



UTAH STATE FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Jeremy Craft, Lehi Fire Dept., President

Kevin Ward, Layton Fire Dept. - 1st VP

Vacant - 2nd VP

Coy Porter, Utah State Fire Marshal

Jess Campbell, Fire Chief, Saratoga Springs F & R, Secretary / Treasurer

www.utahfirechiefs.org



SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

9:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Layton City Fire HQ, Station 51, Utah

530 N. 2200 W., Layton City, Utah

I. Welcome, Call to Order, and Introduction of Executive Committee and Guests - Jeremy Craft

- The meeting was called to order by Jeremy Craft at 9:06 am. Chief Craft welcomed everyone with a thank you for coming out.
- He recognized Ron Morris who was present - Thank you for all the years you put into this organization. We appreciate all you did for us.

II. Business Meeting

1. Approval of Last Meetings' Minutes –

- A motion was called to approve the minutes as written from the last meeting, January 23, 2019 – St. George, Utah. Clint Smith motioned to approve the minutes. Reed Thompson seconded. A vote was called for. All voted aye. The minutes were approved.

2. Reports of Committees and Board Members

A. President's Report – Jeremy Craft

- Jeremy Craft spoke briefly about the Legislative Committee put together last year. The Committee met, just prior to the Joint Council Meeting, in the Capital Cafeteria every Thursday to talk about legislative issues, and to have an open discussion with legislators on the Hill. This turned out to be a really great thing. It wasn't meant to be exclusive...they tried to reach out and invite people across the state especially those who may have had key legislators in their area.
- A lesson learned from this experience is that having a presence has been very powerful. The goal for this year is to have more of a presence on the Hill. If we rotate the responsibility, we will be able to have people there on a daily basis. The unity and appearance created was incredible. Our visibility allowed us to have discussions, answer questions from our representatives, school districts, etc. - which was invaluable.
- The Committee will be continuing to meet throughout the interim on the 4th Thurs of every month. UFA has been kind enough to offer the use of a room. Everybody is welcome. Your perspective is needed. Once the legislative session comes up again it is expected that the weekly meetings will again be held in the Capital Cafeteria. . We will be working on the phone bridge to continue reaching out to as many as we can in the state. Going forward, minutes will be taken of those meetings. – If interested reach out to Jeremy Craft.

B. Secretary/Treasurer Report – Jess Campbell – was out of town – a financial update will be given at the Fall Business meeting.

C. Legislative Report - Dave Spatafore and Ashley Spatafore

- Ashley Spatafore spoke about a handful of the big bills out of the 35 – 40 bills they have been tracking in the last legislative session. The bill list was updated weekly with the status, what they needed to do, what they did not need to do, etc.
- **HB5 - Retirement and Independent Entities Base Budget (the Fire Insurance Premium Tax)**
- In previous years problems occurred due to that fact that the total amount was a large fiscal note. To get rid of the fiscal note - at the beginning of the session, to make sure the money was there, this tax was put into the Executive Appropriations Base Budget starting at the beginning of the year.
- As a result, there is a one-time appropriation of \$17,000,000 from the General Fund which covered the gap of what had been missing in prior years. Going forward the amount needed will be determined yearly which will then be allocated into a specific account.
- **HB466 Firefighter Retirement Amendments** – set us up going forward to secure the funding for the exact amount that we need. Every year URS will determine what is needed for the Fire Insurance Premium Tax and will allocate it into a specified account which actuaries will then adjust where needed. That money will continue to funnel specifically into that account for our retirement.
- **SB 129 – Tier 2 Increase**
- This was a whole session of negotiations. We currently are at 25/37 ½. During the session, they were able to negotiate 25/50 (25 years at 50%).
- It was finally agreed that starting in 2020 for the first year - one half of the Local's cost will be covered by the State; but it is still to be determined on how it is going to look.
- To make the change to go from the 25/37 ½ to 25/50 – the difference would be a 4% increase (from 12% to 16%). The League and Association of Counties said they would pay 14% so the statute was changed from 12% to 14%.
- They were able to get the Utah League of Cities and Towns and UAP on board by agreeing that part of the increase will be covered by the Agency then 2% will be covered by the employee. The Agency will have the option to pick up the entire increase, but it would be up to their discretion.
- **Wording Change** - Prior to SB 129 – in statute - the cost of Tier 2 that went into the retirement system was at 12% of salary which meant that the employer payed 12% with the limitation that they could not pay anything on top of that. There are agencies who currently try to do something in 401k to enhance the retirement benefit of the Tier 2 Firefighters. Those agencies want the option to pay above that 14%.
- The wording in that statute was “agencies may **not** pay above the 12%”. The word **not** has been deleted and the new wording is now “agencies **may** pay above the 14%”.
- **Backfill** - Backfill was discussed regarding any firefighter who started between 2011 up to 2020; which would be at the lower percentage. The question was: Is there a way to backfill to get them up on par with where everybody is going to be? The cost would be about \$14,000,000 to cover the backfill. There was no definitive answer.

