# Board Member Training - 2016

for

# Special Service Districts & Local Districts



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### Outline

- Open Meetings
  - Statutory Requirements
  - Agendas
  - Minutes
- Board Governance
  - Legislative Auditor General
  - Board Member Qualifications
  - Board Responsibilities
- Ethics
- Nepotism
- Transparency
- Government Records (GRAMA)
- Personne

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### Board Governance - Local Districts

- Board Member Qualifications (178-1-302)
  - Must be a registered voter at the location of the members residence.
  - A resident within the boundaries of the district
- Exceptions if over 50% of the residences are seasonally occupied homes...
  - Owner (or agent) of land within the district
  - Receives service from the district



#### Board Governance- Special Service Districts

- Administrative Control Board Member Qualifications (17D-1-304)
  - Must be a registered voter within the special service district, or
  - An officer or employee of the creating entity
- Exceptions (17D-1-303 & 304)
  - At least 90% of real property owners are not registered voters within the SSD
  - Elected or appointed as provided in 17B-1 Part 3, Board of Trustees
    - Exception for Improvement Districts

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**Board Governance** 

An appointing authority not subject to certain notice requirements "if" they appoint one of its own members.

(2013 SB 200) 17B-1-304(6)



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#### Oath of Office

#### <u>Utah State Constitution</u> Article IV, Section 10. [Oath of office.]

All officers made elective or appointive by this Constitution or by the laws made in pursuance thereof, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation:



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#### Oath of Office

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of this State, and that I will discharge the duties of my office with *fidelity*."



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#### Oath of Office

#### "Fidelity" means...

"<u>Faithfulness to</u> a person, cause or belief, <u>demonstrated by</u> continuing loyalty, and support."



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#### **Board Member Qualifications**

Utah Code 17B-1-311 prohibits a member of a board from being employed by the district, whether as an employee or under contract



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#### **Board Member Compensation**

(Utah Code 17B-1-307)

- Annual compensation limited to \$5,000
- Plus per diem
  - Up to 12 meetings annually
  - Rate established by Division of Finance
- Plus expense reimbursement
- Plus \$100 per day for training



#### **Board Member Compensation**

Clarifies that if a district pays employer-matching taxes for a board member under board-member compensation, matching taxes do not constitute compensation under the statute. (2013 SB 200) 17B-1-311(3)



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#### **Board Member Compensation**

- Reporting of compensation paid to board member:
  - 1099
    - ■Who controls what the worker does and how he/she does the job?
    - Tools, supplies, financial aspects
    - Type of relationship, ie. contracts, benefits, key business function?





#### **Board Member Compensation**

- Reporting of compensation paid to board member:
  - Continued 
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    - ■employee
  - subject to statutory limitations



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ial Districts

#### **Board Governance**

- Board Member Terms
  - A local district board member continues to serve until a successor is duly elected or appointed. (2013 SB 200) 17B-1-304(5)(b)



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#### Public Official Contact Information

(Utah Code 11-47-103)

- Requires that an elected official and community council member have:
  - Telephone number, if available, where they may be reached directly.
  - Email address, if available, where they may be reached directly.
- This information is a public record



#### **Public Official Contact Information**

(Utah Code 17B-1-303(9))

- All local and special service districts must post on the Utah Public Notice Website as of May 12, 2016:
  - Name of each member of the board of trustees, along with:
  - Telephone number
  - Email address
- Must update changes within 30 days
- Includes city and county appointees and elected officials (SB99, 2016 Legislative Session)





# Training Requirements (Utah Code 52-4-104)

- Open Meetings
  - The presiding officer of the public body ensure that the members of the public body are provided with annual training on the requirements of the Open and Public Meetings Act



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# $Training \ \underset{(\textit{Utah Code 52-4-104})}{Requirements}$

- General Training
  - Within one year of appointment or election complete State Auditors Office/UASD training

#### ■ GRAMA

- Records officers to be trained
  - Annual certification required



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# Questions



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# Open Meetings

Let the people know the facts and the country will be safe.

