



WFRC BUDGET COMMITTEE
Minutes
March 17, 2022 2pm

A meeting was held on Thursday, March 17, 2022, via remote connection, due to the safety restrictions put in place by the Utah Governor’s Office, in response to COVID-19 concerns, in Salt Lake City, Utah. The following were present:

2022 BUDGET COMMITTEE	IN ATTENDANCE
DAVIS COUNTY	
Commissioner Bob Stevenson	yes
MORGAN COUNTY	
Commissioner Mike Newton	yes
SALT LAKE COUNTY	
Councilmember Aimee Winder Newton	yes
Mayor Jeff Silvestrini	yes
TOOELE COUNTY	
Councilmember Scott Wardle	no
WEBER COUNTY	
Mayor Mike Caldwell	yes
BOX ELDER COUNTY	
Commissioner Jeff Scott	yes
Others in Attendance	
Andrew Gruber, WFRC	Wayne Bennion, WFRC
Ned Hacker, WFRC	Andrea Pearson, WFRC
Kurt Mower, WFRC	Marian Florence, WFRC
Loveit Baumgardner, WFRC	

1. Welcome and Introductions [00:00:04]

Mayor Mike Caldwell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2pm, and recognized the newest Budget Committee member, Councilmember Aimee Winder Newton. [00:00:40] Mayor Caldwell turned the time to Andrew Gruber, WFRC, to discuss some staffing changes. Mr. Gruber explained that WFRC’s current Chief Financial Officer, Kurt Mower, submitted his resignation effective March 18, 2022, due to personal reasons. Mr. Gruber acknowledged and expressed appreciation for Kurt’s work, and then introduced Marian Florence as WFRC’s new CFO. Mr. Gruber also gave a note of thanks to Loveit Baumgardner, WFRC’s past CFO, who has agreed to come back part time to assist with training Marian. [00:07:30] Introductions were completed via roll call.

2. ACTION: Approval of Minutes of January 13, 2022; Financial statements/check registers for December 2021 and January 22, and the Budget Expenditure report to date [00:09:30]

Mayor Caldwell requested a motion to approve the meeting minutes and financial statements as presented. Mayor Jeff Silvestrini made a motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Bob Stevenson. The vote was unanimous to approve.

3. Public Comment [00:10:14]

Mayor Caldwell opened the meeting for public comments. There were none. Mayor Jeff Silvestrini commented that the groundbreaking for Millcreek City Hall would be occurring later this afternoon, (March 17), and extended an invitation to the group.

4. ACTION: Recommend that the Council release the Draft FY23 WFRC Goals, Budget, and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for public comment [00:11:12]

Mayor Caldwell turned the time to Andrew Gruber, WFRC. Mr. Gruber explained that WFRC's staff has identified and proposed agency goals and prepared a draft budget and Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) that outline the objectives and activities that WFRC plans to undertake in fiscal year 2023.

The proposed WFRC FY23 goals are as follows:

1. Collaboratively advance the Wasatch Choice Regional Vision as a framework for integrating transportation, land use, and economic development, to best address growth-related opportunities and challenges
2. Effectively administer ongoing plans and programs
3. Provide subject-matter expertise to federal, state, and local officials and policymakers
4. Strive for organizational excellence

As in the past, the FY23 goals are similar to the FY22 goals. This reflects the continuity in our organizational mission and roles, and the fact that most of our activities are ongoing and span multiple years. The proposed goals were included in the meeting materials.

[00:23:29] Commissioner Bob Stevenson made a motion to recommend that the Council release the Draft FY23 Goals for public comment. Commissioner Mike Newton seconded the motion and the affirmative vote was unanimous.

[00:24:55] The budget for FY23 shows an increase of 10% over estimated FY22 expenditures, and a decrease of 17% below the FY22 budget. Several categories of expenditures from FY22 were less than anticipated due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The FY23 budget generally assumes that expenditures will return to a pre-pandemic norm.

The major expenditure in the budget is for staff salary and benefits. The budget includes funding to maintain the current full-time staff of 30, and the addition of the two new Community and Economic Development (CED) planners. One of these positions is funded through a new ongoing appropriation from the state. The other is primarily funded through the Transportation and Land Use Connection (TLC) Program, and utilizes increased federal funding from the recently adopted multi-year Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Consultant contracts represent the second largest expenditure in the FY23 budget. Federal transportation funds continue to be WFRC's main source of revenue.

[00:58:00] Councilmember Aimee Winder Newton made a motion to recommend that the Council release the Draft FY23 Budget for public comment. Commissioner Bob Stevenson seconded the motion and the affirmative vote was unanimous.

[00:59:24] The UPWP outlines the work tasks that WFRC will pursue during FY23 in collaboration with cities, counties, UDOT, UTA, and other partners. Among the primary tasks are assisting local communities with growth, transportation, and planning issues; completing development of the 2023-2050 Regional Transportation Plan, Utah's Unified Transportation Plan, and Wasatch Choice Regional Vision; continuing efforts to update and implement the Transportation Improvement Program; assisting in the development of air quality plans; continuing to utilize and improve analytical capabilities; and engaging with the public and local, state, and federal officials.

[00:59:50] Councilmember Aimee Winder Newton made a motion to recommend that the Council release the Draft FY23 UPWP for public comment. Commissioner Jeff Scott seconded the motion and the affirmative vote was unanimous.

5. Executive Director's Report

Andrew Gruber, WFRC, had no other items on which to report.

6. Other Business and Adjournment [01:00:20]

The next meeting of the Budget Committee is set for May 12, 2022. Mayor Caldwell asked if there were any other business items to discuss. There were none. Mayor Caldwell entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bob Stevenson made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilmember Aimee Winder Newton. The meeting adjourned at 3:01pm.

A recording of this meeting, as well as meeting materials, may be found on the WFRC website at www.wfrc.org