- **Fully Funded** - There was comment and discussion on being fully funded but no final decision was made. Discussions will continue during the interim. Currently State policy is the retirement funds are quantified and fully funded at 110% of what the liability would be. Firefighters are now at 100%; Police are about 92%. We need to take a look at what the percentage of fully funding should be; at 90%, 100%, 105%?
- For example, if it is decided that it should be at 95%, then the fire retirement system (which is currently at 100%) has more funding than what is needed for being fully funded and that 5% can be used elsewhere... whether it is a reduction in what your agencies are paying to URS, benefits, or whatever the case may be.
- What complicates Public Safety is that in Tier 1 - Fire and Police are split; but in Tier 2 - Police and Fire are in one system. .
- Also to be discussed during the interim session - the possibility of a Firefighter Officer switching from a Hybrid to a defined benefit.
- **Retirement Committee** - During the interim there will be meetings of the Retirement Committee in June and September. There will have to be a lot more work that happens in between those two meetings.
- Senator Harper and Craig Hall the House Chair will set up a Task Force/Working Group. Ashley and Dave sent out an email outlining all the topics they thought should be included in that discussion. The email suggested those who should be in the meetings which included – representatives from the Fire Chiefs, Police Chiefs, Firefighters, UAC, the League, the Sheriffs, and UPOA. This will ensure there is representation from the unions, the groups and also the Chiefs and all the different Associations. They will keep us updated.
- **SB85 – Secure Transport Designation Amendments - Ambulance – Behavioral Health Designation**
- A year ago, it was determined that there are 17 private transport companies that supposedly do Behavioral Health transports. Although these companies are not supposed to, they are sometimes also doing medical transports.
- If they get a call and there is no “box” or designation for them to fit into, then they are “oozing” out of the Behavioral Health category into some other transports.
- When private companies do an interfacility transport that our agencies are supposed to do – it creates a revenue loss for us. Doing those kinds of transports is one way we provide for our equipment, our EMT’s, and our personnel.
- This is also a health and safety issue. These companies need to be licensed for those types of transports; and there needs to be verification re: background checks, state vehicles inspections, etc.
- SB85 designates what categorizes as a Behavioral Health transport and included in the bill will be a designation for Behavioral Health Transport.
- Once the designation happens, after the rule making and once the rule takes effect EMS will have the ability to “police”. We need to be vigilant and “police” our areas.
- Note: It has been discovered that there has been some screening in advance by the private companies and a refusal to transport if the person doesn’t have insurance or it is a Medicaid transport, they can and are refusing service right now – that is their M.O.
- Next year you will see a bill in the 2020 session that allows these private transport companies to transport Medicaid patients. Their next step is to become Medicaid compliant.

- To level the playing field – if there is a bill that allows these companies to be Medicaid transports of behavioral health...two things have got to happen –
- **1st** They have got to pay for transports as we do whether they are Medicaid or not. They have got to pay into that fund to be able to draw down federal funds - they are not going to use our money to draw down federal funds for them.
- **2nd** They can't refuse transport to anybody. We are going to try to put in statute that they cannot refuse service. If they want to play in the Behavioral Health issue as we all do in the medical health issue, they have to follow the same rules.

Things to consider:

- Setting a State Rate for behavioral transport - will this be a separate assessment fund?
- EMS has a State Rate - will Behavioral Health also have a State Rate?
- If private companies are regulated to be Behavioral Health, will that restrict them from doing any other type of transport?
- Is there some way of educating the hospitals that these companies are doing this without any type of medical certifications for that type of transport? At present - we need to educate the hospitals, the sending facilities, and the receiving facilities. The decision making needs to be done at the hospital or at the doctors or whoever is sending and they need to have a clear picture of what is appropriate for that patient. We need clear demarcation!
- **Medical = Ambulance.** Statute clearly defines as to when an ambulance is required so if they are crossing that line Guy Dansie needs to know. If you see a company that is not playing by those rules - we need to document and build a case. Now that they are being designated – he will need to have a written complaint with details to be able investigate.
- **SB154 – Utah Communications Bill** – brought about by the PSAP's. This bill increases the State 911 from .09 per line to .25 per line which will allow all of our new PSAPS to get the next gen equipment. It also took away eight committees from the advisory boards and added two new committees –the Public Safety committee and the PSAP committee. The bill was harder to pass than anticipated.
- **Distracted Driving** -The Distracted Driving Bill which is basically not allowing anyone to use a phone while driving – failed miserably – it will get another run. We will need to strategize on that one.
- **Interim Focus** - During the interim the focus will still be on retirement. Some of the items already posted by the legislature for review this interim:
 - Peer to Peer Businesses - storage, garbage collection, etc.
 - Distracted Driving
 - Public Safety Communications
 - Recruitment, Training and Retention
 - Natural Resources – wildland firefighter's compensation and retirement, jumping from the big system into the public safety system
 - Districts – A good chance there will be a new county formation – separating of counties
 - Revenue and tax – following the new tax policies – restructuring of our tax system - how it is going to affect, what it will look like