Abraham Lincoln

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# Open Meetings Law (Utah Code 52-4-104)

- Open Meetings -Training
  - The presiding officer of the public body ensure that the members of the public body are provided with annual training on the requirements of the Open and Public Meetings Act



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### Open Meetings Law (Utah Code 52-4)

- Open meeting defined
  - With a quorum present, an Open Meeting Includes:
    - Workshops
    - Executive Sessions
  - Does not include:
    - Chance Meetings
    - Social Meetings

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### Open Meetings Law (Utah Code 52-4)

- Electronic Meetings
  - Statute requires that a policy for electronic meetings be adopted if electronic meetings are to be held
  - Statute provides recommendations as to the areas to be considered



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# Open Meetings Law (Utah Code 52-4-209)

- Electronic Communications in Public Meetings
  - An "Electronic Message" includes:
    - Electronic mail, instant messaging, electronic chat, text messaging, or other means of electronic messaging.
  - A member of a public body <u>may</u> <u>transmit</u> an electronic message to other members of the public body <u>when</u> the public body is <u>not</u> <u>convened</u> in an open meeting.



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# Open Meetings Law (Utah Code 52-4-209)

- Electronic Communications in Public Meetings
  - "Electronic Messages" versus GRAMA



# Meeting Agendas



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# Open Meeting Agenda

#### Meeting Agenda must include:

- Reasonable specificity.
- Each topic shall be listed under an agenda item.
- May only discuss a topic not listed on the agenda, if it is raised by a member of the public. (52-4-202(6)(b))
- May not take final action on any topic or item that is not on the



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(52-4-202(6))		
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# Meeting Notice Requirements



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# Annual Meeting Notice Requirements

- Regular meetings that are scheduled in advance over the course of a year shall...
  - Provide public <u>notice</u> of annual meeting schedule at least once each year
  - Specify the date, time and place of each scheduled



meeting

### **Annual Meeting Notice Requirements**

- Annual Meeting Notice is satisfied by:
  - Posting written <u>notice</u> at the principal office of the public body. (If no such office exists, post at the building where the meeting is to be held.)
  - Post on the Utah Public Notice Website.
  - Provide notice to a local newspaper of general circulation within the area, or a local media correspondent.



# <u>Regular Meeting</u> Notice Requirements

Regular meeting agendas - Provide 24-hours public notice



■ If not a <u>regular</u> meeting, provide 24-hours public notice

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# <u>Regular Meeting</u> Notice Requirements

- Utah Public Notice Website
  - To be in compliance with the Open Meetings Law, all government entities must post meeting agendas on the Utah Public Notice Website



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### **Regular Meeting Notice Requirements**

- Utah Public Notice Website http://pmn.utah.gov
  - Contact Information

Utah Public Meeting Notice Website Administrator

Division of Archives and Records Services

801-531-3848

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### Notice Requirements – Public Hearing vs. Public Meeting

Must notify newspaper circulation district's bot	of general within the	
a local Media corresp  Must post of Public Noti May provic the media by notific	media condent. ron the Utah cice Website. le notice to condent	Must publish notice in at least one issue of a newspaper of general irculation in which the district is located.

### Notice Requirements – Public Hearing vs. Public Meeting

Post written notice at the principal office of the public body, or if no such office exists, at the building where the meeting is to be held.  Must post on Utah Public Notice Website  Post written notice at the principal of the public place within the district.  If a newspaper of general circulation is not available, then pos written notice in three public places within the district.	Requirement	Regular Meeting	Public Hearing
	Posting	principal office of the public body, or if no such office exists, at the building where the meeting is to be held. <u>Must post on Utah</u>	general circulation is not available, then <b>pos</b> written notice in three public places within th

# Notice Requirements – Public Hearing vs. Public Meeting

	Regular Meeting	Public Hearing
Number of Days	At least 24 hours before meeting	At least seven days prioto to the hearing.  For a lax increase, notice must be published at least once each week for the two weeks preceding the adoption the final budget.  (59-2-919)

### Notice Requirements – Public Hearing vs. Public Meeting

Requirement	Regular Meeting	Public Hearing
Meeting Time	Not Specified	For a tax increase or fee adoption or increase, the public hearing " shall be held in the evening beginning no earlier than 6:00 pm."  (59-2-919(8)(e) & 17B-1-643(1)(b))

# Emergency Meetings (52-4-202(5))

#### May be held if the following criteria are met:

- Unforeseen circumstances
- Give best practicable notice of:
  - Date, time and place
  - Items to be considered
- Attempt to notify all board members
- Majority approve of the meeting
- Final action may be taken...

