

**Utah State Firefighter Association
116th Annual Convention 2025
Spanish Fork**

Convention started on Thursday, June 26th at 0900.

Welcome – President Andy McBride

Presentation of Colors – James Munns Spanish Fork – Honor Guard

Prayer – Mike Meyers

Welcome and Remarks from Mayor of Spanish Fork – Mike Mendenhall

Welcome to Spanish Fork – Chief Eddie Hales

President McBride - Welcome and introduction of our Keynote Speaker - Chad Hymas

Introduction of Current Officers – Andy McBride -President

Introduction of Auxiliary Officers – President Liz Johnson

Shayelle McBride – Presentation of gift to President McBride.

Roll Call of Current and Past Officers – Gina Bell

President Andy McBride

1st VP Austin Knight

2nd VP Roger Christensen

Secretary Gina Bell

Treasurer Don Rich

Membership Steward Sam Larson

Senior Trustee Ryan Mellor

Trustee Kevin Beck

Trustee Steve Hale

Trustee Chris Shubert

Trustee Rob Johnson

Joseph A Bona

Lynn E. Jones

Monte Curtis

Brent Marshall

Robert Harrison

Janet Atkinson

Ryan Mellor

Harold Chadwick

Stan Robins

Travis Graff

Lance Nay

Michael Ahlstrom

David Gillette

Coty Chadburn

Eddie Hales

Excused – Ron Harris

Roll Call of Departments – Secretary Gina Bell

American Fork	
Bryce Canyon	South Salt Lake
Garland	South Summit
Grantsville	Spanish Fork
Lehi	St. George
Moab	State Fire Marshal's Office
North Tooele	Tooele
Payson	Tremonton
Pleasant Grove	Tropic
Richfield	UFRA
Roy	Woodland Hills
Salt Lake City	

Secretary Gina Bell listed Departments who have turned in Delegate lists.

Brad Wardle and Clint Smith talked about the Cancer Initiative with an update. First list of ff's to be screened is in, bids are in for the services. Chief Clint spoke about the financial aspect side of things. Initial screening will kick off in August. The screening protocol is the most advanced in the country. Once screening starts, the next step will be to help get those that identify with cancer to get their treatment started. Looking to start a cancer trust fund in Utah. Fund would give an immediate monetary defined disbursement amount to help them get started with treatment. This will bridge the gap timewise to help the firefighter get started. Passed bill has increased the number of cancers from 4 to 15. This means that you will be covered by workmen's comp. Screenings are mandated by law that departments need to provide these.

Comment: Dave Larson- Thanks to Chief Craft, Brad Wardle, Chief Smith, and Jack Tidrow.

Comment: Brent Marshall – The NVFC is pushing to get registered. Senior members need to sign up as well. Get online and sign up for the registry. Clint- This is the national collection point for national legislation. Eldon asked about retired being tested. Brad said that as now, there isn't funding for retirees but he sees that they will likely be paying for the retirees screens by donations like the challenge coins as well is the donations received from FFCU who has donated \$50,000 at this point. Ryan Mellor mentioned that those who have been around for a long time is our appreciation for mental health and the work that has been done to alleviate cancer. This work will benefit younger people who get into the fire service far more than it will benefit us. Get in and get registered. Brad mentioned decontamination. Smoking and chewing are directly related to cancer and if you do either of these, you won't be covered in the presumptive cancer laws in the State of Utah. No other state in the union has funded cancer at this level than Utah. Brad introduced Dr. Kurt Hegman.

President McBride – Open Board Positions

Any nominations for membership steward – none

Any nominations for bid for convention 2026 – none

Any nominations for bid for convention 2027 – Ryan Mellor motioned that Tropic City, 2nd Joe Bona.

Mike Ahlstrom – Chief Harris is excused and Mike Ahlstrom said that the last thing he spoke to Chief Harris about was the possibility of hosting another convention.

President McBride - There is a bylaw change to be voted on. Ryan Mellor talked about what brought this about and read the bylaw change. Brent Marshal mentioned that the reason there hasn't been funds distributed is because the board felt the bylaw needed to be implemented before money is distributed. We will be withholding this year's funds and double the distribution next year because the timeline for passing the bylaw is right before the distribution would be taking place. We need more time to get everything in place.

