

BOARD OF DAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

Board of Davis County Commissioners - Regular Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 7, 2026

The Board of Davis County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting at 10:00 AM on April 7, 2026, in room 303 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.

PRESENT

Davis County Commission Chair John Crofts
Davis County Commissioner Lorene Kamalu
Clerk Brian McKenzie

EXCUSED

Davis County Commission Vice Chair Bob Stevenson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting convened at 10:00 AM, and Kendalyn Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Crofts invited public comments; no comments were made.

RECOGNITION, PRESENTATION, AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 1 **#2026-365. April 2026 Employee Service Awards** - *recommended by Lorene Kamalu, Davis County Commissioner, Commissioners' Office*

Sheriff

Marcos Timoteo Abarca, 5 Years - Mike Valencia, Captain of the Patrol Division, highlighted Marcos' transition from Animal Control over to the Patrol Division. Marcos currently works Canyon Patrol during the summer months, working with the US Forest Service to patrol the area, and is highly sought after as a fluent Spanish speaker.

Tyler Spencer, 5 Years - Sergeant Zach Jolley detailed Spencer's three years as a field training officer focused on safety and security procedures. Spencer was praised for winning the Overall Employee of the Year Award, voted by his peers, an Excellence Award from the Sheriff Office Administration, and receiving positive feedback from the inmate population, which is "pretty rare." Outside of work, Spencer loves spending time with his wife, "Lady Spencer," their four-year-old son, and traveling to Disneyland.

Cole Thon, 20 Years - Captain Jason Boydston detailed Cole's diverse career as he prepares to retire at the end of April. Sergeant Thon started in Court Security, became a school resource officer at West Point Junior High in 2012 where he completed DARE school, and then spent many years as a Task Force Officer with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) at the Intermountain West Regional Computer Forensic Laboratory (RCFL) as a digital forensic examiner. He later served as the Assistant Lab Director of the RCFL before rejoining the Sheriff's Office in 2023 as a Sergeant over the crime lab. He was celebrated alongside his wife of 20 years, Michaela, and their two children. In his spare time, Sergeant Thon enjoys coaching his son's soccer team, playing golf, off-roading, and enjoying family time.

Gary Cobia, 20 Years - John Nicholas, Sergeant of the Second District Court's Security, heavily praised Gary for his exceptionally friendly demeanor as a Deputy at the Second District Courts, and claimed him as a great asset in the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Kamalu added that Gary often fills in at the downstairs entry area.

Randy Smith, 35 Years - Mitch Matern, Facilities Manager at the Criminal Complex, praised Randy for his dedication to the Criminal Complex since its initial construction. Starting as one of the four original maintenance workers, Randy played an integral role in the addition of six buildings, transitioned from custodial work to mastering maintenance skills, and shoveled snow in freezing temperatures at 4:30 AM. He is renowned for his sense of humor; whenever he radioed that he had a "Randy project," the maintenance staff panicked because it usually meant something had gone horribly wrong. Randy is retiring the following week, and his work at the County will be missed and is greatly appreciated.

Mitch Matern, 35 Years - Chief Deputy Arnold Butcher delivered a deeply emotional tribute to Mitch Matern, who is retiring on May 1. Chief Deputy Butcher invited Mitch's wife, Lori, to the front. He praised Mitch's unmatched integrity, recalling how the County "stole" him away from his previous company to be the electrical foreman when the complex was just swampland and pasture 36 years ago. Mitch essentially functioned as a construction manager through multiple facility expansions, knowing every electrical conduit and plumbing chase. Chief Deputy Butcher noted that Mitch recently traded his beloved Harley motorcycle for cruises, and is a proud family man. Chief Deputy Butcher joked that Mitch is the only man who has been with him this whole time, outlasting his three ex-wives and not asking for half of what he owns. Chief Deputy Andy Oblad added his accolades, and said that Sheriff Kelly Sparks regrets not being able to attend.

Animal Care

Pamela Knowlden, 5 Years - Deputy Director Madison Leyba highlighted Pamela's vital role as the foster and rescue coordinator, having started as an office specialist. Pamela built an emergency bottle baby network for newborn kittens, managed a mentor program for foster parents, and serves as a walking resource for both kitten health tips and craft supplies.

Attorney

Dawna Rose, 25 Years - Neal Geddes, Chief Deputy Attorney, spoke on behalf of Troy Rawlings, County Attorney, who praised Dawna's pleasant attitude and mental resilience working alongside "grumpy, high-stress" prosecutors for two decades. She was recognized for proactive problem-solving, kindness, compassion, and efficient management of court calendars and high Justice Court caseloads.

