

BOARD OF DAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Board of Davis County Commissioners - Special Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 15, 2025

The Board of Davis County Commissioners met for a scheduled meeting at 10:00 AM on October 15, 2025, in room 306 of the Davis County Administration Building, 61 South Main Street, Farmington, Utah. Required legal notice of this meeting was given.

All documents from this meeting are on file in the Davis County Clerk’s Office. The agenda for this meeting is incorporated into the minutes as item headers.

Following the approved Davis County policy, artificial intelligence (AI) was utilized in the preliminary creation of these minutes. The final minutes were edited and completed by Davis County Clerk's Office staff.

ROLL CALL

Chair Lorene Kamalu	Chief Deputy Civil Attorney Neal Geddes
Vice Chair John Crofts	Community and Economic Development Director Kent Andersen
Commissioner Bob Stevenson	Deputy Clerk Becky Wright
Chief Deputy Clerk Rebecca Abbott	Commission Office Manager Shauna Brady
County Controller Scott Parke	

AGENDA ITEM

- 110:00 - 10:45 AM
- #2025-1112. Discuss Proposed Extension of Service Provider Contract with Bennett Group DC - recommended by Lorene Kamalu, Davis County Commission Chair, Commissioners' Office

Chief Deputy Civil Attorney Geddes introduced the two discussion topics related to the Bennett Group:

1. If the County will continue a contract with the group. Based on his understanding from speaking with individuals, the general consensus is "yes."
2. If the County will accept the proposed amendment that increases the contract to \$40,000.00 annually, and if there will be a one or two-year extension.

The current fee is reportedly approximately \$28,000.00 annually, or \$2,500.00 per month [see Contract 2025-1262 for exact terms]. Commissioner Stevenson said the increase is due to anticipated federal legislation that would inhibit lobbyists from earning a commission by obtaining funding for an organization. He expressed his opinion that the County should increase its funding to the group, even stating that \$40,000.00 might be a bit low but is a good starting point, and it should commit to a two-year contract. Even at \$40,000.00, it is half of what the County was paying previously.

[03:22] Commissioner Kamalu stated she is pleased with the work Bennett Group has done so far, and Chief Deputy Civil Attorney Geddes said that they have been willing to work with people across multiple departments. Commissioner Crofts agreed that the group has done a good job, but proposed an increase to \$44,000.00 and a contract extension of only one year.

Commissioner Stevenson reiterated his recommendation for a two-year extension, arguing that locking in two "very good lobbyists" for two years at the proposed rate would protect the County from future rebids that could drive costs back up into the high \$70,000.00 range. The Commissioners all agreed on the two-year time frame and a proposed rate of \$42,000.00 yearly or \$3,500.00 monthly.

[07:49] The original contract calculates additional payments utilizing a sliding scale and Exhibit B. Since the purpose of that was to get the process started, it was recommended that the verbiage be removed, along with the language discussing an extension. A Request for Proposal (RFP) should be completed in January 2027 at the latest. The timeline for each department was discussed, in order to ensure Jordan Tilley, with the Controller’s Office, would have enough time to conduct the RFP process well before the contract expires.

[10:59] The current amendment proposal sets the contract's expiration to October 31, 2027. The Commission discussed revising the expiration date to better utilize the lobbyists' services during the legislative interim. In the past, every lobbyist has emphasized that the interim period is critical, and with the contract ending in October, it only gives the new team two months before the legislative session. The Commission agreed to shorten the period slightly, so the contract would end on June 30, 2027. This ensures that the lobbyists are in place by July 1, covering the crucial interim period. The financial terms would be set to \$3,500.00 monthly, with a yearly cap, to account for the shortened time period.

Chief Deputy Civic Attorney Geddes said he will edit the amendment and send it to Bennett Group for their approval. The goal is to get the amendment approved before the contract expiration date of October 31, 2025, so it will seamlessly run through June 30, 2027.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM.

Minutes Prepared by:
Solana Guest
Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved on:
11/04/2025



Brian McKenzie
Davis County Clerk



Lorene Miner Kamalu
Commission Chair