D. Chief Craft – Retention and Recruitment –

- Chief Craft and a few other departments participated in a Capstone Project from Katie Olsen and Melanie Davidson. It was discovered that there was a disconnection from what Chief Craft thought was our problem with retention and recruitment and from what Katie found in the research. He asked her permission to send the results to everybody. Results will be sent out.

E. Bureau of EMS – Guy Dansie

- **Ambulance Rates** - Heads up ambulance rates will be raised 3% from the base rates effective July 1, 2019. Out for public comment now. The 3% raise was based on fiscal reporting received from departments across the state.
- The base rate for Medicaid is almost \$800 now. It has been sent in to State Medicaid and they are cool with it. We have to be careful - if we continually raise the base rates it might make the Federal Medicaid nervous so we are watching that carefully.
- **Fiscal reporting** – The 3% raise was based on fiscal reporting from all departments sent back to the Bureau. In collecting the data it was realized that that rate does not necessarily reflect what is being collected – so although it was raised 3% only 1-1 ½ % of that might be collected. This will be considered in rate setting going forward.
- **Staff Change** - There has been a change in staff of individuals who collect that data. The dept is working on getting those people replaced and get that up to speed for next year.
- Report deadlines have been extended from 3 months to now 6 months. Which means that those whose fiscal year ended on the calendar year, that will now be due at the end of June. Those whose fiscal year ends on June 30/July 1 that will be due at the end of December. The reason the fiscal reporting deadlines have been lengthened/extended is the Bureau wants you to be able to look at your fiscal data and compare with your audited data that your county or city has.
- Departments with a fiscal year ending on the calendar year (December 31) the due date will be end of June.
- Departments with a fiscal year ending mid-year (June 30th / July 1st) the due date will be at end of Dec.
- **Personnel licensure fee** has been reduced to \$10 starting July 1 to help offset the cost for National Registry.
- **CPR Certification** within departments - a physical AHA card will not be required but individuals still need to have the training and the training officer to sign off on the certification.
- **Behavioral Health** – Rules were approved in April for the designation, application, and vehicle permitting - the operational piece of the rule. That should be coming out for public comment soon.
- **Agency Licensing Process** – We are moving to automated agency licensing in Image Trend – Still trying to work out a few bugs on the system side. Instead of having to send in a big packet of papers to Tami Goodin – you will be able to upload the paperwork/forms into the Image Trend and hopefully we can make it more paperless. Please be patient.
- **EMS Awards** July 10th at the Aquarium 10am – need nominations – forms on website, or send Guy an email (gdansie@utah.gov).

F. WFCA / IAFC – Mark Becraft

- The Wildland Fire Summit – WFCA Presidents’ Forum coming up this week in Oregon.
- On the agenda: Class on building firefighter mental health resilience in the

shadow of the opiate crisis.

- Fire Rescue International Aug 7-10
Georgia World Congress Center, 285 Andrew Young International Blvd N,
Atlanta, Georgia 30313
<https://www.iafc.org/events/fri>.
Great for Chief Executive officers. The Western Fire Chiefs Association will be meeting at the same time.
- Western Chiefs wants to know – are there any agencies here in UT that are still owed money from the federal government from last year’s fire season?

