



**Utah State Firefighters Association  
General Meeting  
Tooele, Utah  
January 10, 2026**

General Meeting called to order at 5:20

Ryan Mellor – Pledge

Bryan Stewart – Prayer

Moment of silence for the passing of Treasurer Don Rich.

Roll Call – Gina Bell

**Attending**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Roger Christensen

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Ryan Mellor

Secretary Gina Bell

Trustee Kevin Beck

Trustee Chris Shubert

Trustee Rob Johnson

Trustee Bryan Stewart

Harold Chadwick

NVFC Rep Brent Marshall

NVFC Rep Lance Nay

Area Steward Mark Hales

Area Steward Harold Chadwick

Museum Chair Dave Hammond

Monte N. Curtis

Perry Skaug

**Excused**

President Austin Knight

Membership Steward Sam Larson

Trustee Steve Hales

Seargent at arms Devin Bills

Chaplin Chase Parry

Area Steward Mike Ahlstrom

Coty Chadburn

Motion to accept previous quarter's Minutes – Ryan Mellor

Harold Chadwick 2<sup>nd</sup>

Passes

Treasurer Report – Due to Don's passing, we don't have a 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report. We will work on getting a replacement for Don and once that is done, we are hoping we will be able to have the new Treasurer provide a 2025 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report with the 2026 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report.

Motion to accept: Lance Nay  
2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Hammond  
Passes

**Secretary Report-** Gina Bell. Paid for Don's funeral flowers. We have paid death benefits out to four members pass away since our last meeting. This does not include Don since his passing is so recent. Those who passed are:

- Josh Brimhall – South Davis Metro Fire
- Kade Martin – Salt Lake City Fire
- Dale Koyle – Spanish Fork Fire
- Corbin Summers – South Jordan Fire (after voting him in as a member)

Motion to accept: Bryan Steward  
2<sup>nd</sup> Brent Marshall  
Passes

**Membership Steward Report** – Gina read Sam's report. We have 90 total departments and individuals that are on the books. The following departments have not paid for 2025.

Bluff Fire 2024  
Cedar City 2024  
Delta City 2023  
East Carbon 2019  
Garland Fire 2024  
Helper Fire 2023  
Mantua Fire 2024  
Panguitch Lake 2008  
Northview Fire 2023  
Ogden City Fire 2024  
Price Cit Fire 2020  
Roy Fire 2024  
Sandy Fire 2024  
South Salt Lake 2024  
Thompson Springs Fire 2020  
Tremonton 2023  
Wellington Fire 2024

Seven individuals who haven't paid for several years.

We have to date 779 Lifetime members, and 74 of them came in 2024 and 2025.

Motion to accept: Mark Hales  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ryan Mellor  
Passes

L&L Report – no report

## **Fire Board Report – Coty Chadburn**

- Reviewed the Certification Council's last meeting. He highlighted challenges seen in the “failed skills reports” and commonly missed items for Fire Inspector and Officer 1.
- Council reviewed 2,278 tests, which is a significant increase from the previous year of 1,043.
- Accreditation updates due to changes in NFPA. He also reported on the growing popularity of “free Friday testing” at the academy.
- I asked if there's a way for a department member to pay rather than the city, so they can receive those funds. They need to come from an entity due to tax reasons.
- IFSAC approved the changes made to the Fire Investigator/Inspector curriculum.
  
- **Brad Wardle, Director of Utah Fire and Rescue Academy**
  - Reported that UFRA passed their audit, has received reaccreditation from IFSAC, and will soon receive its ProBoard reaccreditation.
  - Assistant Director Marc McElreath provided an update on the Officer 1 program. Officer 1 testing will no longer use paper tests and will be moved to an online format. He also noted an update to the curriculum is due to begin in February, and they are forming a group to work on a 40-60 hour Fire Officer Academy.
  - There is an initiative to update UFRA's records management system.
  - Jolene Chamberlain to provide a demonstration on the new UFRA portal.
    - Use of the portal will be a positive first step in updating the records management system.
    - Department Chiefs are responsible for keeping their department’s information up to date.
    - This information is also used for the cancer initiative.
  - Update on the Cancer Initiative.
    - The goal is to screen 500 firefighters a year, doing 10 a week.
    - He reported that they are finding cancer early, mostly in asymptomatic individuals, indicating the screening is working.
  
- **Ted Black, Utah State Fire Marshal. Legislative update**
  - Fire Marshal Black reported that legislation will run this year on updating the IBC and other building codes.
    - The IFC, as always, will be run separately.
    - There will also be a Wildland Urban Interface code presented.
    - There will be the usual bills on ambulance service and retirement, and possibly more information on portable solar panels.
  
- **No old business**

- **No new business**
  - Chair Coy Porter welcomed Keenan Price as the Attorney General for the Fire Prevention Board.
  - Mr. Price provided open meeting training.
    - He reminded the Board to take actions openly and assure deliberations are open.
    - He reviewed the reasons and procedure for closed meetings.
  - Ted Black – NFIRS has a hard stop at the end of the month. All departments will be moving to the NERIS reporting system.
  
- **Public Comment (limited to 2 minutes): none**
  
- Side Note: Chair Porter asked AG Price if it is necessary to hold a vote at each meeting to hold the next meeting virtually and in person. AG Price stated that the legislature has already authorized public bodies to conduct hybrid meetings if an anchor location is noted in the notice and the agenda. However, as it is listed as an agenda item for today, a vote is needed today.