### Questions



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# Closed Meetings (52-4-205)

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# Closed Meetings (52-4-205)

- A Closed Meeting is closed to the public and to the press.
- A Closed Meeting may he convened only for specific purposes as defined in statute.

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# Closed Meetings - Purposes (52-4-205)

- The character, competence or health of an individual
- Deployment of security personnel, devices or systems
- Collective bargaining issues



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# $Closed\ Meetings\ -\ Purposes_{(Continued)}$

- Pending or reasonably imminent litigation.
- Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct.



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# $Closed\ Meetings\ \hbox{--}\ Purposes\,\hbox{$_{(Continued)}$}$

- Purchase, exchange, lease, or sale of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, if: ...
  - ...such discussion prevents the district from completing a transaction on the best possible terms.



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# $Closed\ Meetings\ -\ Purposes_{\,(Continued)}$

- Information that is required to maintained as Private or Protected by the Procurement Statute, including trade secrets.
  - at the time of the procurement process
  - ...unless otherwise required to permanently be maintained as protected.



# Closed Meetings - Minutes

- ...May not close a meeting
  - Interview candidates applying to fill an elected position
  - discuss filling a mid-term vacancy
  - discuss filling a temporary absence (Utah Code 52-4-205(3))



# Closing a Meeting - Procedures



### Closing a Meeting - Procedures

- How to enter a Closed Meeting
  - May enter only from a properly noticed open meeting.
  - Motion to enter a closed meeting.
  - Two-thirds vote required of board members present at an open meeting.
- No board action may be taken in a closed meeting.



# Closing a Meeting - Procedures

Publicly announce and record the motion to convene a <u>Closed Meeting</u>

- Clearly state the reason for closing the meeting
- Record the location of closed meeting
- Record the vote of each board member



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# Questions



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# **Board-Meeting Minutes**

Closed Meeting Minutes

Versus



Open Meeting Minutes

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# Closed Meetings - Minutes

- No recorded minutes are required if the meeting is closed to discuss:
  - The character. competence or health of an individual, or
  - The deployment of security personnel, devices, or systems,



- In lieu, requirements are:
  - Sworn written statement Utah Code 52-4-206

# Closed Meeting - Minutes

All other closed meetings require that:

- The board <u>must</u> record the closed portion of the meeting: and
- Entity <u>may</u> keep detailed written minutes. (Utah Code 52-4-206(1))



#### Content of *Closed* Meeting Minutes

- Closed meeting minutes shall
  - Date, time and place of the meeting
  - Names of board members present and absent
  - Names of all others present (Utah Code 52-4-206(3))



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# <u>Closed</u> Meeting Minutes continued...

- Closed meeting minutes are <u>protected</u> records.

  (Utah Code 52-4-206(5))
- Retention of closedmeeting recordings according to Archives Records Retention Schedule.



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ecial Districts

# Closed Meetings

#### Criminal Penalty

 Class B misdemeanor for any member of a public body who knowingly or intentionally violates, or who knowingly or intentionally abets, or advises a violation of any of the closed meeting provisions. (UCA 52-4)

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# **Open** Meeting Minutes



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# Open Meeting Minutes (52-4-203(7))

Written minutes <u>and</u> an audio recording are required, except for the following where either written <u>or</u> audio minutes are allowed:

During a site visit or traveling tour where no vote or action is taken.



SSD or LD where annual budgeted expenditures for all funds are \$50,000

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# Open Meeting Minutes continued...

- Open meeting recordings (audio or video) are <u>public</u> records.
- Open meeting written minutes are <u>public</u> records.



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### Open Meeting Minutes continued...

 An audio or video recording of an Open Meeting must be converted to written minutes.



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# Open Meeting Minutes continued...

Electronic recordings of an open meeting shall be available to the public for listening within 3 business days after the end of the open meeting.



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# Open Meeting Minutes continued...

- Pending Minutes
  - Are written minutes of an open meeting
  - ... Prepared in draft form and are subject to change before approval
  - Shall be available within a reasonable time



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### Open Meeting Minutes continued...

- Pending Minutes
  - .. made public before approval shall be clearly labeled as
  - "unapproved", etc.
  - Boards are to establish procedures for approval of written minutes of each public meeting.