G. State Fire Marshal’s Report – Coy Porter

- Richard Gees retiring in June –A new plan reviewer will be starting some time before end of June
- **NASM – (National Association of State Fire Marshals)** – involved in producing a Construction Site Fire Safety Program, trying to do pilots around the country as part of the contractor’s step program. They have done 4 or 5 states so far. This will be a Train the Trainer program. We would like to get it set up for our state. If you would like to send any of you folks to see what is being presented to the contractors, what is the expectation of the fire service.
- The **2018 fire code** will go into effect end of July. The State Fire Marshal’s Office typically puts together the amendments to the code. If you would like the tabs contact Deanna and she will print and send. The tabs will have the actual wording of the Utah amendments which you then just stick in the book. There are approx.55 pages of inserts usually a paragraph long on a single page.
- **Association and National Disabilities Rights Network** – The Fire Marshal’s Association and the State Fire Marshals have partnered with the National Disabilities Rights Network. A presentation will be forward to this body. If interested, there is some contact information; it talks about plans or what you have done in your community for response to natural disasters and fires to ensure life safety with regards to people with disabilities.
- **Mobile Fueling** – Still issues that NASM is working on. Initially nothing could be found in the code to disallow mobile fueling. But now nationally, things are becoming more prevalent. Just as with any other business, there are those who are the high end who do it up the right way, or you have “Joe’s truck” with the plastic gas tank in the back and he’s coming to fill up your car. That will be looked at again.
- **Peer to Peer Storage** – The original Peer to Peer folks down in Utah County ran a bill to disassociate themselves saying that they are not a business and don’t need the licensing like some of the other businesses. This got confused on the bill because of another bill on peer to peer car rentals.
- **Peer to Peer Car Rentals** is about people coming into town, they are using an Air B&B and they want to rent a car from a private person for a few days which would be cheaper than going thru a car rental agency. There was a little confusion of peer to peer car rental vs peer to peer storage. The peer to peer car rental people just want to say that they are a “middleman” not a “brick and mortar store”, they shouldn’t be classed with some of the other business groups, they don’t have storage and are not looking to have people store anything with them; they put people together with other people so some of the things cannot be required of them that would be required of a “normal business”.
- **Glamping** (Glamorous Camping) - New one for this year – The State Fire Marshal’s Office got involved as a request from Garfield county in helping to

pass an ordinance

- To learn more search: “Utah glamping” or “Glampgrounds in Utah”. There are several associated nearby National Parks or State Parks – one has Conestoga wagons, family style dinner, other outside of Zion’s, Moab,
- The ones the State Fire Marshal’s office got involved in were down in Ticaboo, tents, yerts, teepees, some 500.00 night. They got involved as a request from Garfield County to help them with their “Glamping” ordinance. They did and went down and testified in their county commission meeting and they passed an ordinance.
- These will probably be outside of the municipal areas for most of you. if you would like, we will try to work with the counties and rural areas where these glampgrounds are because there are no fire hydrants typically or plans for hydrants, or suppression. The ordinance that the State Fire Marshal’s Office help them with does require Co detection, smoke detectors, etc. the idea is to get people outside of their camping facility but not necessarily protect the facility itself. Most of these will be burned down by the time Fire is able to respond. The only water that is coming is on the suppression apparatus. They wanted to insure that there is plenty of defensible space so that these campgrounds or glampgrounds didn’t spread to the forest. If you are interested in that – watch for “glamping”
- **Funding** – the insurance premium tax that funds the FF retirement – a portion of that also funds the Fire Academy’s Contract and the State Fire Marshal’s office as well. It has been difficult in the past to go back and say – since 3 years ago when the insurance premium tax issue came up and they started dividing it a little bit differently than it was before – we have had a significant hit to the revenues. That is why Dave and Ashley work really hard along with a few others of you to get the \$17M and the \$12M ongoing to try to bolster the retirement funds. That also impacted the State Fire Marshal’s office ability to do things. Although it comes out of the same tax base - 50% went into retirement 25% went into our State Fire Marshal funds and 25% went into the general fund. They are still collecting monies – the allocation has been less because of the way it’s being recorded.
- Part of the thing is the SFM does an annual contract with UFRA which is about \$4.2 Million. There is a 90 day stipulation on if one or the other partner is going to have a problem with the contract. The issue was every year before the 1st of May they have done what they call “negative impacts” so a lot of these insurance companies doing business in Utah – when they pay their premium tax, a number of them rather than mess with it they prepay a certain amount which is based on history and other things. They prepay then have up to the 1st of May to request any refunds if it appears they have overpaid. The unfortunate thing in planning is we get \$1 Million put into the fund then then next day \$.5 Million goes out in a refund to one of these companies. It’s like a checkbook rather than a savings account.
- In January a letter was provided to Brad Wardle saying we weren’t sure whether they were going to be able to fund the entire contract for UFRA for the firefighters training. We have had many discussions with the tax commission, with the governor’s office that manages the budget. Only recently it appears that they are not going to make any more negative adjustments. It looks like we do have enough money to finish this contract.
- The whole reason this has been brought up is we tried to get a bill to fix this 3 yrs

ago – it didn't get past, it got late in the session, and then it ended up with fairly high fiscal note, so it never got passed.

