



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MINUTES

January 21, 2025, 7:30 a.m.

Electronically Via ZOOM Webinar/UFA Headquarters – 3380 South 900 West SLC, UT 84119

1. Call to Order
Quorum present
Chair Weichers called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
2. Public Comment
None
Public comment was available live and with a posted email address
3. Approval of Minutes
Council Member Fotheringham moved to approve the minutes from the December 3, 2024 UFA Finance Committee Meeting and the December 10, 2024 UFA Board Meeting as submitted
Council Member Hull seconded the motion
All voted in favor, none opposed
4. Board Elections
 - Mayor Weichers has agreed to remain as Chair until July 1, 2025

Council Member Hull moved to nominate Council Member Fotheringham as Vice Chair
Council Member Huish seconded the motion
Council Member Fotheringham agreed to serve in this capacity
All voted in favor, none opposed
5. Consent Agenda
 - Review of December Disbursements
 - No discussion

Mayor Silvestrini moved to approve the December disbursements as submitted
Mayor Overson seconded the motion
All voted in favor, none opposed
6. Committee Updates
 - CLO Roberts reviewed the current committee members
 - Benefits & Compensation Committee – Chair Silvestrini
 - Next meeting 1/23/25 and will discuss the approach to COLA vs merit increases
 - Governance Committee – No current Chair
 - No meeting held
 - Finance Committee – Chair Henderson
 - Next meeting 4/10/25

7. Quarterly Financial Report

- CFO Hill noted that this is the midpoint check-in for the UFA fiscal year ending in June
- All revenues in the general fund are coming in as expected
- All Member Fees are fully paid for 2025, \$35.4M has been received
- Salaries and Benefits, the main expenditures, are where they are expected to be
- CFO Hill asked that Board Members be mindful of some of the expenditures
 - Some are paid in full for the year, some are paid once or twice per year, and others monthly
- Both the WL and EM Funds are looking good
- No questions

Mayor Silvestrini moved to approve the quarterly financial report including the list of expenditures for the last quarter as presented

Council Member Hull seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

8. Consider the Date of February 18, 2025 for a Public Hearing to Receive and Consider Comments on Proposed Amendments to the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Silvestrini moved to set the date of February 18, 2025 for a Public Hearing to receive and consider comments on proposed amendments to the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Gettel seconded the motion

All voted in favor, none opposed

9. Administration & Planning Report

- Legislative Update
 - Dave Spatafore and Ashley Mirabelli provided an update for the session, which begins today
 - This is a busier year for fire as opposed to the usual focus on PD
 - A lot of time will be spent on urban interface and enhancing how risks are assessed
 - Looking for work on maps and metrics to address the interface and find a way for insurance companies and homeowners to agree and come to a joined goal to minimize costs and loss
 - Statewide, we have over 350,000 homes in interface areas
 - Ashley Mirabelli responded to a question concerning who will pay the potential fees being discussed, the homeowner will provide payment that will go into a large account which will then be disbursed for mitigation
 - Ashley noted that this is a conceptual idea for now, and a universal map will need to be agreed upon
 - Another question was the WUI Code and incentives for homeowners to follow the defensible space recommendations
 - Ashley stated that for now, the 2006 WUI Code is the current guide, but there may be circumstances considered on how to protect these homes already built in these areas
 - The insurance agencies non-renewal and increases are addressed as part of the bill
 - Dave Spatafore stated that the goal is to provide homeowners some comfort, there will be a lot of work on this bill, but it will pass
 - Dave also mentioned that this will not be the last time we will contend with this issue
 - Presumptive Cancer is another bill that is being monitored
 - Potential Bomb Squad funding is also a possibility
- Fire Marshal Position
 - The position posted on 1/10 and will close 1/26
 - The process will be conducted similar to the AC process
 - An internal leadership survey, a paper, an interview and a group presentation to the BCs, Division Leaders, and external evaluators

- Leadership Academy
 - This academy is in preparation for the BC process and testing in April
 - This academy consists of five sessions, currently 3 have been completed
 - There has been a lot of interest in these academies, which is good, for positions that are not often open for promotion

10. Support Services Report

- Fire Training Feasibility Study Update
 - AC Robinson provided an overview of the plan to upgrade the training grounds
 - The feasibility study was added to this year's budget with the goal of creating a conceptual, phase-in site plan
 - Included in the board packet was current and projected layouts of the property
 - Site highlights include a large multipurpose building for classrooms, offices, breakroom, and apparatus storage
 - An administrative office building and an interchangeable prop field
 - Also included in the site plan is the proposed BLM/UFA Wildland Fire Station
 - The next step in this plan is to get final cost estimation and then begin working on how best to fund the multi-phase project
- New Apparatus Update
 - Also included in the packet were photos of upcoming apparatus deliveries
 - Four Type I pumpers should arrive February/March
 - Two rear mount ladder trucks
 - Rehab Unit replacing the current Air & Light
 - Three ambulances March/April
 - Three Type VI Brush Trucks have arrived

