

**Cache County Form of Government Study**  
**Committee Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025**

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**Date:** July 17, 2025

**Time: (Approximately):** 7:00 PM – 8:07 PM (MDT)

**Place:** Cache County Council Chambers (199 N Main St., Logan, UT, 84321)

**Present Committee Members:**

- Ed Buist (Temporarily Chaired)
- Bryan Cox
- Jordan Mathis (present via teleconference)
- Blake Wright
- Jack Draxler (Chair, present via teleconference)
  
- Andrew Erickson, Committee Secretary, was also present.

**Others also present:**

- Dr. Damon Cann
- Dr. Courtney Flint
- Corbin Allen

**Call to Order**

Ed Buist temporarily called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM (1:13) due to technical difficulties with the chair's remote connection. Jack Draxler was later able to call the meeting to order from a remote location at approximately 58:22.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from July 3, 2025 Meeting. Bryan Cox made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 3, 2025 meeting (1:54). The motion was seconded and passed with all in favor, with the exception of Ed Buist who recused himself as he was not present at the prior meeting.

**Review of Committee Timeline Framework & Progress**

Andrew Erickson provided an update on the committee's progress, noting that they are in the transition from Phase 1 (Initial Information Gathering) to Phase 2 (In-Depth Study & Outreach) (2:21). The committee is generally on schedule, with a focus on wrapping up final items from Phase 1.

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### **Update on Information Gathering & Research**

- Andrew Erickson reported on the status of GRAMA requests, noting that three requests had been submitted to Grant, Tooele, and Utah Counties. The requests to Grant and Tooele were denied as they did not provide all of the requested information. Utah County had not yet responded (5:11).
- The committee discussed the need for more in-depth financial research, especially regarding compensation and fully burdened rates. Andrew Erickson provided preliminary salary data for commissioners in Box Elder (\$90,000) and Weber (over \$200,000), noting the significant variation across counties (6:01).
- Jordan Mathis suggested that in addition to elected officials, the committee should also interview or survey former council members, executives, and department heads to understand if the current form of government works as intended (17:20).
- Andrew Erickson acknowledged the need for a list of current board assignments for the executive and legislative branches and stated he would send the list to committee members (19:22).

### **Planning for Engaging County Employees & Officials**

- The committee discussed a revised set of standardized questions for interviews and surveys with county employees and officials (21:51).
- Jordan Mathis raised a concern that some questions were "two questions in one" and could be confusing. Bryan Cox suggested rephrasing questions to be less accusatory and focus on the impact on employees rather than specific individuals or branches of government (22:22).
- The committee held a presentation by Courtney Flint from the USU Wellbeing Study, who provided insights on survey and interview methodologies. She emphasized the importance of using diverse communication modes to reach different demographics, the potential for using incentives to increase response rates, and the value of qualitative methods like structured interviews and focus groups for sensitive information. She also noted the challenge of low response rates for traditional surveys and the importance of making messages tangible (27:31).

### **Discussion on Committee Education & Legal Guidance**

- Andrew Erickson reported on his conversation with Roger Tew regarding serving as external legal counsel. Mr. Tew declined due to conflicts of interest with his current clients but offered to provide informal advice and suggested the committee distinguish between legal counsel and policy development support (1:14:03).
- Jordan Mathis offered to reach out to Eric Clark, the lead general counsel for UAC, for recommendations on independent legal counsel (1:17:36).

### **Public Education & Outreach Strategy**

- Jack Draxler emphasized the need for a simple informational piece and a press release to raise public awareness that the committee exists (58:29).

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- Bryan Cox and Ed Buist agreed, suggesting that a draft press release and a simple informational statement should be created and disseminated quickly, before the next scheduled meeting (1:02:59).
  - The committee discussed who would serve as the Public Information Officer (PIO) for the press release. Jordan Mathis volunteered to serve as the PIO, with Jack Draxler also offering to be a contact person (1:04:40).
  - Andrew Erickson agreed to draft the press release and informational statement with help from Dr. Damon Cann. He would send the drafts to the committee for review with a short turnaround time (1:03:23).

#### **Other Business**

- Bryan Cox requested that supporting documents for review be sent out with the agenda for all future meetings (1:20:01).
- Andrew Erickson mentioned the committee has until January before candidates declare for the upcoming election, but technically has a full year to complete its work under state law (1:11:27).

#### **Adjournment**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting (1:20:21). The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

**Next Scheduled Meeting: August 7, 2025**