- The Governor's office of Management and Budget, the Tax Commission and others have said they know it needs to be fixed but up to now it has not been fixed properly. With the retirement piece now more out of the way, we can go back and get it fixed
- Our help is needed - we may need to go to our legislators locally and say my firefighters need training and it's free – this is how we have paid for it for 50 years or more. We need that ongoing money. We need you to continue to help fund this – so this training money does get to where it needs to go.

H. Standards & Training Report – Robert DeKorver

- Standards and Training is in the process of the re-accreditation of non-affiliated programs.
- Things are going well with the Standards and Training Committee.
- They have completed the reaccreditation process of the UFRA RCA program. According to the evaluators at the last meeting, this program is a very well run efficient program and as a Standards and Training Council they will be recommending to the fire prevention board that they do reaccredit the program.
- They are still in the process of completing their other three evaluations of non-affiliated programs including: West Valley, Bridgerland, and Davis Applied Technical College. They are being set up thru Jolene with the College and with evaluators from Standards & Training Committee to go out to these organizations and get them reaccredited. No problems are foreseen in the near future.
- Next meeting for Standards and Training Council will be: Sep 4, 2019 at 830 a.m. at the State Fire Marshal's Office in Sandy.

I. Fire Marshal's Association of Utah Report – Robert DeKorver

- 2018 code updates go into effect July 1, 2019. Training is currently going on in Sandy today.
- The Fire Marshal's Association is working on trying to stay consistent across the state as fire marshals – a lot of departments have started utilizing the compliance engine for the private industry to report their inspections and the findings of the inspections to the Fire Marshals as AHJ's. There have been some complaints from both the private side as well as the AHJ's that there are some differences in terminology, some problems with the reporting process and how quick the Fire Marshal's Office are getting reports back from the compliance engine or the private industry. Sometimes they are going out and inspecting or going out to try to fix or enforce some of the problems with the code violations that they have and they are finding that when they get out there, the problem has already been fixed but no notification has been received of the fixed problem because of a reporting issue.
- The Fire Marshal's Office is working with the compliance engine, they are in contact with Nick Imcus who is the representative with the compliance engine. He will come out to Utah on June 4, 5, 6 – a meeting will be set up with the AHJ's as well as the private industry to sit in the same room and try to figure out the entire compliance reporting process in order to get everybody on the same page.
- All are encouraged to get Fire Marshals out to the meeting, especially if you participate in the compliance engine, so everybody can be on the same page making it beneficial to all. It is a great program.

- Next Fire Marshal's Association Meeting Tues May 14 immediately following the Fire Prevention Board Meeting in South Salt Lake – in the same Council Chambers.

10 Minute Break - Brunch served

III. New Business

a. UFRA – Brad Wardle

- Quick statement on **restricted account money** spoken about by Coy Porter earlier. There was much concern whether the funding from the restricted account was going to come through. A month ago they thought the deficit was going to be about \$ 1 Million. UFRA budget is about \$4.2 Million. Plans were in place in case the money was not received including possibly 82 classes that might have to be cancelled, and possibly layoffs. This is a dire situation; we have got to get it fixed. We did not want to affect the retirement bill. Waited to see if work out administratively or work out legislatively. Commissioner Valentine was able to give information that we have funding to end of year.
- Invoices had been given to the Fire Marshal's office on a month to month basis. This information will be brought to fire prevention board. We are asking them for their help and they will need all of our help with this. He is not sure what the fix will be – whether they go to the general fund or other changes are made in the restricted account so that they can assure the money is there. We know the money is being collected, it our budget, they are managing very well w/in their budget of the contract. It is not a matter of over managing their resources; it is a question of the funds that are supposed to be there are actually there.
- **Officer Development Task Force** – UFRA is looking at forming an Officer Development Taskforce in response to UFA's request that they start looking at Officer II – IV. Right now they provide Officer I certifications. There was an Officer II certification but has not been developed. They would like to develop curriculum and certification criteria for not only Officer I but Officer II, Officer III, and Officer IV which will take us to Chief Officers. It is a career ladder development program they are putting together. If you are interested on being on that task force they will be meeting to update what is currently on the books and where they would like to go. This program will be based on the criteria in NFPA 1021. If you want to be part of that task force please send Brad an email or call to be part of the task force.
- **Training Program for New Fire Chiefs and Volunteer Fire Chiefs** – this has been a request for a few years. Any interesting in participating in the creation of this program please contact Brad.
- **CTC Curriculum** has been rewritten to fit the rule departments and the volunteer departments so we are training to their reality and also rewritten and adjusted the curriculum for full time departments. The class for the full time departments will be up in Brigham City on May 28th. Happy to share with any of you – anything they have you are welcome to have for your departments, they will send their instructors or assist your instructors.
- **Special request** – If there is anybody that you know of that is a First Responder that has an autistic child or has experience with autism – they are putting together a workshop that will be presented down at winter fire school for first responders to deal with those who are on the autism spectrum. They are looking for people who have a relationship with either a father , brother, mother, sister, close friend that they can start Train the Trainer programs to teach our first responders how to