11. Operations Report

- AC Dern presented the report from last month
 - Incident numbers are up 1,084 from 2023
- Holiday Staffing
 - Christmas Eve staffing went well, ran one ambulance short
 - Christmas Day, New Years Eve, and New Years Day saw full staffing with only one mandatory Firefighter shift
- Crew Highlight
 - AC Dern highlighted two full cardiac arrests on Christmas Day, both patients were released from the hospital
 - Also highlighted was the Spanish Fork Canyon water rescue by PM Fox
- EMAC Update
 - UFA sent eight personnel to the California fires
 - The crew is providing structure protection and helping residents retrieve items from their homes
 - They will complete a full 14-day tour and will travel home later this week
 - They are all doing well and are well taken care of
- Station 107 Update
 - Medic Ambulance 107 has been in service and keeping busy for 3 weeks

12. Fire Chief Report

- Legislative Committee
 - Chief Burchett reviewed the list of current members, anyone interested in joining the committee, please reach out to Cyndee Young

- New Board Member Orientations
 - Orientations will be scheduled for new UFA and UFSA Board Members
- Bluffdale Fire Update
 - Last year, Bluffdale closed stations due to funding challenges which placed some burden on our crews in Riverton and Herriman
 - Staff has been tracking the impact monthly
 - Bluffdale has recently received funding so both stations will be staffed once again
- Fire School 101 – Vice President Molly Swenson
 - The Local 1696 hosted event will take place March 21
 - This is an opportunity to be a Firefighter for a day
 - VP Swenson provided a short video from last year’s event
 - Anyone interested is welcome, it is a great way to see what crews do on a daily basis and an opportunity to view the training grounds as was discussed in AC Robinsons report
- 2025/2026 Budget Priorities
 - Chief Burchett provided a high level overview of this upcoming budget
 - The first Benefits & Compensation Committee Meeting takes place this week with the goal of getting an initial direction on wages and benefits
 - Compensation and benefits are Chief’s highest priority
 - The second priority is looking at a 4th Battalion Chief
 - Years ago, there were four BC’s
 - Chief has been watching closely and with the addition of Stations 253 and 107, a tipping point has been realized where the BC’s are challenged in managing the resources
 - The third priority is the Capital Plan
 - As has been discussed, one lease is dropping off and a much higher one will begin
 - This has been anticipated and \$300,000 has been added to the Capital Plan in anticipation of this increased lease

13. Closed Session

Mayor Silvestrini moved to temporarily recess the meeting to convene in a closed session to discuss matters as provided by Utah Code Annotated §52-4-205 and, at the conclusion of the closed session, to adjourn this meeting

Mayor Gettel seconded the motion

Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Hull	Y
Bourke	-	Kanter	Y
Buroker	Y	Knopp	-
Butterfield	Y	Overson	Y
Fotheringham	Y	Silvestrini	Y
Gettel	Y	Stewart	Y
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	-	Westmoreland	Y
Huish	Y		

Council Member Hull moved to conclude the closed meeting and adjourn the January 21, 2025 UFA Board Meeting

Mayor Gettel seconded the motion
Roll call vote taken

Bailey	Y	Hull	-
Bourke	-	Kanter	Abstain
Buroker	Y	Knopp	-
Butterfield	Y	Overson	Y
Fotheringham	Y	Silvestrini	-
Gettel	Y	Stewart	-
Harris	Y	Weichers	Y
Henderson	Y	Westmoreland	Y
Huish	Y		

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Council Member Kathleen Bailey
Council Member Chrystal Butterfield
Council Member Catherine Harris
Council Member Paul Fotheringham
Council Member Trish Hull
Mayor Dustin Gettel, Midvale
Mayor Tom Westmoreland
Council Member Sheldon Stewart

Mayor Kristie Overson
Mayor Mike Weichers
Council Member Tyler Huish
Deputy Mayor Catherine Kanter
Council Member Tish Buroker
Mayor Jeff Silvestrini
Council Member Jared Henderson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Roger Bourke
Mayor Dan Knopp

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Dominic Burchett
CFO Tony Hill

CLO Brian Roberts
Cynthia Young, Clerk

OTHER ATTENDEES:

AC Dern
AC Pilgrim
AC Robinson
Aaron Whitehead
Adam Park
Amanda Lawrence
Anthony Widdison
Ashley Mirabelli
Bill Brass
Bryan Case
Chris Stavros, UFSA Board
Chrystal Butterfield
Courtney Samuel
Dan DeVogd
Dave Spatafore
David C.

Debbie Cigarroa
Embret Fossum
Eric VanDuren
Erica Langenfass
Jared Gerber
Jay Torgersen
Jill Tho
Jon Wilde
Jubal Perez
Kate Turnbaugh
Kiley Day
Krystal Griffin
Lana Burningham
Mike Greensides
Molly McClellan
Nathan Kay

Nile Easton
OC Russell
Patrick Costin
Paul Story
Rachel Anderson, UFSA
Rian Andrus
Rob Ayres
Sam Christensen
Steve Prokopis
Steve Quinn
Tara Behunin
Val Greensides