

Consistent with provisions of the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act, Utah Code Ann. § 52-4-207(4), and acting in my capacity as Salt Lake County Council Chair, I hereby make the following written determinations in support of Salt Lake County Council’s decision to hold and convene electronic meetings of the Council without a physical anchor location:

1. Conducting Council meetings with an anchor location that is physically accessible for members of the public to attend in person presents a substantial risk to the health and safety of those who may be present at the anchor location; and
2. This determination is based upon the following facts, among others:
 - a. Salt Lake County remains under a state of public health emergency related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and significant, continued person-to-person transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus continues to occur in Salt Lake County;
 - b. State and local health authorities have adopted “State Public Health Order 2021-5, *‘Updated Statewide COVID-19 Restrictions,’*” which orders institutions in jurisdictions currently experiencing “high transmission” of COVID-19, including Salt Lake County, to limit public gatherings and ensure strict social distancing, mask wearing, and other requirements at public gatherings;
 - c. Mayor Jennifer Wilson has ordered that the Salt Lake County Government Center be open to the public on an “appointment only” basis during the current period of Salt Lake County Government’s phased re-opening;
 - d. Public health authorities, including the Salt Lake County Health Department, recommend that the health and safety of Councilmembers, County officials and employees, staff, and members of the public is best served by holding electronic meetings of the Council with limited in-person interaction;

- e. The Council has prepared for and demonstrated the ability to effectively conduct its public meetings electronically, including providing members of the public means to observe the Council’s meetings and provide comments electronically.

These written determinations shall be read into the minutes at the beginning of the Salt Lake County Council’s Executive Committee, Committee of the Whole, and Council Meetings, held in Salt Lake City on February 23, 2021, and shall also apply to any additional meetings of the Council held during the time period described herein. Council staff are instructed to continue including in the public notice information on how a member of the public may view and make comments at the Council’s electronic meetings.

This written determination is effective until midnight on March 22, 2021, and may be re-issued by future written determinations of the Chair at that time.

Dated this 23rd day of February, 2021.

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL

By: _____
Steve DeBry, Chair

ATTEST:

Sherrie Swensen
Salt Lake County Clerk