deal with individuals who are on that spectrum. The class will be offered at winter fire school. Contact Ted if you have anyone you know of or are willing yourself to be part of the process.

- **Red card changes** – any feedback on red card certifications has it been helpful – no complains or concerns
- **Managing Fire Officer Course** – the second level is out – released as of this meeting. This will be based on the criteria and requirements in nfpa 1021.

b. UCA Update – Dave Edmunds

- UCA changes coming up to the board. Anybody interested in serving on the boards – contact Jeremy or Kevin or Dave.
- USFCA gets three positions on the board –if you are interested in representing the State Chiefs let someone on the Board know.
- There are two committees – the Public Safety Committee with Police, Sheriff, and Fire; and a PSAP Committee.
- We definitely want someone from this association decision will be made after this meeting.

SB 154 changed UCA in a number of ways

- Committees went from seven to two - a Public Safety Advisory Committee and a PSAP Advisory Committee.
- Tax collected for 911 will go from \$0.25 to approx. \$1.48
- All 31 PSAPS in the State of Utah are going to have access to that money.

Clarification of some misconceptions:

- A grand total of \$1.48 that is collected off of every land line and every cell phone in state of Utah. Of that money \$0.71 goes directly to the PSAPs to spend on whatever they want whether it is for personnel, equipment, or anything. It does not go to UCA - it never comes thru their doors.
- There is \$0.34 that UCA is currently using for their P25 upgrade that will fund that. The good news is that there will be no need for a bond to fund the new P25 radio system state wide.
- \$0.18 goes for a radio, operations, and maintenance for the radio division.
- 911 money went from \$0.09 to \$0.25.

Comments by Dave Spatafore:

- The percentage going to UCA for PSAPs has a sunset date of 2025 currently in the bill. In the Legislature, there are those who lobbied for PSAPs to be funded by the State general fund.
- We heard Coy and we heard Brad and the concern about funding the fire academy – How much do you want to have your PSAP funding have to go thru state appropriations? That is not a good thing.
- D-day for that is 2025 – we have to be geared up for that now because we don't want any PSAP funding to be controlled by the State. Once it goes to a State agency and all of that is going to be a function of state appropriations
- Once Public State Radio goes to funding all of the funding is going to be a function of State Appropriations.
- The Radio Site – Our system in Utah is state-wide and is exceptional. We have both radio and 911 under the same roof. We are very fortunate to have that.
- The RFP that we put out – has put us in the middle of two multi-billion dollar corporations Motorola and Harris - and they go to war against each other every day for RFP's around this nation.
- We ran the RFP inside the boundaries that state procurement set. As a result of SB 198 the UCA is subject to the state procurement code. The state procurement

code is very specific on the way RFPs have to be handled. Even before we promulgated the RFP and put it on the street, we had folks from state purchasing that were imbedded in process they weren't being consulted, they were inside the process. There was a member of the Utah State Division of Purchasing that was on the oversight committee that Dave Edmunds put together. There was a ten person selection committee was a part of the RFP process. The Fire Chiefs had representation in that room and throughout the process. Mike Mathieu did a yeoman's job of representing the Fire Chiefs. He certainly one of the top two – he read every document – he was conversant in what we were putting out on the street. He did an excellent job. Kudos with how he represented the Fire Chiefs during that RFP process.