Eddie Hales – After this meeting, the awards will be done after lunch. Please come back, we would like the room full. The Memorial will be at 4:00 pm at Maple Mountain Stake Center where we will honor 21 passed members. Following that will be the parade with a food truck dinner afterwards at All Abilities Park. There are 3 tickets in your sack to use for your meal and there will be a dessert truck. Non registered individuals and families can buy food at the food trucks and pay cash. The banquet ticket needs to be turned in at dinner and you will get a raffle ticket for raffle prizes. There will be auctions with all money for items will go to Burn Camp. We will break early, make sure you get over to see the vendors and get your ticket filled out by the vendors to put in for a raffle prize.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 and we will re-adjourn at 1:30 pm

Friday June 27th

Meeting called to order at 0900 by President Andy McBride.

President McBride turned the time over to Eddie Hales for information on today's events

Membership Steward Nominations: Brent Marshall/Grantsville nominated Sam Larson for another term as the membership steward. 2nd Dave Gillette/Tooele Fire.

Andy - Any nominations for Convention 2026? Closed until tomorrow morning. None.

Meeting adjourned for training.

Saturday, June 28th

Meeting called to order at 0900 by President Andy McBride.

Welcome. Are there any nominations for convention city 2026. None. This will remain open for now and the Trustees will discuss options at our quarterly meeting.

Credentials Committee Report – Eldon Farnsworth. Janet and Eldon met with Sam and the credentials are in good order.

Resolutions Committee Report – Austin Knight said that in April Ted Black met with the board and indicated that they can no longer manage the license plate grant fund. Austin read the bylaw that we are proposing be added to our current bylaws. Austin asked if anyone had questions. Someone asked where in the bylaws it will be located. Austin said that it will be an addendum. Someone asked what happens if this resolution doesn't pass. Ryan Mellor discussed what has happened in the past and how it changes moving forward.

Mike Ahlstrom made a motion to accept the bylaw. Brady George 2nd the motion. Gina read all the names of the delegates and they stood. President McBride called for a vote. The vote was unanimously in favor of the bylaw addendum.

Motion to accept the report of the Resolutions Committee. Joe Bona, 2nd Brady George. Motion passed.

Dave Hammond motioned to accept the report of the Credentials Committee, Harold Chadwick 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

President McBride invited up each new board member to speak in the following order:

5-year Trustee, Brian Steward - Tooele

2nd Vice President, Ryan Mellor – Salt Lake City. Ryan was presented with his Trustee Plaque

1st Vice President, Roger Christensen - Richfield

President, Austin Knight – American Fork

President Andy McBride gave his exit speech and was presented with a plaque.

Don Rich recognized Mike Myers with a plaque for his service of the Chaplain for the last year. Don also called up James Munns to receive his plaque for his service as the Sergeant-at-arms for the last year.

Chief Hales wanted to share a thank you for his team from Spanish Fork Fire and EMS for stepping up to put this convention together. Trevor and Code stood up and Eddie recognized them with his heart-felt gratitude making this convention happen. Thanks to the vendors. This was the most vendors that we've had at convention in a long time. Eddie asks that each person go back to their chiefs to help bring more interest to this event. We are under attack and we have seen this with HB267. Please let's get the effort and the ball rolling with our younger generation and make Utah Firefighters great.

President McBride – Any old business to be discussed?

Any new business that needs to be discussed? Mike Ahlstrom approached the stage. He would like to ask the trustees to consider going forward to keeping nominations for trustees open

through Saturday instead of ending it in April. Also, he will ask Chief Harris if they could do convention in 2026 instead of 2027. If he can make it happen, we will need to get another department to step up and host in 2027.

Any other business for the good of the association. Harold Chadwick came to the podium and said that he's been asked to be an area steward. After the gentleman from South Jordan passed away, he asked himself what could we do to help these organizations. He thought about the idea of retroactively enrolling this gentleman into our association. That has sparked South Jordan's interest. This will help the family and could bring South Jordan into our membership and well as other departments throughout the State. He asks that the board discuss it in their July meeting and consider bringing it to a vote.

President McBride reminded everyone that there will be a memorial in October at the Museum after our meeting. Dave Hammond said that there will be a 25-year Museum celebration with the October meeting/memorial.

Convention was adjourned.