

Date: September 16, 2021

THE SALT LAKE VALLEY LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE AREA BOARD OF TRUSTEES ("BOARD") MET ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021, AT 10:00 AM. THE PUBLIC WAS NOTIFIED THAT THEY MAY ATTEND THE MEETING AT THE SALT LAKE COUNTY SHERIFF/UNIFIED POLICE DEPARTMENT BUILDING, 3365 SOUTH 900 WEST, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH OR JOIN THE OPEN PORTIONS OF THE MEETING BY CALLING 1-669 900-9128 AND ENTERING MEETING ID 92301763844# AND PASSWORD 259919#. THE PUBLIC WAS ALLOWED TO LISTEN TO ALL OPEN PORTIONS OF THE MEETING. BOARD MEMBERS AND PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN PERSON OR BY PHONE WERE ABLE TO HEAR ALL DISCUSSIONS.

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Excused:</u>	<u>Attended Via Zoom:</u>
TRUSTEE JIM BRADLEY, SALT LAKE COUNTY		TRUSTEE DAVID OLSEN, COPPERTON
TRUSTEE DEA THEODORE, SALT LAKE COUNTY		TRUSTEE STEVE PROKOPIS, MAGNA
TRUSTEE DAVID BREMS, EMIGRATION CANYON		TRUSTEE ALAN PETERSON, KEARNS
TRUSTEE PAULINA FLINT, WHITE CITY		
TRUSTEE CHRIS STAVROS, SALT LAKE COUNTY		
TRUSTEE CAROLYN KEIGLEY, BRIGHTON		

ALSO ATTENDED VIA ZOOM/IN PERSON:

CHIEF OF POLICE JASON MAZURAN, UPD CHIEF OF POLICE

FRANK NAKAMURA, SLVLESA DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/SLVLESA LEGAL COUNSEL

LISA DUDLEY, SLVLESA CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

RICHARD MOON, SLVLESA TREASURER

MARCIE KAY, SLVLESA CLERK

Item #1-Call to Order.

Trustee Bradley called the meeting to order.

Item #2- Conflict of interest disclosure.

Action Requested: Identify Conflicts; if any

Discussion: Trustee Bradley asked if there were any conflicts of interest. None were identified.

Item #3-Public Comment.

Trustee Bradley asked if anyone was calling in to the meeting or was present who wanted to give public comment to the Board. Marcie Kay, SLVLESA Clerk, stated that there were no calls from the public. No one present wanted to give public comment. Public comment was closed.

Item #4-Present Expenditures for the Month of August 2021, and Other Financial Information.

Action Requested: None

Discussion: Richard Moon said the only expenditure they had last month was a check to Unified Police Department.

Item #5-Update on Truth-in-Taxation Process

Action Requested: None

Discussion: Frank Nakamura said they met with the SLVLESA members' councils, except for the Salt Lake County Council, which they will have to proceed with next. The member councils all approved a resolution which would allow the Board in December to increase property tax revenue by 16.5%. He said he will work with Trustee Theodore, Trustee Bradley, and County Assessor Stavros to present to the County Council. He said a key part of the process has been the benefits and compensation of UPD officers, so he would like Chief Jason Ackerman to explain that.

Chief Ackerman said that currently their position in the market has not changed but what has changed is the percentage increase to catch up with other agencies that were already ahead of us in terms of pay for officers. He said as of July 1st, UPD was flush with staffing and that was largely in part because of the number of officers that decided not to stay with Taylorsville when they left UPD. He said as of today, they are down five officers and that takes into consideration that they have hired six. In total they have had 11 officers depart UPD, just in the first 12 weeks of the fiscal year and that is on track for their average departure. UPD has averaged turning over .8 officers each week, which amounts to approximately 40 officers annually. He said they are trying to draw from two different pools when they recruit. One is new hires and the other are lateral hires, with previous law enforcement experience. The best-case scenario is that they would be able to put 20 through the police academy in a year and that is

because with POST, which is regulated by the state, they must ask for seats in their academy classes, and they only host 3 to 4 of those a year. He said during their last recruitment they had 150 applicants and that whittled quickly down to only 5 that were hired.

Trustee Theodore asked after they go through this process, what rank will they be in terms of pay for officers.

Frank Nakamura said the UPD Board met before SLVLESA, and this is what they are going to decide. He said he believes they would like to be fourth or higher.

Chief Ackerman said that UPD has a good culture and that is widely known from people who are in the profession and that has carried them for a long time, but the problem is the difference in wages-- they are not competitive at this point. He said it is difficult to say where they will be or where other agencies will go in terms of compensation but to stay competitive at all they are looking at 12-14%.

Trustee Stavros said it is clear they have a two-fold issue with recruitment and retention. He asked if they had grades where more experienced officers could move to in terms of compensation.

Chief Ackerman said they currently have a 12 step pay scale, which essentially means it takes 12 years to be become topped out and receive the topped out pay. They have not changed that in a very long time and one of the discussions that has come up is they should look at compressing their pay scale to match what other agencies are doing.