- We had procurement embedded in the process while we promulgated the RFP, while the RFP was on the street, while we had questions that came back from both Motorola and Harris who were the only two “offerors” that put in for that RFP. We went through an extensive process. We had attorneys with us the entire way - procurement, the selection committee, the oversight committee, all of these entities, and on top of it all, we had a nationally recognized consultant firm consulting us on the development of the RFP and the selection process - this is what they do for a living, and they do these things all over the country.
- Both Motorola and Harris are very capable of providing a public safety radio system for this whole state. Both of these companies are capable of providing an excellent product.
- Everything (Motorola, Kenwood, Harris, etc.) has to be allowed to work within the system which is one of the big reasons we are going to a P25 system. The open architecture that is demanded in a P25 environment allows any manufacturer of a radio that has a P25 radio to come on to the system. If you have P25 compliant radios you will be fine.
- We are putting in a P25 Phase II compliant system which is backwards compatible to Phase I so your Phase I radio will work no matter the manufacturer. One of the benefits of this is it will drive the price of end user radios down. At the end of the day – the system is going to work your firefighters your EMS personnel will be able to press the button and talk.
- P25 also will migrate us from an analog to a digital environment. Hiccups are expected but eventually interoperability will get much better. The ultimate goal is to have all Public Safety on P25 which will allow for all to be on the same system with seamless communication even during interstate deployments.
- Our RFP price difference was significant between Motorola and Harris. After bulk discounts from both companies and other Dave as well as the folks on the evaluation committee had to evaluate this - \$77 Million vs \$51 Million – a difference of \$26 Million - because that is what the procurement code allowed him to do...even if we were allowed to give every discount that Motorola is still upset that we didn't give them – even if we gave them everything - there was still a big enough difference that Motorola still would have lost – because the technical scoring from our evaluation committee (from Public Safety – made up of Chiefs of Police, Sheriffs, Fire Chiefs, PSAP folks) that committee only scored the difference between Motorola and Harris of 5% which is a negligible difference on technical scoring.
- UCA is currently being sued and there are currently appeals but while this is going on Dave Edmunds has made the decision as the Head of Procurement for UCA to move forward with contract negotiations with Harris Corporation This

will be a tough negotiation. It is important to note something – all that Harris has done at this point is they have won the right to engage in contract negotiations with UCA. Those contract negotiations are not going to be easy – Dave Edmunds is our representative – there is no way that he will sign a contract or ask his board to sign their names to a contract that is not going to look out for our best interest.

- So takeaway – The pledge is we are going to have a p25 system that is going to work and works well. Any and all questions please contact Dave Edmunds.
- **Dave Spatafore** commented on the importance of the Public Safety Committee that will be created under SB154. That committee which takes effect in July - the Chair of that Public Safety Committee now becomes an ex officio board member of the UCA board; they can't vote, but sits at the board meetings. Both the Chair of the Public Safety Committee and the Chair of the PSAP Committee become ex officio members of the UCA board. It is absolutely incumbent that we make sure those committee positions are filled and filled with individuals who want to participate in that process who want to make sure that they are at the meetings, that they are heard, and that they deal with all that sort of stuff. The next UCA board meeting is mid-June we need to make recommendations
- In addition to any Individual Fire Chief that we put in, the Association should also put a member in. The Chiefs need to take a look at “where can we can geographically and politically make a difference with the legislature”
- If any are interested please contact the Executive Committee or send a letter to Dave Spatafore and we will get those names out as soon as we can.

c. Nominations for 2nd V.P. open – Election at September 2019 meeting.

- Because of Ron Morris' retirement, everybody on the Board has been bumped up and there is now an opening for 2nd Vice President. Chief Jeremy Craft opened the floor for nominations with the stipulation that the vote would not happen until the September Meeting.
- Chief Craft received an email from Chief Peterson with a nomination for **Jay Ziolkowski who** is present. Chief Craft asked Jay Ziolkowski if he accepted the nomination. He replied yes. A second to the motion was asked for. Ted Black seconded the motion.
- Mark Becraft nominated **Clint Smith**. Chief Miguel seconded.
- Other nominations for 2nd Vice President were asked for. There were no other nominations.
- A motion to close the nominations was asked for - so moved and seconded (names were not recorded).

Jay Ziolkowski and **Clint Smith** were nominated to be put on the ballot for Fall Business meeting vote.

d. Kevin Ward – FMOU – 11:28

- Kevin Ward gave an update on the **Wildland MOU process** and the rate agreements.
- A lot of chiefs were concerned. They went to State Forestry Fire and State Lands and asked to look at the rates. With Wade Snyder, Brad, and Ben Huntsman working on this – we were successful in a rate change that actually ended up being a little bit better than anticipated. We appreciate that.
- There was a problem with the rates to begin with because we were under billing for Engine Boss positions.
- When Jane Martinez retired she never noticed in the system that they should have

bumped that. It never happened until it was being looked at. That is where the other \$10 came from.

