



WASATCH COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR APRIL 9, 2025

THE WASATCH COUNTY COUNCIL MET IN WORK SESSION LIVE AND BY ON-LINE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025, IN THE WASATCH COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED IN THE WASATCH COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING AT 25 NORTH MAIN, HEBER CITY, UTAH 84032

A video recording of the meeting may be viewed by using the Wasatch County Website (<https://docs.wasatch.utah.gov/OnBaseAgendaOnline/>) and selecting the desired meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 00:00:00)

- A. **SUMMARY:** The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M. by Councilmember McMillan with the following members in attendance:

COUNCILMEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Karl McMillan (Council Chair & Seat F Councilmember)	☒	☐
Erik Rowland (Council Vice Chair and Seat C Councilmember)	☒	☐
Luke Searle (Seat A Councilmember)	☒	☐
Colleen Bonner (Seat B Councilmember)	☒	☐
Kendall Crittenden (Seat D Councilmember)	☒	☐
Mark Nelson (Seat E Councilmember)	☒	☐
Spencer Park (Seat G Councilmember)	☒	☐

PRAYER/REMARKS

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 00:00:27)

- A. **SUMMARY:** A prayer was provided by Councilmember Bonner.
- i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 00:00:46)

A. **SUMMARY:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember McMillan.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 00:01:14)

A. **SUMMARY:** Councilmember McMillan asked if there were any members of the public who wanted up-to 3 minutes to provide public comments to the Council on any item not on the agenda. The following individual(s) requested to speak to Council:

- Jenney Rees wanted to introduce herself as a representative of Senator Curtis's Office.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 00:03:12)

A. **SUMMARY:** Councilmember McMillan asked if there were any topics to be added as a future agenda item.

Luke Searle – County tax abatement on April 16, 2025 meeting

Luke Searle – Comcast request letter of nonexclusive support regarding a grant that would bring more internet access to the County. Recommends County Manager to draft a letter that is nonexclusive to Comcast and expresses overall support for being able to provide more internet access to the community.

Dustin Grabau – Joint meeting with the Wasatch County Planning Commission on May 7, 2025 where the planning commission comes to the council meeting at 5PM or 6PM.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

COUNCIL ITEMS

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 00:12:49)

1. HEBER VALLEY ARTS CENTER UPDATE – PHIL JORDAN

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 00:12:52)

A. **SUMMARY:** Dallin Koecher (Tourism and Economic Development Director) presented the history of the Heber Valley Arts Center and how the art industry affects tourism and economic development. Shared the major milestones and grants that the center has accomplished. Shared statistics about local residence interest in arts and how interest is growing as the population grows. Discussion on how the new center is well located and meets the current and future needs for quality of life within the art industry.

Phil Jordan, the president of the Wasatch County Art's Council, presented on other art centers across Utah and their general history of use and updates. Introduced investing in a 55,000sqft 44-acre venue that could be built locally and gave a project overview with site plans, 3D renderings, and description of different types of spaces within the building. He expressed dedication to giving the council regular updates on the project as it begins taking shape.

Michael Glenn, the treasurer of the Wasatch County Art's Council discussed the financial impacts of the building.

- i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

COUNCIL/BOARD REPORTS

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 01:10:36)

- A. **SUMMARY:** Councilmember McMillan asked if there were any council/board report to be presented.

Councilmember Nelson provided the following report:

- Community expo at the rec center this Saturday from 10AM-3PM

Councilmember Bonner provided the following report:

- Memorial Hill subcommittee met. Currently working on the design of adding 25 names.

Councilmember Crittenden provided the following report:

- Interest in Mosquito Abatement Program.

- i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

MANAGER'S REPORT

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 01:15:28)

- A. **SUMMARY:** Councilmember McMillan asked if there were any manager's report to be presented. No reports were made.

- i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

CLOSED SESSION – AS NEEDED

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 01:15:38)

- A. **SUMMARY:** Councilman McMillan indicated that there was a need for a closed session this evening regarding: (1) Pending reasonably and imminent litigation; and (2) The character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

- i. **ACTION TAKEN:** Councilman Crittenden made a motion to **"leave our regular session and go into Closed Session to discuss Litigation and Personnel"** Councilmember Bonner seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

	McMillan	Rowland	Searle	Bonner	Crittenden	Nelson	Park
AYE:	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

NAY:						
ABSTAIN/ ABSENT:						

- ii. **ACTION TAKEN:** The individuals present for the Closed Session to discuss the topic of "Pending reasonable and imminent litigation" were:
- **Council Members:** McMillan, Rowland, Searle, Bonner, Crittenden, Nelson, Park
 - **Others:** Dustin Grabau, Wendy McKnight, Scott Sweat, Heber Lefgren, and Tiarra Cooper
- iii. **ACTION TAKEN:** The individuals present for the Closed Session to discuss the topic of "The character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual" were:
- **Council Members:** McMillan, Rowland, Searle, Bonner, Crittenden, Nelson, Park
 - **Others:** Dustin Grabau, Scott Sweat, Heber Lefgren.
- iv. **ACTION TAKEN:** At 6:15PM MST, Councilmember Crittenden made a motion to **"leave the Closed Session and go back into the Work Session in preparation for the Interlocal meeting scheduled for 6:30."** Councilmember Park seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

	McMillan	Rowland	Searle	Bonner	Crittenden	Nelson	Park
AYE:		X	X	X	X	X	X
NAY:							
Absent:	X						

INTERLOCAL MEETING 6:30PM

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 01:16:18)

1. HEBER VALLEY EIS UPDATE – CRAIG HANCOCK

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 01:16:47)

- A. **SUMMARY:** Craig Hancock presented the latest screening report addendum relating to the Heber Valley EIS (bypass). In late March 2025 the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) published updated alternatives to the proposed bypass route options going around downtown Heber City. Recent studies indicate that without a bypass alternative the increased traffic will have an impact on the time it takes to get through Heber City. It is currently estimated to take 10:55 minutes to get from SR-32 to US-189 and 9:15 minutes from SR-32 to US-40. Future development will double the current travel times. The goal is to strategically plan an alternative bypass route that would take the pass-through traffic off of Main Street in Heber City benefiting the safety concerns of future traffic growth.

