

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
January 5, 2015

The regular meeting of the San Juan County Commission was held at 10:00 A.M. in the Commission Room at Monticello, Utah.

Present: Bruce Adams, Chairman
 Phil Lyman, Commissioner
 Rebecca Benally, Commission Vice Chairman
 Kelly Pehrson, Chief Administrative Officer
 John David Nielson, Clerk/Auditor

Attendees: Jerry McNeely, Nick Sandberg, Marilyn Boynton, Michael Sagh, Rozanna Benally-Sagh, Rhianna Benally, Melvina Lansing, Susie Phileman, Elsie Dee, Debbie Benally, Lorraine Thomas, Toni-Rose Claw, Cindy Yurth, Leon Sampson, Aariah Lameman, Chish Johnson, Harrison Johnson, James R. Lambert, Laverne Lambert, Mabel Martin, Kevin Martin, Tewakeedah Martin, Dichuneeh Martin, Wachaykeah Martin, Yvonne Tunsan, Jody Lyman, Kay Shumway, Roma Young, Bob Turri, Charlie Delorme, Davis Filfred, Malcolm Lehi, James Francom, Wanda Skinner, Jean Pehrson, Retta Hall, Emily Laws, Kendall Laws, Terri Laws, Kelly Laws, Bob Wojtacik Nick Sandberg, Jim Keyes, Tammy Gallegos, Sam Cantrell, Marian Nielson, David Carpenter, Shelby Seely, Rick Eldredge, Glenis Pehrson, Alan Freestone

The minutes of December 22, 2014 were approved by a motion of Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Tammy Gallegos - SJC Aging

Tammy requested a purchase of a wall furnace for the Blanding Senior Citizens. The furnace would be purchased from Keith Campbell at a cost of \$2850. The reason for the request is due to the current gas furnace leaking. Several times the building has been evacuated and citizens asked to go home so that the building could be aired out. A motion by Commissioner Lyman was made to approve the purchase and seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Charlie Delorme - SJC Visitor Services

Charlie requested a \$3500 grant to be used for the Balloon Festival. Commissioner Lyman made a motion to approve the grant and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Crystal Holt - SJC Personnel

Crystal discussed a promotion for Monica Alvarado to Road Office Manager at a pay rate of \$18.07/hr. The promotion had been previously discussed at a work meeting and Crystal was bringing it before the commission to be ratified. Commissioner Benally made a motion to approve the promotion and was seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous

John David Nielson - SJC Clerk

John David presented 2015 Beer License renewals for Shirt Tail C-Store, Sunrise Convenience Store, Canyonlands Needles Outpost, Resort Retailors Inc., 7-Eleven 53619 - Mexican Hat and La Sal Store. Commissioner Benally expressed concern about the Beer License for Sunrise Convenience Store in Montezuma Creek being approved. After a brief discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Lyman to approve the applications and Commissioner Benally seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous

Kelly Pehrson - Chief Administrative Officer

Kelly presented the commission assignments for 2015. The Commissioners discussed all assignments and who would need to be assigned to different areas of interest throughout the county. Commissioner Benally made a motion to approved the assignments and was seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Discussion about a change in the chairmanship of the Commissioners took place. Commissioner Adams made a motion to make Commissioner Lyman the Commissioner Chairman and was seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Commissioner Adams also made a motion that Commissioner Benally be the Vice-Chair Commissioner and was seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Two applicants were discussed to fill the Hospital Board Member spot which was vacated by Burton Black. George Matocha and E. Paul Sonderegger each submitted letters of interest to fill the vacancy. The Commissioners discussed the qualifications of each applicant. Following the discussion, Commissioner Lyman made motion to approve E. Paul Sonderegger to fill the Hospital Board spot and Commissioner Benally seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous

A request was made to update the CIB project list by putting in an application to purchase all the easements on the D Roads from SITLA. The estimated cost of this would be 650 thousand dollars. A discussion on whether this application should be submitted took place. Nick Sandberg clarified that the D Roads in question do not currently have an easement and that is why SITLA is offering them up for purchase. Commissioner Lyman questioned whether the county would be purchasing the easement only or would the county get the title to the property and wanted to look into the issue further. Commissioner Adams made a motion to update the CIB project list and was seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Colorado Outward Bound School has submitted a building permit to build a warehouse office on Tangren Ln in Spanish Valley. A motion to approve the building permit pending all the checks and signatures are in place was made by Commissioner Benally and was seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Commissioner Benally will be attending the NACo conference at the end of February in Washington D.C. Commissioner Lyman is still thinking about attending, but is leaning towards

not attending.

Commissioner Lyman recognized Davis Filfred as the new Navajo Nation delegate. A small discussion about the roads in the southern part of county took place. Commissioner Adams expressed his desire of support from Davis Filfred to get matching funds from Window Rock to help with road projects.

Elsie Dee who was reelected to the school board was also recognized by Commissioner Lyman

Nick Sandberg - SJC Planning

Nick will attend a meeting with Jerry McNeely in Moab on Thursday the 8th concerning the Master Leasing plan which the Moab District has been working on. Next Monday will be the Forest Service Coordination Meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Nick presented a draft copy from Shawn Welch giving notice of his intent to sue over the listing the Gunnison Sage Grouse as threatened and their critical habitat that has been designated. Nick will talk with Walter about this notice

A discussion about the Lands Bill meeting also took place. A meeting was set for the 20th of January tentatively at the Arts and Events Center in Blanding

Commission Reports:

Commissioner Lyman - Spent time talking with Ken Ivory about issues regarding public lands that will be brought up at the UAC meeting on the 9th. The San Juan Heritage Council Meeting will be on the 14th at the Edge of the Cedars Museum and the Economic Development Symposium will be held on the 15th in St. George. Commissioner Lyman also turned in his Economic Interest Disclosure

Commissioner Benally - Has been attending meetings concerning the new San Juan County Public Health program as well as trying to find people to serve on the board. On Wednesday, she will attend Newly Elected Official tax meeting. January 16th is the proposed date, but will most likely be in February, where chapter officials will get together to discuss concerns in the county and how everyone can work to together to resolve the issues.

Commissioner Adams - Will attend the CIB meeting this Thursday and also the UAC meeting on Friday.

Citizens Comments:

Marilyn Boynton expressed concern over the possible purchase of the road easements by the

county. She was concerned that if the county purchased the easements that only the county could use the easements and not the public. Commissioner Adams stated that the county are the people and that all could use it

Lorraine Thomas from Montezuma Creek/Aneth Community expressed a concern about road safety. She commented on a resolution passed by the Aneth Chapter to go to the county to request a Caution Sign be put up on county road 402 to help make the road safer.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:20 am