

# **UTAH TELECOMMUNICATION OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE AGENCY (UTOPIA)**

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## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 14, 2025

10:00 AM

UTOPIA FIBER OFFICES

5858 SOUTH 900 EAST

MURRAY, UTAH 84121

### **Board Members Joining Electronically:**

Alex Jensen – Chair, Layton City  
Adam Cowie – First Vice Chair, Lindon City  
Tom Macdonald – Second Vice Chair, Orem City  
Matt Dahl – Third Vice Chair, Midvale City  
Doug Hill – Fourth Vice Chair, Murray City  
Mayor DJ Bott – Brigham City  
Ifo Pili – West Valley City  
Mayor Denise Anderson – Cedar Hills, *Non-Pledging*

### **Board Members Absent:**

Councilmember Robyn Mecham – Centerville City  
Bill Cobabe – Tremonton City  
Councilmember Brett Christensen – Payson City  
Bob Barnhill – Perry City

### **Officers Present:**

Roger Timmerman – UTOPIA Executive Director  
Jason Roberts – UTOPIA Chief Financial Officer  
Christa Evans – UTOPIA Secretary  
Aaron Leach – UTOPIA Chief Technology Officer  
Blaine Clegg – UTOPIA IT Manager

### **Officers Joining Electronically:**

Nicole Cottle – UTOPIA Government Affairs Director

### **Others Joining Electronically:**

Mariah Hill – Administrative Services Director, Midvale City

## **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The UTOPIA Board of Directors held a board meeting on April 14, 2025. The meeting was live streamed to allow public viewing. UTOPIA Chair, Alex Jensen (Layton City), called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM and welcomed all attendees.

UTOPIA Total Votes Present: 414

Financial Decision Votes Present: 403

UTOPIA Majority Vote: 279

Financial Decision Total Votes: 452

UTOPIA 2/3 Vote: 371

Financial Decision 2/3 Vote: 301

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 10, 2025**

- [LINK: Substance of matters proposed, discussed or decided](#)
- There were no changes to the minutes presented

April 14, 2025

**ACTION: Tom Macdonald (Orem City) MOVED to approve the minutes from the UTOPIA Board Meeting held February 10, 2025. Matt Dahl (Midvale City) SECONDED the motion. A voice vote was taken - vote was unanimous.**

**3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION UT 25-01: ADOPTION OF A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 FOR UTAH TELECOMMUNICATION OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE AGENCY (UTOPIA) AND SETTING A TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE BUDGET (JUNE 9, 2025)**

- [LINK: Substance of matters proposed, discussed or decided](#)
- Item presented by Mr. Jason Roberts, UTOPIA Chief Financial Officer
- Projected operating revenue increase of \$1.9 million
  - Expecting 150 additional customers in Bountiful, driving the residential transport increase
  - Legacy product customers have been moved to the same product as the rest of the network, has increased revenue
- Expenses & Debt Service; increasing by \$319,000, cities sales tax pledges increases 2% each year
- Management Fee from UIA increasing to \$4.4 million
- Operating Expenses –increase of \$1.4 million mainly due to 5% increase in Salaries & Benefits and a net increase of two full-time employees
- Proposed 3% COLA and 2% Merit Increase
  - Mr. Doug Hill requested a change to 2.5% COLA and 2.5% Merit; would not change the budgeted number just the mechanics of it
  - Discussion about how to derive amounts in the future; based on what cities are doing or based on Western CPI
  - West Valley City will be doing market studies moving forward instead of a COLA increase
- Employee count increase – proposing new Field Service Technician, Technology Analyst, Order Fulfillment Coordinator & Customer Service Representative
- Explanation of how Bountiful Fiber affects UTOPIA's budget
- FY 26 Distribution to Cities will increase \$318,750 to cover bond payments required by cities
- If there is a negative fund balance, state law requires 5% of revenue budgeted to increase the fund balance

**ACTION: Doug Hill (Murray City) MOVED to approve Resolution UT 25-01 adopting the UTOPIA Tentative Budget for FY 2026 with the adjustment of a 2.5% COLA and a 2.5% Merit Increase and setting the time and place for a public hearing (June 9, 2025). DJ Bott (Brigham City) SECONDED the motion. A roll call vote was taken - vote was unanimous.**

**4. SET THE TIME AND PLACE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE UTOPIA FY 2025 BUDGET (JUNE 9, 2025)**

April 14, 2025

- [LINK: Substance of matters proposed, discussed or decided](#)
- Details will be discussed at the next board meeting

**ACTION: Tom Macdonald (Orem City) MOVED to set the time and place for a public hearing to consider amendments to the UTOPIA FY 2025 Budget (June 9, 2025). Doug Hill (Murray City) SECONDED the motion. A roll call vote was taken - vote was unanimous.**

## **5. UTOPIA FINANCIAL UPDATE**

- [LINK: Substance of matters proposed, discussed or decided](#)
- Item presented by Mr. Jason Roberts, UTOPIA Chief Financial Officer
- Projected budget vs. adopted budget as of February 28, 2025
  - Residential Transport may end up \$400,000 lower than budgeted due to less than expected growth in Bountiful and Bozeman
  - All combined, projecting to beat revenue overall
  - Bountiful Construction Project – cost should be less than what is brought in at the end of the year
- Financial charts
  - 10 Year Monthly Recurring Revenue (Combined UIA & UTOPIA)
    - Slight dip in February due to a \$40,000 billing error that was corrected
    - March will be a big increase
  - UIA Revenue v. Bond Obligation
    - Likely at \$4 million monthly recurring revenue by the next board meeting
- Relationships with additional projects (i.e. Bountiful, Yellowstone, Idaho Falls) are all very positive

## **6. UTOPIA NETWORK UPDATE**

- [LINK: Substance of matters proposed, discussed or decided](#)
- Item presented by Mr. Roger Timmerman, UTOPIA Executive Director
- Continue to see competition from Quantum Fiber but not a huge problem; rumors of AT&T buying out Quantum Fiber
- Reviewed subscriber report
  - 72,423 subscribers over the whole system
- Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) is a partnership that UTOPIA is pursuing, model similar to Idaho Falls
  - When that comes to fruition, there will be a budget amendment to cover additional costs

## **7. ADJOURN**


- [LINK: Substance of matters proposed, discussed or decided](#)

There being no further business of the UTOPIA Board of Directors, the meeting on Monday, April 14, 2025, was adjourned at 11:19 AM.

April 14, 2025

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I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and accurate record of the proceedings of this meeting of the UTOPIA Board of Directors.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christa Evans". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christa" and the last name "Evans" clearly distinguishable.

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**Christa Evans, UTOPIA Secretary**

**Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025**