# Open Meeting Minutes continued...

- Approved Open Meeting Written Minutes:
  - Are the official record of action taken.
  - Permanent Records
  - Must be properly labeled



# Open Meeting Minutes continued...

- Open Meeting Recordings must be:
  - Retained for 24 months after adoption of the written minutes.



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# Content of *Open* Meeting Minutes

Open meeting minutes shall include:

- Date, time and place of the meeting;
- Names of board members present and absent;
- Substance of all matters proposed, discussed, and decided:



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# Content of *Open* Meeting Minutes

# Open meeting minutes shall include:

- Votes taken by individual members;
- Names of all citizens who appeared and the substance of their testimony;
- Any other information that any member requests to be entered in the minutes.





Questions



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### **Ethics**

We have committed the Golden Rule to memory; let us now commit it to life.

Edwin Markham

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#### Ethics (Utah Code 67-16)

- Cannot accept or solicit: (Utah Code 67-16-5)
  - Gifts
    - Occasional non-cash gift of less than \$50 - okay
    - Award publicly presented for public service okay
  - Compensation
  - Loans





Ethics (Utah Code 67-16)

- State Officers and Employees Ethics Act applies to:
  - public officers
  - public employees, and
  - legislators

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Ethics (Utah Code 67-16-12, 14)

- Title 67 Utah Public Officers' and Employees Ethics Act
- Procurement Code ethics provisions
  - Procurement Participants
    - Limited to \$50 value, once during procurement process versus -
  - Procurement Professionals
    - Limited to \$10

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#### Ethics (Utah Code 67-16)

#### Conflicts of Interest

- Require full disclosure
- May not have personal investment in any business entity which will create a substantial conflict between private interests and public duties. (UMBn Code 87-16-9)



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# Ethics (Utah Code 67-16)

#### Ethics Violations

- Private Business -versus-
- Government Service



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#### Ethics (Utah Code 67-16-12, 14)

- Penalties:
  - Termination of employment
  - Removal from office
  - 2nd degree felony, if total value of compensation, etc., exceeds \$1,000



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# Questions



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Nepotism

We promote family values here almost as often as we promote family members.

Larry Kersten

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Nepotism (Utah Code 52-3-1)

- Public officer <u>may not</u> employ, appoint, vote for, or recommend a relative for employment
- Public officer may not directly supervise a relative



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# $Nepotism_{(Utah\,Code\,52\text{-}3\text{-}1\,(1)\,(d))}$

#### Relative Defined

- father, mother
- son, daughter
- sister, brother
- granddaughter

- first cousin
- mother-in-law, father-in-law
- brother-in-law, sister-in-law
- son-in-law, daughter-in-law



# $Nepotism \ \ {\it (Utah\ Code\ 52-3-4)}$

### Exceptions In Towns & Rural Areas

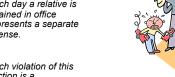
- In a town, this chapter shall not apply to the employment of uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, or cousins.
- (2) This chapter shall not apply to the employment of a relative if:
  - (a) fewer than 3,000 people live within 40 miles of the primary place of employment.
  - (b) the job opening has had reasonable public notice; and
  - (c) the relative is the best qualified candidate for the position.



### $Nepotism \ (Utah \ \mathsf{Code} \ \mathsf{52-3-2} \ \& \ \mathsf{3})$

#### Penalties

- Each day a relative is retained in office represents a separate offense.
- Each violation of this section is a misdemeanor offense.





# Questions



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Local District Fee Assessment

(17B-1-643)

Must provide required notice and hold a public hearing to imposing or increasing a fee for a service provided by a special service district or a local district



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### Local District Fee Assessment

(17B-1-643)

When increasing or imposing a fee, the district must demonstrate and justify the need for the fee or increase.



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# Questions



# District Transparency Requirements (Utah Code 63A-3)

#### Transparency in Government

- Utah Public Finance Website
  - transparent.utah.gov
- Utah Transparency Advisory Board
  - Established policy governing transparency guidelines and requirements



#### District Transparency Requirements

(Utah Code 63A-3)

#### Utah Transparency Website

- Local and Special Service District Compliance
  - Budgets at or over \$1,000,000
  - Payroll information
  - Expenditure information



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# District Transparency Requirements

(Utah Code 63A-3)

#### Contact Information

- Contact Dept. of Finance at:
  - transparency@utah.gov
  - Brenda LeeUtah Division of Finance801-538-3102



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# Questions



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# Personnel Policy

#### Utah Code requires:

- Districts with full or part-time employees to have a policy.
- Small districts (annual revenues less than \$50,000) without full or part-time employees do not need a policy.



