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# Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Budget Review Meeting

Bountiful City Public Safety Building  
May 5, 2026 (4:00 p.m.)

Present:

Committee Members:	Matt Murri (Chair), Kate Bradshaw, Millie Bahr
Council Members Present:	Richard Higginson, Beth Child, Dan Bell
City Manager:	Gary Hill
Assistant City Manager:	Tyson Beck
Police Department Staff:	Ed Biehler, David Gill, Mike Sheldon, Priscilla Ipina, Amy Waldron, Meg Wade, Haden Nelson
Other City Staff:	Jessica Sims
South Davis Metro Fire Agency:	Jeff Larson, Jessica Hardy, Hunter Stone

Official Notice of this meeting was given by posting an Agenda at Bountiful City Hall and on the Bountiful City Website and the Utah Public Notice Website.

Committee chair Murri called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m., welcomed those in attendance.

## **PRESENTATION OF SOUTH DAVIS METRO FIRE AGENCY BUDGET**

Gary Hill opened by providing an overview for the origin of the South Davis Metro Fire Agency formed by a combination of the former South Davis Fire agency and Bountiful City Fire. Additional information was provided on how the Agency is funded and staffed.

3% increase in member assessments over the current year assessment and South Davis Fire is proposing a property tax increase. Gary mentioned that the increases are to help cover a new Deputy Director position and moving a part-time inspector to full-time. Discussion was had as to why the new full-time position is being proposed.

A discussion was also had about how the District calculates the assessment. Gary responded that it is based on each City's assessed value.

Following discussion, committee member Bahr made a motion to accept the tentative budget submission of the South Davis Metro Fire Agency and forward this recommendation to the full Council for adoption as presented. Committee member Bradshaw seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous with Committee members Bahr, Murri, and Bradshaw voting "aye".

## **PRESENTATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

1 Chief Ed Biehler asked staff members from the Police Department to introduce themselves and then he  
2 reviewed a slide presentation to introduce the department operations and fiscal year 2027 budget  
3 request. A discussion was held about the department's fiscal year priorities.

4 It was noted that personnel services changes resulted from a combination of a cost of living 2.5% COLA,  
5 health insurance changes, and salary adjustments from merits (45 employees eligible for a potential 5%  
6 increase).

7 Operations and maintenance categories increased in various line items including building/ground  
8 maintenance and insurance. Decreases in computer software and hardware were discussed based on  
9 the patrol division using a single laptop computer instead of both a office computer and a vehicle laptop.  
10 The capital request of the department is largely based on planned vehicle replacements and building  
11 component needs.

12 Several crime and general policing statistics were reviewed for the committee with a slide presentation.  
13 Chief Biehler described that the stats are fairly consistent over the past several years. Further statistics  
14 included a review of calls for service. Both non-emergency and emergency rose by 32% from 2024 to  
15 2025. Chief Biehler explained that this is due to 2025 being the first full year of having Farmington and  
16 Kaysville in our dispatch area.

17 A discussion was held regarding a new A.I. software (Hyper) being implemented for non-emergency  
18 calls. Amy Waldron discussed that so far the initial implementation has been successful and that the  
19 software is likely to begin taking live calls in about a month.

20 Lieutenant David Gill led a topic of drone use and capabilities within the department. Some questions  
21 were asked about how many officers are drone certified. Lieutenant Gill mentioned they usually have  
22 2 or 3 on each shift that can operate them.

23 Lieutenant Mike Sheldon led a discussion on the department's use of License Plate Readers (LPR).

24 Chief Biehler gave a brief discussion on the department's School Resource Officers (SRO). The  
25 department has SRO presence, either full-time or part-time, at all 14 schools in Bountiful. Funding for  
26 SRO's is in partnership with Davis School District.

27 A question was raised about case expungements. Lieutenant Sheldon discussed the necessary process  
28 of expungement of cases.

29 A question was raised about the department's training budget and if the proposed budget was  
30 sufficient. Ed mentioned that they do in-house trainings to save money and they feel like they have  
31 what they need to pay for their needed training.

1 Following discussion, committee member Bradshaw made a motion to accept the tentative budget  
2 submission of the Bountiful City Police Department and forward this recommendation to the full Council  
3 for adoption as presented. Committee member Bahr seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous  
4 with Committee members Murri, Bradshaw, and Bahr voting "aye".

5 The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. on a motion made by committee member Bahr and seconded by  
6 committee member Bradshaw. Voting was unanimous with Committee members Murri, Bahr and  
7 Bradshaw voting "aye".



*Mayor Kate Bradshaw*



*Sophia Ward*  
City Recorder