Trustee Keigley asked what the process would be to re-evaluate the top out grades.

Chief Ackerman said the UPD benefits and compensation committee meets, and they discuss the proposal to bring to the UPD Board and that would likely start happening in January and February and they can look at what the financial impact of that would be for the next fiscal year. He said they were in line to do a compensation study this year, which they do every 3 years, but they chose not to do it because by the time they put it out to bid it would not be accurate. He said that Labor does sit in on those committee meetings and has input as well.

Item #6-Update on Legislative Committee

Action Requested: None

Discussion: Trustee Stavros said they met as a committee, and he thinks he speaks for the group when he says to go through truth-in-taxation every year is a very difficult process and is not the ideal solution. The committee, working with Frank Nakamura, talked extensively that to provide the same level of service for SLVLESA members, we have a competitive disadvantage because SLVLESA only has one source of funding, which is property tax. He said the committee is exploring how to solve this problem long-term. They've explored looking at fee-based options, maybe trying to expand the sources of revenue they get.

Item #7-Process for Preparation and Adoption of Calendar Year 2022 Budget.

Action Requested: None

Discussion: Lisa Dudley presented the schedule for the budget process and truth-in-taxation. She said at the next board meeting, the Board will be asked to tentatively adopt the tentative 2022 budget. Then on the statutory date, the parcel specific notices will go out in the mail. Then in the following Board meeting in November, the Board would discuss the tentative budget and make changes as they see fit. Three weeks before the public hearing, the truth-in-taxation newspaper advertisement will be published. The newspaper advertisement two weeks and one week before the public hearing are required. Then, in the December 16th board meeting they would hold the public hearing on the truth-in-taxation and vote on adopting the 2022 final budget.

Trustee Brems said he knows they are targeting an approximate 16% tax increase and trying to get into the 3rd or 4th position in terms of compensation. He asks if they are asking for a large enough increase and are they going to have to do this again soon.

Lisa Dudley said the 16.57% increase is the maximum they could increase taxes at this point because of the statutory cap. That is why SLVLESA is working with a lobbyist to attempt to increase that.

Trustee Brems asked how often we can go through this process. He said that the compensation issue is spiraling and cannot continue. Frank Nakamura said this will be an on-going issue for the Board.

Lisa Dudley said it depends on what happens with assessed valuations and then the correlating change in tax rates. She said when assessed values fall, rates go up and when assessed values rise, rates go down. She said right now if this puts them at the statutory max of .0023 and then they wait and see what happens with the assessed values in the next year.

Trustee Bradley said given the statutory limitations they are doing the best they can and that may not be sufficient over the next fiscal year, in which case they would hope to have the tax cap increased or other opportunities to fund.

Item #8- Funding for Law Enforcement in Canyon Communities.

Action Requested: None

Discussion: Lisa Dudley said SLVLESA has three of its members with canyon communities: Emigration, Brighton and some unincorporated areas including Parley's, East Canyon, Lamb's Canyon, etc. She presented her PowerPoint presentation and said there has been some confusion on where the funding and the law enforcement come from for the canyon communities. She outlined the differences between SLVLESA and UPD. The property tax revenue for all SLVLESA entities comes into the SLVLESA budget. UPD then bills SLVLESA for shared services. There are two of their communities that have a COP officer even though they are relatively small and those are Emigration and Copperton. Brighton is another unique situation because they do not have specific officers assigned to Brighton, rather their precinct budget is percentage of the canyon work as a whole. Funds are allocated based on the sharing formula and that formula contains three parts, where 20% is based on population, 70% based on case load and 10% based on assessed valuation. She said because assessed valuations are not known until June, for SLVLESA they are a bit behind when UPD does its budget.

Besides just the COP officer, the precinct direct and shared services Emigration also has the canyon patrol component. The COP officer handles on average 28% of all cases generated in Emigration and the Canyon Patrol and other UPD partners handle 72% of cases. The benefits of Canyon Patrol are that it maximizes resources and safety while minimizing costs, constant backup, ensures 24/7 coverage and provides collective problem solving to public safety in the canyons.

Trustee Brems asked if there was any data about the residency of who the tickets are given to in Emigration Canyon. He said it is his perception that most of the problems are with people who do not live in Emigration Canyon; driving fast and loud and causing problems on the road that goes through Emigration Canyon. He said it is not an Emigration problem, it is a County-wide and regional problem.

Trustee Flint said it may be perceived as not an Emigration problem but if someone comes to my community and commits a crime, it is a problem in my community and so if it is happening in your boundaries, it is your problem.

Trustee Bradley said he believes there is a difference between coming into a community and committing a crime versus having a thoroughfare through your community.

Trustee Brems said there is a big difference in quality of service between their COP and the canyon patrol. The canyon patrol can be busy in Big Cottonwood Canyon, and it can take a long time to get to Emigration Canyon to deal a problem. He said the problems they have in Emigration are somewhat time-specific, like speeding and noise and it is very difficult to get officers in the canyons to help with those problems during the time they need them.

Lisa Dudley discussed the costs and coverage of policing the canyons.

