



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY/UNIFIED FIRE SERVICE AREA BOARD MINUTES

November 20, 2018 8:35 a.m.

Emergency Operations Center, 3380 S. 900 W., SLC, UT. 84119

1. Call to Order

Quorum was obtained, UFSA Chair Silvestrini call the meeting to order

2. Public Comment

None

3. Minutes Approval

Mayor Hale moved to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2018 UFA/UFSA Joint Meeting as submitted

Councilmember Bailey seconded the motion

All voted in favor

4. Possible Closed Session

Councilmember Ferguson moved to temporarily recess the meeting to convene in a closed session to discuss matters as provided by Utah Code Annotated §52-4-205

Mayor Sondak seconded the motion

All voted in favor:

Councilmember Eric Ferguson

Councilmember Gary Bowen

Mayor Robert Dahle

Mayor Kristie Overson

Mayor Mike Peterson

Mayor Jeff Silvestrini

Councilmember Richard Snelgrove

Mayor Robert Hale

Councilmember Kathleen Bailey

SLCo Surveyor Reid Demman

Mayor Harris Sondak

Councilmember Allan Perry

Councilmember Sheldon Stewart

Mayor Tom Westmoreland

Mayor Dahle moved to re-open the meeting to the public

Councilmember Stewart seconded the motion

All voted in favor

5. Discussion of Possible Civil Recovery

Mayor Silvestrini stated that based on consultation in closed session with independent legal counsel with respect to pursuing civil action against former Unified Fire Authority Fire Chief Michael Jensen, the determination is as follows:

“As outlined by the State Auditor’s office, we believe that Former Chief Mike Jensen clearly abused his role as the CEO of this organization and took advantage of the authority provided to the position by the Board of Directors. We believe he used his position as UFA Chief, as well as other political positions he held, including being a member of the Salt Lake County Council, to manipulate the

UFA/UFSA boards for personal gain. We believe that had he not held those other positions he would not have been appointed as Fire Chief.

This, combined with a failure of the past UFA legal counsel, contributed to the Board entering into a resolution and later a separation agreement that benefited Jensen through deception and limited the Board's ability to seek recompense.

After discussion with outside legal counsel, we have determined that the cost to recover the misappropriated funds would be an additional cost to the public's money with small chance of success as reflected by the Attorney General's decision to not prosecute. Due to this, legal action will not be pursued.

The Board of Directors takes responsibility for the poor choice in hiring and continuing to employ Jensen as the Fire Chief and for the loss of public funds that occurred as a result of his hiring.

We have taken steps to ensure such abuse does not happen again and have addressed the audit findings and established board policies that provide a clear line of authority between the Board and its CEO. Today, the UFA has an effective Fire Chief/CEO, a detailed transparent financial budget, a strategic plan, and an engaged, healthy "trust but verify" culture on the Board of Directors.

Signed and agreed upon by the joint UFA/UFSA Board of Directors"

6. Adjournment

Mayor Dahle moved to adjourn the meeting
Councilmember Stewart seconded this motion
All voted in favor

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councilmember Eric Ferguson
Mayor Robert Hale
Councilmember Gary Bowen
Councilmember Kathleen Bailey
Mayor Robert Dahle
SLCo Surveyor Reid Demman
Mayor Kristie Overson

Mayor Harris Sondak
Mayor Mike Peterson
Councilmember Allan Perry
Mayor Jeff Silvestrini
Councilmember Sheldon Stewart
Councilmember Richard Snelgrove
Mayor Tom Westmoreland

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilmember Kelly Bush

Councilmember Nicole Martin

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Chief Petersen
AC Ziolkowski
DOC Nile Easton
Ryan Atkinson
Doug Obert
BC Zach Robinson
Captain Mike Greensides
Bill Brass
Captain Chad Simons
BC Brian Anderton
DC Steve Prokopis

AC Higgs
CFO Tony Hill
GSM Talsan Schulzke
Ron Haycock Jr.
BC Dusty Dern
Lisa Hartman – SLCo
BC Brad Larson
BC Lee Ascarte
Captain Cliff Burningham
Steven Schmidt
Kiyoshi Young

AC Watson
CLO Brian Robertson
Board Clerk Michelle Roper
Ed Walden
Jay Torgensen
Brett Wood – Herriman City
Lana Burningham
Arriann Woolf
Captain Nate Bogenschutz
BC Wade Watkins