# Personnel Policy (17B-1-802)

#### Utah Code requires:

 Districts to annually review personnel policies to ensure conformance to state and federal law.



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#### Personnel

A personnel policy should consider:

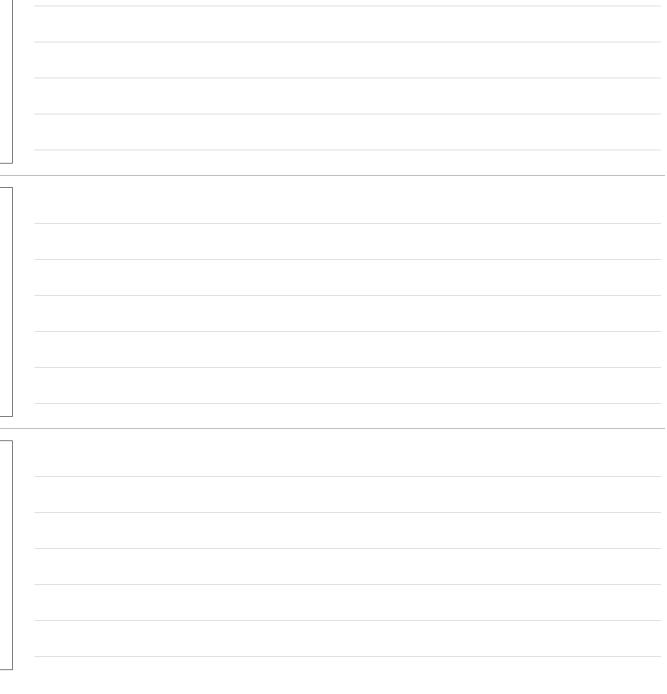
- Comprehensive leave policy
  - Vacation
  - Sick
  - Holiday
  - Family Medical Leave
  - Approval process
- Reimbursement of expenses:
  - Mileage
  - Meals and Lodging
  - Uniforms

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#### Personnel

- Grievance and appeals procedures
- Work hours, and overtime pay
- Reporting of and procedures for addressing accidents
- Sexual Harassment
- Drug Policy





# Personnel Policy

UASD has made available personnel-manual templates for districts

- At-will employee manual template
- Merit employee manual template



# Questions



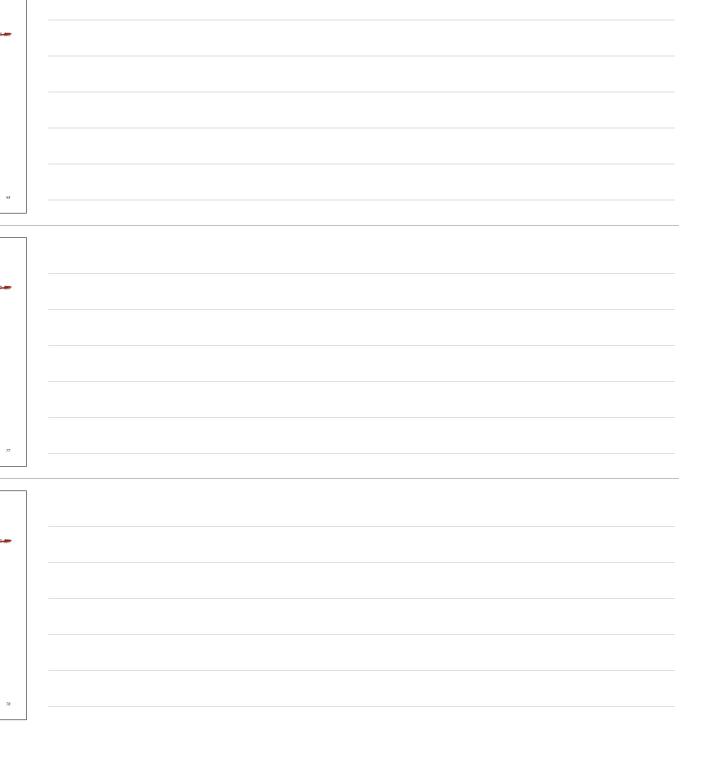
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#### GRAMA (Title 63G-2)

The Act recognizes two constitutional rights:

- The public's right to access information concerning the conduct of the public's business.
- The right of privacy in relation to personal data gathered by governmental entities.