Next meeting will be held on March 10, 2026 This is my report.

Motion to accept: Rob Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup>: Chris Shubert

Passes

#### **NVFC Report – Brent Marshall**

Brent doesn't know how many have followed what's transpired, but some of the original proposals were pretty tough for anybody to meet. Working with the fire organizations, have been able to come up with better rules to follow. OSHA isn't supporting these, but they hope that they will be willing to accept some of these. Lithium Ion Battery training on the NVFC website. Eastern time. They have some very well-educated trainers that are working on OSHA changes that they wish to make based on feedback they have received. They can add an additional comment period, or scrap the proposal and leave the existing standard, or restart the process. The NVFC and IAFF have worked together to propose amendments that would lower the burden on fire service agencies and reduce civil liability. There is unprecedented cooperation between the IAFF and the NVFC that will lay the foundation for greater strength moving forward. There are concerns about crippling small departments that can't meet these requirements. Also, how to help build resources to help fire departments know what they need to do to meet the requirements. The task force said giving power adding extra protection to the smallest communities under 5,000 follow the existing standard until a newer standard be created. There were six by-law changes to present. They will be presented and voted on at the spring conference. Presented on the project "understanding the role of training on Volunteer Firefighter Recruitments and Retention", they have gathered so much data and analyzing has taken much longer than anticipated. They should have a full report at the spring conference. There's a lot of work being done to celebrate the 50-year anniversary.

Lance said that NFIRS is done and NARS is the new reporting system. January is National Firefighter Cancer Awareness month.

Motion to accept: Bryan Steward  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ryan Mellor  
Passes

**Senior Trustee Report** – Kevin Beck. Voted to provide funeral flowers for any firefighter in the State of Utah that dies on duty or their department is seeking a line-of-duty death.

Motion – Perry Skaug  
Chris Shubert  
Passes

**Convention Report** -Gina Bell.

Austin and Gina have been working on several projects for convention. Gina created the letter for Austin to sign to get vendors/sponsors, as well as a price sheet. Gina created a spreadsheet with possible vendors and has shared it with the board (it also has the assignments on the spreadsheet under a separate tab). Please update the spreadsheet as you make contact with vendors or if there are vendors you have good relationships with that you want to be the point of contact. Gina is continuously adding possible vendors to the list so please check it often.

Gina has asked Ron Harris to create a button on the front page of our website called Convention 2026 that takes you to a page of links for resources.

Austin is working on a location for the Memorial. There was previous discussion about having the memorial the same day as the banquet since everyone is already dressed up. Do we want to move the memorial to Friday at 4:00 pm?

Gina spoke to Brad and Jolene at UFRA and they have agreed to allow us to use their logo. Brad has also agreed to do a welcome to UFRA address on Thursday morning. Gina spoke to Chief Jeremy Headman about getting involved. He is very interested. Austin and Gina will be meeting with him in February to discuss their involvement, but he is already willing to do a Welcome to Provo address and allow us to use their Fire Station for registration on Wednesday evening.

Gina and Austin are both working on a banquet location. Gina has reached out to UVU. They have a Ballroom that will hold everyone and they also do catering. She is waiting to hear back from them to see if the date is available but their caterer is excited to work with us. She has also reached out to a place in Provo called The Boulevard who rents out their building and you can bring in your own catering. Austin has reached out to the Marriott. We are both still looking for other locations as well. I had a quote from the Marriott for their venue and catering, but I mixed up the dates. They can have us on Friday June 12th but it'd have to be a later start time. I asked for a quote for 500 to give us some wiggle room but we can do less. If we choose to use their per diem menus, the minimum food and beverage spend would be \$13,000. She set the food and beverage estimate on the lower side to allow for potential fluctuations in attendance.

If all 500 guests attend, the estimated total would be \$15,500 plus tax and service charge for food, with an additional \$1,000 for the room rental.

**Memorial site:**

I have contacted three locations, all of which cannot accommodate us. We are still looking, I have not contacted an LDS church location yet.

**Golf:**

Gina has reached out to Fox Hollow for the golf tournament. They are her first choice for the tournament. She's worked with them at several other tournaments and they are awesome! Waiting to get a response from them. Roger is already hard at work with the magazine and has secured several ads.

Gina has started creating a convention registration form using Jot Forms and is working on a couple methods of collecting money online. As a last option, we can set up a PayPal account. The fee is hefty so that's why it's our last option.

Austin might be interested in having challenge coins made that have our logo on one side and UFRA's logo on the other side and give those out to all the firefighters who register. Gina went over a possible agenda.

Motion to accept: Ryan Mellor  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Brent Marshall  
Pass

License Plate Committee – Lance Met in November. Awarded over 30 departments. Money for Museum, State Association, They upped the amount for next year to \$7,500.00

Motion to accept: Chris Shubert  
2<sup>nd</sup> Brent Marshall  
Passes

New Business: Tyrone Harward/ St. George Fire Captain been there since 2008. Full time since 2011. Tyrone got up and gave a little info about himself. Running for 5-year Trustee.

April meeting AF Station 51 – 96 N. Center, American Fork

Thanks to Chris Shubert and Tooele Fire for hosting our meetings and dinner.

Adjourned 6:06