy has a graduation scheduled for August 30. Commissioner Kamalu requested email to go out on prior Monday	Carrie will send out reminder emails Monday prior to meeting.
2-5 th Sales Tax / Public Safety and Criminal Justice Funding	At the request of Sheriff Kelly Sparks, Commissioner Kamalu provided an update on the 5th sales tax option. She explained that recent legislative changes provide greater flexibility in how the revenue may be distributed and used, including funding for public safety and criminal justice needs. Under the current structure, cities within Davis County would receive a portion of the revenue based on population, with additional revenue available to the County. Commissioner Kamalu noted that timing is an important consideration. If approved before October 1, approximately \$2 million per quarter could become available to Davis County for public safety-related purposes, including capital projects (for 3 years only). Estimates provided by the Wasatch Front Regional Council indicate the County could receive approximately \$22 million over three years. Delaying implementation would reduce the amount of one-time funding available. Commissioner Kamalu discussed the potential value of this funding for criminal justice and public safety needs, including the proposed courthouse project and the County's need to prepare for its portion of future project costs. She also emphasized the ongoing need to adequately fund public safety services and address staffing concerns within the County's criminal justice system. Commissioner Kamalu stated that she believes approval should be a unanimous Commission decision and noted that several cities are discussing the proposal and providing letters of support. She also noted that surrounding counties have implemented the tax, meaning Davis County residents contribute to the tax when making purchases in those counties while visitors to Davis County currently do not.	

	Kelly Sparks - full comments: I certainly hope, right? We are we are in a desperate situation with our jail. We have been down personnel for many years now. In 2022, we were compelled to cut 21 positions. We've been surviving on overtime, which is extremely expensive, both in terms of money, but also in terms of our employees and their morale and the fatigue that that causes. And at the same time, we have other needs in public safety. I think we continue to build we continue to use tourism money to bring recreational facilities into the county which bring additional people. We build trails up in the foothills that are multi-use trails. We've had even some cities in county jurisdiction improving and building trails and bringing bicycle clubs and hiking clubs and things and then there's always conflicts there. And then I get complaints frequently from city council members and mayors complaining that we are not providing enough or adequate enough patrol in those areas. And I would love to provide that patrol. We just don't have the staff. And we've never before been able to use any tourism money. We build these facilities without any consideration for what the public safety impact will be. We put money towards building and improving trails and towards building parks and other things, without ever adding money for public safety to keep those facilities and those venues safe. We've been pleading with the legislature for years and years to try and allow us to use some of that tourism money to provide public safety that is increased by those facilities. We haven't been successful in that, but I feel like at least with this tax, they've given us an avenue to help fund public safety. And I would feel really bad if the county missed the opportunity to do that. I think if the county continues to fail to adequately staff the jail, there's a huge liability there and we are very derelict in our duties if we continue to allow that situation to happen. Troy Rawlings - full comments: I don't have anything to add, this is true, other than supporting what the sheriff has said. I think what you both said was accurate about where things are at. The money is desperately needed both for the sheriff's office and the county attorney's office for multiple reasons. We also are so understaffed I'm probably going to have to release something to the press. We've done an analysis. Our victim services division is not able to meet our statutory obligations. We are going to have to abandon giving notices to certain types of victims altogether that the statute requires we do because they can't keep up. So, I'm going to explain to the public why certain types of crimes will not be getting victim services from the county attorney's office moving forward. Todd Utzinger - full comments: And obviously I am in a different position than Kelly and Troy, but I would also voice my support for doing this. I know enough about both of their offices as	
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	well as my department. We're all understaffed. The difference in the sheriff situation is I know firsthand from some of the cases we have to defend that there's some real danger for some of the deputies over in corrections where they're understaffed and they end up handling things as solo responders when they really ought to have more than one deputy going in. And Kelly knows what I'm talking about. We've had assault by inmates where, you know, if there had been two or three deputies going into the recreation area rather than just one, maybe an assault could have been avoided. And that's just not a good situation. Commissioner Kamalu thanked the public safety and criminal justice partners for their comments and directed that the meeting minutes be provided to all three commissioners so they can hear the concerns expressed by Sheriff Sparks, Attorney Rawlings and Mr. Utzinger.	Carrie Batte will provide all Commissioners with the meeting minutes.
3- Victim Services Staffing	Attorney Rawlings reported that Karen Gomez left the County Attorney's Office for a position at Hill Air Force Base and the office is working to replace her. He explained that remaining victim advocates reported a substantial backlog in required post-conviction notices to victims, including notices related to defendants being released from probation. Current staffing levels are not sufficient to catch up on the backlog or consistently provide these notices. He indicated he expects to explain the issue publicly and provide victims information on ways to independently track court dates and related proceedings.	
4- Davis Links	Travis Olsen encouraged partners to use DavisLinks.org as a resource for local, state and national programs and services. He noted quick links are available for different populations and topics, along with a community announcements section for flyers and trainings. A Medicaid presentation is tentatively being considered for October. Elizabeth Myers shared that her organization has received several referrals through Davis Links and has successfully connected individuals with services. Contact info: tolsen@co.davis.ut.us 801-525-5067	
5- Re-entry Position	Sheriff Sparks reported that the Sheriff's Office is continuing to work through placement and duties for a planned re-entry position and has not yet hired the position. Rex Coleman offered Utah Department of Corrections assistance and collaboration once the position is in place.	
6- Conclusion	Commissioner Kamalu encouraged members to reach out regarding any additional supports she could provide during her remaining months in office particularly related to public safety and the 5th5th. She noted that the CJCC will continue under the incoming Commission and stated that the new commissioners will discuss assignments after the general election.	

Adjourn Next Mtg: Sept. 17, 2026, 3:30 pm	The regularly scheduled September 10 meeting conflicts with Commissioner Kamalu's schedule. September 17also presents a conflict. Carrie Batte and Commissioner Kamalu will review alternatives, including September 24, and send a proposed date with the meeting minutes for members to confirm availability.	Carrie Batte and Commissioner Kamalu to identify an alternative September CJCC meeting date and ask members to confirm availability when the minutes are distributed.
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