Golf Courses

Larry Thorne, 5 Years - Larry was not in attendance, but was recognized with a round of applause.

Justice Court

JC Ynchausti, 10 Years - JC was not in attendance, but was recognized with a round of applause. Commissioner Kamalu said that Judge Ynchausti and his court recently received the "Outstanding Justice Court" award from the Administrative Office of the Courts. She read aloud the nomination note submitted by Jim Peters, highlighting the excellent work and dedication of Judge Ynchausti and Jennifer Bingham, Administrative Assistant in the Justice Court, and where he states that "the Davis County Justice Court is one that strengthens the trust and confidence that the public has in the judiciary, generally by providing an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law, and I think they should be recognized for it."

Health Senior Services

Allison Schlichter, 5 Years - Rachelle Blackham, Deputy Director of Senior Services, praised Allison for her choice to come to work and "serve others, spread kindness, spread respect" as a part-time driver for the South Davis Senior Center. Reading notes from supervisor Nannette Hadley, Allison was lauded for her "truly exceptional service and dedication," punctuality, and her positive rapport with elderly clients. Nannette notes that the combination of her skill set and character make her "deeply cherished" by her coworkers as well as the community she serves.

Library

Emily Garff, 5 Years - Emily was not in attendance, but was recognized with a round of applause.

Kristina Barss, 5 Years - Kristina was not in attendance, but was recognized with a round of applause.

Matilyn Stansfield, 5 Years - Matilyn was not in attendance, but was recognized with a round of applause.

Leslie McEwan, 20 Years - Leslie was not in attendance, but was recognized with a round of applause.

- 2 **#2026-367. Receipt of an Application for Adjustment of Property Tax (UCA § 59-2-1347)** -
 recommended by Brian McKenzie, Clerk, Clerk's Office

Presented after Item 4, Clerk McKenzie explained that the application would be sent to the Property Tax Advisory Committee for consideration before being brought back to the Commission for a formal recommendation.

MEETING MINUTES

- 3 **#2026-362. Approval of the Work Session Meeting Minutes for March 24, 2026** - *recommended by John Crofts, Davis County Commission Chair, Commissioners' Office*
- 4 **#2026-361. Approval of the Regular Commission Meeting Minutes for March 24, 2026** -
 recommended by John Crofts, Davis County Commission Chair, Commissioners' Office

VOTING:
Motion to Approve Items 3-4: John Crofts. Second: Lorene Kamalu. All present voted aye.

BUSINESS/ACTION

CLERK'S OFFICE

- 5 **#2026-364. Approve the Cancellation of the Regular Commission Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, April 28** - *recommended by Brian McKenzie, Clerk, Clerk's Office*

Clerk McKenzie requested the cancellation of the April 28 meeting, as the Commissioners will be away attending the Utah Association of Counties (UAC) Management Conference.

VOTING:
Motion to Approve Item 5: Lorene Kamalu. Second: John Crofts. All present voted aye.

HEALTH

- 6 **#2026-331. Approval of a Donation Agreement with Inspector Tony to Donate a Basket to Davis County Aging Services** - *recommended by Brian Hatch, Director, Health - Admin*

Financial Information: N/A	Terms: - Beginning Date: 03/18/2026 - Ending Date: N/A
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- 7 **#2026-339. Approval of a Service Provider Agreement with Homer's Honey Bee, LLC for Services Needed in Inspecting Bee Hives in Davis County** - *recommended by Brian Hatch, Director, Health - Admin*

Financial Information: - Type: Payable - Amount: \$3,000.00 For Each Period of Service	Terms: - Beginning Date: 03/31/2026 - Ending Date: 12/31/2027
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- 8 **#2026-341. Approval of the Termination of Contract #2025-0257 with Kirk Middaugh for Inspecting Bee Hives in Davis County** - *recommended by Brian Hatch, Director, Health - Admin*

Financial Information: N/A	Terms: - Beginning Date: N/A - Ending Date: 02/12/2026
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VOTING:
Motion to Approve Items 6-8: Lorene Kamalu. Second: John Crofts. All present voted aye.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

9 **#2026-363. Acceptance of Fiscal Year 2023 Award Packet for the State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP)** - *recommended by Arnold Butcher, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office*

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| Financial Information: | Terms: |
| • Type: Receivable | • Beginning Date: 09/01/2023 |
| • Amount: \$96,453.75 | • Ending Date: 01/31/2026 |

Chief Deputy Butcher clarified that although this was originally a fiscal year 2023 award, it covered expenses from September 1, 2023, through January 31, 2026, specifically for purchasing furnishings, fixtures, and equipment for the new Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

VOTING:
Motion to Approve Item 9: John Crofts. Second: Lorene Kamalu. All present voted aye.

