

COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES – DAVIS COUNTY

WORK SESSION MINUTES

January 12, 2021

The Board of Davis County Commissioners met for a Work Session at 2:45 p.m. on January 12, 2021, in room 306 of the Davis County Administration Building, 61 South Main Street, Farmington, Utah. Notice of this meeting was given under the requirements of UCA § 52-4-202.

ATTENDEES Davis County Commissioners in attendance: Bob J Stevenson, Vice-Chair; Chair; Randy B. Elliott, Vice-Chair; and Lorene Miner Kamalu.

Davis County Staff in attendance: Heidi Voordeckers, Chief Deputy Clerk/Auditor; Neal Geddes, Chief Civil Deputy Attorney; Chris Bone, Human Resources Director; Janet Hanson, Commission Office; Curtis Koch, Clerk/Auditor; and Mike Kendall, Sr. Civil Counsel.

Members of the public in attendance: Shane Pace, Farmington City Manager; and Ken Leatham, North Salt Lake City Manager. JJ Adams was present via Zoom.

AGENDA AS POSTED 2:45 p.m. **Commissioner Elliott presenting: Paramedics Update**

DISCLAIMER The meeting was an open dialogue. Critical points in the discussion have only been briefly summarized. The reader may refer to the audio recording and the publicly distributed materials for further clarification of content. Timestamps have been noted in the minutes to aid in locating points of discussion in the audio record. The audio recording for this meeting is available based upon the County's current retention schedule.

All documents from this meeting are on file in the Davis County (DC) Clerk/Auditor's office.

The meeting commenced at 2:45 p.m.

WORK SESSION DISCUSSION **Paramedics Update**—*Presented by Shane Pace, Farmington City Manager*

Shane showed the paramedic slide presentation and updated the group on their progress on the countywide transfer of the paramedic services. Acknowledgments were given to both Sheriff Sparks and Curtis Koch for their contributions to devising this service plan. Every city manager and fire chief in the county were involved in the process, along with the Sheriff's office. It has not been a smooth process.

Currently, the paramedic services are being subsidized heavily by the County's General Fund, and it is not sustainable. The paramedic tax no longer covers the cost of services in the county, increasing their financial burden. Eight paramedic units are operating in the county right now, with one more (Layton) coming on this year, followed by another in 2022.

Due to the county's growth, there's an increased need for more paramedic and law enforcement services. Some of the issues are increased response times, one paramedic response, and billing and supplies.

The fire chiefs formed a sub-committee and determined that 11 units are needed for appropriate coverage in North Davis, Layton City, Central Davis, and South Davis Metro fire stations. It would include a borderless system with tracking technology to notify the response unit closest to the call. It will be necessary to get all dispatch centers onto a single server.

Farmington's potential costs to have its own unit are \$150,000 in capital expenses the first year, \$492,000 in wages and benefits for six new paramedics annually, and \$45,000 for operational costs annually. They have \$150,000 in their fund balance in ambulance fund to use for a vehicle for the first year.

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The ongoing transit charges of \$25,000-\$35,000 (above regular ambulance charges) will no longer be paid to the Sheriff's office. Still, to cover the remaining costs, they will have to do a property tax increase of \$492,000, or a 23% increase. That will be offset by eliminating the countywide property tax and bringing it down to a 12% increase. The City believes they will be able to convince homeowners to agree to the rise for public safety reasons.

NEXT STEPS

The transition timeline was explained. The service language in the Interlocal Agreement needs to be strengthened and finalized. All cities will need to have discussions with their City Councils and adopt an interlocal agreement between each city and the County, hopefully, by April or May of this year. It will be followed by an effort to disseminate the information to the public. The formation of, or merging of, cities and service districts, where needed, will need to occur no later than April of 2022. The County will then eliminate its paramedic tax levy after everything is in place and cities will then adjust their tax rates. It will take 18 months to transition paramedic personnel out of the Sheriff's office, while maintaining an adequate level of service. The transition process is expected to be completed and in full effect by January 2023.

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This information will be presented at the next Council of Governments (COG) meeting on Wednesday, January 20.

(See Attachments A1-A19)

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

MATERIALS PRESENTED

All publicly distributed materials associated with this meeting are noted as the following attachments:

A1-A19 Paramedic Council Discussion Presentation

Minutes prepared by:
Shairise Bills
Deputy Clerk/Auditor

Minutes approved on: _____

Curtis Koch
Davis County Clerk/Auditor

Bob J Stevenson
Commission Chair