- i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

2. DISCUSSION WITH LOCAL ENTITIES ON COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS REGARDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION – KENDALL CRITTENDEN (WASATCH COUNTY)

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 01:51:02)

- A. **SUMMARY:** Kendall Crittenden discussed the regional planning group that meets bi-annually between Summit County and Wasatch County. Asked the entities attending if there is a need to create a different group or to better utilize the current group. Group prefers to utilize the current group more sufficiently. Doug Smith stated that there is also a group where staff from the local entities get together and discuss the technicalities of future impacts to regional transportation. Dustin Grabau stated that Mountainlands Association of Governments is the keeper of Wasatch County and Summit County regional transportation models that state agencies like Utah Department of Transportation utilize when doing traffic studies.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

3. DISCUSSION ON ENTITIES ADOPTING COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS IN REGARDS TO THE OPERATION OF E-BIKE AND OTHER ELECTRIC MOTORIZED VEHICLES – LUKE SEARLE (WASATCH COUNTY) & KATIE VILLANI (MIDWAY CITY)
(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 02:00:25)

- A. **SUMMARY:** County Councilmember Luke Searle and Midway City Planner Katie Villani discussed each entity adopting the same regulations for the operation of E-bikes and other electric motorized vehicles. These regulations include restrictions on helmets, speed limits, passenger limits, surface materials, and in places where there is prohibited use posted. Mayor Celeste Johnson proposed that the entities review and potentially adopt an ordinance similar to Midway City but if they have recommended changes Midway City would be interested in those changes to see if they should amend their ordinance to match.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

4. AVAILABLE GRANTS UPDATE – NANCY O'TOOLE (MAG)
(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 02:24:00)

- A. **SUMMARY:** Nancy O'Toole gave an update on available grants that local entities can apply for and what restrictions those funds could be used for if awarded. Wildland Urban Interface Prevention, Preparedness, and Mitigation Fund that was going to help Wallsburg Town, Daniel Town, and Independence Town with wildfire prevention projects was recently rescinded due to federal funding cutbacks. Urban Forestry Grants, Community Forestry Partnership Grants allows municipalities to apply for funding that would purchase trees that could be planted in parks. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is currently unavailable due to federal funding restrictions. Outdoor Recreation Planning Assistance is a grant that would help entities acquire consultants that could create studies that focus on recreation. These studies can be utilized when establishing master plans related to recreation. Safe Streets For All demonstration grants create an opportunity to purchase and install calming measures around streets and intersections. If the demonstration results in positive feedback a grant can be applied for strategic planning for permanent features.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

5. AFFORDABLE HOUSING SURVEY AND CALL TO ACTION – MATT BROWER (HEBER CITY) & JASON GLIDDEN (MOUNTAINLANDS COMMUNITY HOUSING) (VIDEO TIME STAMP: 02:32:25)

A. **SUMMARY:** Matt Brower introduced Jason Glidden and gave a history of the study that Mountainlands Community Housing study that was released a year ago. Jason Glidden explained how housing needs are calculated along with some of the challenges people face when trying to qualify for mortgages. Discussed recent release of area median income data that showed an increase in changes to the AMI. Jason pointed out that the majority of those needing to buy an affordable housing home make more than the 80% AMI which disqualifies them from affordable housing programs. Matt Brower proposed a call to action for each entities to create a subcommittee that can help the Wasatch County Affordable Housing Board achieve the goal. If the entities are in favor of utilizing the board rather than creating a subcommittee than establish dates to present ideas to the broader group on finding alternative solutions to help assist affordable housing.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

6. HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PRESENTATION – LUKE SEARLE (WASATCH COUNTY) (VIDEO TIME STAMP: 03:16:48)

A. **SUMMARY:** County Councilmember Luke Searle introduced Michael Plowman as the director of development for Habitat for Humanity whose focus is on Summit & Wasatch County. Michael gave a presentation about the mission and vision of Habitat for Humanity with the intended goal to reintroduce the organization into Wasatch County. Michael stated that in partnership with Jason from Mountainland Community Housing they have been working with the legislature over the past year in trying to produce possible solutions to the affordable housing need. He shared past projects that have benefited Wasatch County community members and future goals they are working toward. Dedicated to being part of the affordable housing solution.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** No official action was taken.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

(VIDEO TIME STAMP: 03:30:39)

A. **SUMMARY:** Councilmember McMillan asked to adjourn the meeting.

i. **ACTION TAKEN:** Councilmember Bonner made a motion to “adjourn the meeting” Councilmember Crittenden seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following vote:

	McMillan	Rowland	Searle	Bonner	Crittenden	Nelson	Park
AYE:	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐
NAY:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
ABSTAIN/ ABSENT:	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒

Karl McMillan

KARL MCMILLAN/CHAIRMAN

Joey D. Granger

JOEY D. GRANGER/CLERK/AUDITOR