- They moved the Engine Boss up to \$35 then adjusted all the other equipment for \$10. So a fully qualified engine going out with an engine boss on it is going to get a \$20 bonus. The rate agreements will be going thru.
- The other thing that came out about that is to have a **regular wildland dialog**.
- There was the establishment of the Wildland Fire Cooperative Advisory Council. We are in the process with doing the charter for this and we will have some regular dialog. Several people in the audience are part of that and we appreciate the participation in that. Kevin and Brett co-chair this committee to make sure both of the State's and our Organizations – our Departments' and Districts' interests are taken care of.
- The MOU's that came out there was an issue that Salt Lake City had which changed some of the MOU's but the last direction is that the old MOU's are fine, the new ones are in, sign either one it doesn't matter. Kevin was advised that if we had the existing MOU that is fine if you use the new MOU that is also fine.
- There are very few changes – mostly with the title of the MOU itself which is now changed.
- There is one change that may be significant that if you do a lot of project work under us under the umbrella of the good neighbor authority or any of that, if you do a project that is over \$5000 with us we prefer you to sign the new one because if you do that we have to do separate contracts we can't use the MOU for a project over \$5000.
- We did a good job about making revisions this year all who worked on are appreciated. Grants are coming up soon.
- Those who were involved in the **mutual aid project** when we drafted intrastate mutual aid, we were looking at different systems out there, the IAFC funded a program on mutualaid.net – basically it just was not working very well, there were problems with importing of resources, there were conflicts of FEMA using IRS in the resolve. The IAC has now come up with a new platform that is very user friendly that integrates fully with WEB EOC and more importantly, we don't have to fight with the emergency managers any more. In the beginning they did not understand that we were trying to put together a comprehensive mutual aid system that could move resources rapidly.
- The National Mutual Aid System, the IFC that spearheaded this, they put a lot of money into this, there is funding behind it, our state allotment that we have to pay as one of the 5 original states that are part of this is about \$28,000. The Fire Marshal's office will be paying \$10,000 of that. The division of Emergency Management is paying for a portion of it.
- They are all on board because it is part, it integrates fully, there are some key things, a new system, a WEB EOC product which many counties and cities already use - the system will integrate with EMAC system.
- The system will reach out for help immediately with no delays, we have buy in from the State Emergency Management and Fire Marshal. State EMS is going to pay part of the money – so we have between the State Fire Marshal's Office, Division of Emergency Management, and the EMS – that \$28,000 will be covered and it drops down to \$16,000-\$18000 over the next few years.
- Overall it is a several hundred thousand dollar project. It will be pretty slick, you will be able to put in all your resources and type them on an excel spreadsheet, it will easily upload into the system, it's going to be very user friendly.

- We will have a training session and the state chiefs association is a part of this and we will be reaching out for county coordinators, from the fire service – although this is a multi-discipline project - but will be focusing on fire side. It can be sued by public safety and public works.
- One other nice part of this is that IAFC is not giving up the rights for anybody to go in and change the program. They will maintain it as an independent thing through Juvari who is the software vendor so we don't end up with a hybrid later on or some other group who is doing it. It does allow for other resources to be added in but it will still be controlled by the chiefs.
- The other component as we get this going is it will be able to integrate seamlessly thru the new IROC system – ROSS will go away.
- Please think about who could be a County Representative on this we will have regional coordination the same way as we had it once before. We are going to try to set it up with Region Reps throughout the state. In Region 1 and Region 2 that is usually not a problem, its Region 3, Region 4, Region 5 – we want to capture this statewide.
- The First 6 states that jump on this get a representation on the advisory committee.

d. Fire Shows West - Kevin Ward –

- Flyer handed out for Fire Shows West for Company Officer Development Conference – Skills. They cater towards the western states. This is now a 501c3 Fire Shows West Training and Education Foundation is who runs this. The price is \$200 for the first person and the second person goes for \$50. Rooms at the Grand Sierra in Reno are about \$75.00 cheap, in Reno; look forward to us supporting it. It is a great conference; we do a good job of having some really good courses offered. There is a lot of emphasis towards company officer development.

IV. Old Business (none)

V. Good of the Order

- Anybody who went out on EMAC's deployment to California in August or November have you seen funding form either of those; and also from the State on the November deployment – the 80%? Some answered yes and some are still waiting.
- Salt Lake Valley Chief's Alliance symposium on March 18th – free – flyer going out
- National Fallen fighter golf tournament – handing out flyer – John Harris
- State Chiefs annual business meeting September 18th , 2019 @ 0900, Loveland Aquarium, Draper, Utah (Central)
- Utah State Chiefs Winter meeting, January 22nd, 2020, St. George, Utah (South)
- Leadership Training January 23rd, 2020 @ 0900 – 1500 (Lunch provided)
- Winter Fire School January 24th – 25th, 2020.

VI. Adjournment and Lunch

Motion to adjourn by Ted Black. Seconded Chief Smith adjourned 11:42 am.