CONSENT ITEMS

10 **#2026-347. Approval of an Agreement with Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund for a Grant for the 2026 Great Salt Lake Bird Festival** - *recommended by Kent Andersen, Director, Community & Economic Development - Tourism*

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| Financial Information: | Terms: |
| • Type: Receivable | • Beginning Date: 05/14/2026 |
| • Amount: \$500.00 | • Ending Date: 05/17/2026 |

11 **#2026-328. Approval of an Agreement with Bruce Illum for National Rifle Association (NRA) Course Instruction at the Davis Shooting Range** - *recommended by Arnold Butcher, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office*

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| Financial Information: | Terms: |
| • Type: Receivable | • Beginning Date: 04/03/2026 |
| • Amount: \$15.00 Per Event | • Ending Date: 04/17/2026 |

12 **#2026-348. Approval of a Standard Service Provider Contract with Redstone Lawn and Ground Care for Lawn Care Services** - *recommended by Arnold Butcher, Chief Deputy, Sheriff's Office*

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| Financial Information: | Terms: |
| • Type: Payable | • Beginning Date: 05/01/2026 |
| • Amount: \$13,650.00 | • Ending Date: 10/31/2026 |

13 **#2026-340. Approval of an Agreement with At Home Care for Seniors for In-Home Services for Elderly or Disabled Adults 18 Years or Older** - *recommended by Brian Hatch, Director, Health - Senior Services*

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| Financial Information: | Terms: |
| • Type: Payable | • Beginning Date: 07/01/2025 |
| • Amount: Varies, see Rate and Service Table | • Ending Date: 06/30/2027 |

VOTING:
Motion to Approve Items 10-13: Lorene Kamalu. Second: John Crofts. All present voted aye.

VOTING:
Motion to Recess to Board of Equalization: Lorene Kamalu. Second: John Crofts. All present voted aye.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

14 **#2026-14. Property Tax Register 04-07-2026** - recommended by Scott Parke, County Controller, Tax Administration

The Property Tax Register for 04/07/2026 was presented; this record is maintained by the Davis County Controller as the Clerk of the Board of Equalization.

VOTING:

Motion to Approve Item 14: Lorene Kamalu. Second: John Crofts. All present voted aye.

VOTING:

Motion to Reconvene Commission Meeting: Lorene Kamalu. Second: John Crofts. All present voted aye.

CLOSING REMARKS

Commissioner Kamalu began by wishing everyone a wonderful Easter. She then provided a detailed overview of her recent attendance at the National Association of Counties Legislative Conference. She noted that Commissioner Crofts had a particular interest in the major topics affecting midsize counties across the United States, a category that includes Davis County. Commissioner Kamalu outlined several critical issues discussed at the conference, emphasizing that the lack of affordable and attainable housing is a massive challenge nationwide, rather than being unique to Davis County or Utah. She also mentioned that some counties are currently trying to navigate how data centers fit into their communities, though noting that it doesn't affect Davis County. Another major topic of discussion was Artificial Intelligence (AI) in both the private and public sectors, specifically the need to establish safety guardrails around its use. She highlighted the importance of economic development and maintaining a diverse economy, noting how blessed Davis County is in this regard.

Throughout the nation, there is also a focus on helping state legislators understand property taxes and the vital services that counties provide, to protect and clarify these local services. She shared an interesting historical fact that property tax in Utah dates back to 1849 and is meant to fund local government services. This revenue primarily covers services provided by cities, legally required county services, and predominantly the local school districts, which operate separately from the county organization. She concluded her remarks by stating how helpful it is to place Davis County's efforts within a broader national context.

Commissioner Crofts thanked Commissioner Kamalu for her thorough update and expressed his deep appreciation that she brought this valuable information back to share with him and the excused Commissioner Stevenson. He emphasized that because the County is actively working to save money and reduce travel expenses, her attendance at the conference and willingness to brief the rest of the Commission was highly valued.

MEETING ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Minutes Prepared by:
Solana Guest
Deputy Clerk

Minutes Approved on:
04/21/2026


Brian McKenzie (Apr 21, 2026 17:50:19 MDT)
Brian McKenzie
Davis County Clerk


John Crofts (Apr 21, 2026 16:15:06 MDT)
John V. Crofts
Commission Chair