Trustee Brems said they have the COP for 40 hours and maybe less if he is doing training or other things. He said when looking at the two other categories: UPD and Canyons, it almost seems like it is a made-up story saying that you are getting value here but in fact there is nobody there.

Lisa Dudley said when you look at the 72% though, this type of coverage is occurring. She said he is correct that they cannot detect when a problem is going to happen but also, this information is based on one officer as opposed to an event that would require several officers to respond.

Trustee Brems said what they see in Emigration canyon is when they need officers the most, when they have a problem, they are not there so it is hard for him to believe the numbers. He says if they call and it takes an hour for someone to get there, it is not the same as being in Millcreek.

Trustee Keigley said that is true but having been a canyon resident for her entire adult life, that is a risk she takes when she chooses to live in a remote area, like the canyons. She said she knows if her house starts burning in the middle of winter, that her house is gone and that is a risk she took when she built her house. She said they have a fire engine there, but it will take time for them to get up those snowy canyon roads.

Trustee Brems said they are paying plenty of money for the police protection that they are not getting.

Trustee Keigley said they are paying a lot too, but she also knows that she lives in a remote area.

Lisa Dudley explained the complex funding relationships for SLVLESA communities. She said it is complex, there is a lot to think about and they have learned a lot as questions have come from the Board and she has appreciated those questions.

Trustee Brems asked if they knew any particular hour of the day or night, how many canyon patrol officers are on duty.

Chief Wayne Dial said that his sergeants manage and supervise people to be in those canyons and when the COP officer is not there during the day, canyon patrol is in Emigration Canyon.

Trustee Brems said it would be helpful to have some data to show where everybody is and what is actually going on for an hour-by-hour basis.

Chief Dial said years ago they used to do logs, called crossover logs because when they first became UPD there was concern that Holladay was supplementing Millcreek and Millcreek was supplementing Holladay, etc. He said it is very manpower-intensive for somebody to sit down and identify their hour-by-hour log as to where they are spending their day.

Trustee Brems said even a simplified version of five o'clock in the afternoon, how many canyon patrol officers are on duty--how many people are covering how much area.

Chief Dial said it depends on the day and what is going on that day. He said there is a total of 19 canyon officers plus Jake, a total of 21 including the sergeants and they cover from 6 am to 2 am. He said he would love to have 24/7 coverage in the canyons, but it is based on cost. He said if he could have four more officers, he could have 24-hour coverage in the canyons but again, there are canyons on the east side, west side a lot of square miles to cover. There is significant travel time relative to the canyons. He said that yes, there may be times when there is not an officer in Emigration Canyon, but these officers are all over the valley.

Chief Jason Mazuran said the motor officers just recently did a traffic blitz up Emigration, Little and Big Cottonwood Canyons and wrote many citations and that is being proactive.

Lisa Dudley said that Chief Dial brought up a good point. She said the purpose of SLVLESA is to generate the revenue and the purpose of UPD is to run the operations and that is another thing that is helpful when they consider the differences between the two.

Trustee Prokopis said he has listened to this conversation, and he does feel for those in the canyons, and he wants to make sure they try and keep a more holistic approach. They are a district and there's ebb and flow where the needs arise. He said last night they had a major crime in Kearns and most of the officers in Magna were assisting. He was not entirely sure what his coverage was in Magna but at that time there was a need and they had at least 11 officers on scene. They remedied the scene quickly and returned to service in Magna. These communities are 16 miles up a dead-end canyon and you are expecting city-like services or valley-like services when you are so remote. It is give and take and you might only have an officer in your city or canyon for 40 hours a week but those calls that come in after hours still get answered and there might be a delay because of the remote area in which you live. He said he is not sure how they balance that, but it does go on everywhere. When Kearns has two or three events in a day, Magna is the closest and they come and help and vice versa. He does not want to lose sight of the fact that they are a district. They are getting into these silos of what do you get and what do

I get but he wants to be careful because they are all in this together and when the calls come in, they get answered.

Item #9-Report by Sheriff Rivera, SLVLESA Chief Executive Officer

Action Requested: None

Discussion: Sheriff Rivera and Undersheriff Petersen were excused because they are back east for a conference. Chief Mazuran presented the Sheriff's report. Chief Mazuran said they had a SWAT call-out in Millcreek and there were a lot of resources that responded but the resolution was successful, even though it was a difficult situation. He said it was a great showcase for the quality of our people and he appreciates the other agencies that came out and assisted and relieved their people so that they could get some rest because this was an extended event.

He said he also appreciates being able to come out to the communities and talking about issues including the SLVLESA tax issue and appreciates the support they have had. He asked if anyone had any questions for him and they did not.

Item #10-Approval of Minutes for the August 19, 2021, meeting.

Action Requested: Motion, Second and Vote.

Discussion: Trustee Bradley entertained a motion to approve the minutes.

Trustee Flint motioned to approve the minutes.

Trustee Keigley seconded the motion.

All voted in favor; none opposed.

The minutes were approved.

Item #11- Adjourn

Trustee Bradley adjourned the meeting.