# Four Categories of Records

Public

Private

Controlled

Protected

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#### **Public Records**

Records which are open to everyone include:

- minutes from open meetings
- compensation paid to a contractor
- names, gender and gross compensation paid to public employees.



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#### Private Records

- Information about individuals that may only be accessed by those individuals and others specified in UCA 63-2-202.
  - Unemployment insurance, social services and welfare benefits.
  - Medical history, diagnosis, condition, treatment, evaluation (medical records).
  - Public employees home address, home telephone number, social security number, marital status.





#### Controlled Records

Records that may only be released to certain individuals such as social workers and health care providers and may not be disclosed to the individual to whom they pertain.



- Medical, psychiatric, or psychological data
- Information detrimental to the subject's mental health or to the safety of any individual.

#### Protected

- Non-personal data that may only be released to the person who submitted the information.
  - Trade secrets
  - Test questions and answers
  - Records that would jeopardize the life or safety of an individual
  - Records that would jeopardize the security of a correctional facility an Association of Special Districts



#### Access

- Do not allow individuals to thumb through records
- specific
- Recommended that records requests be in

Requests should be Utah Association of Special Districts writing

### Fees

- Adopt a uniform fee structure which could include charges for:
  - making copies or
  - an hourly research fee
- Fees should cover costs and be reasonable



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# Record Retention

Record	Classification	Retention
Meeting Minutes	Public	Permanent
Meeting Agenda	Public	2 Years
Annual Financial Reports	Public	Permanent
Budgets	Public	Permanent
Bank Statements	Public	4 Years
General Ledger	Public	10 Years

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Record Retention continued ...

Record	Classification	Retention
Timesheets	Public	3 Years
A/R & A/P	Public	4 Years
Deposit Slips	Public	4 Years
Check Register	Public	7 Years
Receipt Books	Public	3 Years
Fixed Asset Lists	Public	10 Years

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# Training

- Chief Administrative Officer shall: (UCA 63A-12-103(3))
  - Ensure that all officers and employees of the governmental entity that receive or process records requests receive required training on the procedures and requirements of GRAMA



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**GRAMA Questions?** 

- What storage services are available?
- What training is available?
- Where can I obtain useful forms?
- How to handle record requests?
- How long to keep records?
- How can I obtain assistance?



www.archives.state.ut.us

**GRAMA Questions?** 

Contact Information for Local and Special Service Districts:



Rosemary Cundiff

801-531-3866

rcundiff@utah.gov

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# Questions



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### **Board Governance**

- Legislative Auditor General Findings
  - Lack of Acceptable Governance
  - Inadequate Policies and Procedures
  - Ineffective Standards or Performance Measures
  - Insufficient Reporting Data

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#### **Board Governance**

- Acceptable Governance
  - The Board Should...
    - Establish Vision and Mission
    - Insure Harmony between Mission and Functions established in Statute
    - Establish Desired Outcomes
    - Establish Policies and Procedures
    - Avoid Micro-Management
    - Review Overall District Performance

#### **Board Governance**

#### ■ Inadequate Policies and Procedures

- Establish Clear Written Policies and Procedures.
- Periodically review to insure compliance with statute and harmony with mission.
- Insure that Policies and Procedures are understood and implemented.

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**Board Governance** 

#### Ineffective Standards or Performance Measures

- Establish effective standards and/or performance measures.
- Periodically review to insure effectiveness of standards and/or performance measures.

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#### **Board Governance**

- Insufficient Reporting Data
  - Evaluate available data.
  - Expand data gathering or data-system capability if necessary.
  - Structure data so as to effectively communicate the entity's effectiveness in achieving standards and/or performance measures.

# Questions



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LeGrand Bitter, Executive Director 801-614-0405 Office 801-725-1312 Cell 855-313-2360 Fax

> www.uasd.org legrand@uasd.org