

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
January 12, 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: Phil Lyman, Chairman
 Bruce Adams, Commissioner
 Rebecca Benally, Commission Vice Chairman
 Kelly Pehrson, Chief Administrative Officer
 John David Nielson, Clerk/Auditor

Attendees: Jerry McNeely, Nick Sandberg, Marilyn Boynton, Roma Young, Bob Turri, Charlie Delorme, Kendall Laws, Tammy Gallegos, Shelby Seely, Scott Christensen, Mary Tso, Andrew Tso, Darius Claw, Tony Dayish

A motion to add Water Conservancy Appointments to the agenda was made by Commissioner Benally and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous

The minutes of January 5, 2015 were approved by a motion of Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal Holt - SJC Personnel

Crystal presented the name of Sena Yoakum as the applicant that would be offered the job as the Health Department Receptionist. She was selected among 13 applicants for this position. Tina Corrao and Virginia Hatch, are alternates for the position. A motion by Commissioner Adams was made to approve Sena Yoakum and the two alternates for the Health Department Receptionist and seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

John David Nielson - SJC Clerk

John David requested approval on two Beer License renewals for San Juan Trading Post and Valle's Inc. A motion was made by Commissioner Benally to approve the applications and Commissioner Adams seconded the motion. The voting was unanimous

Kelly Pehrson - Chief Administrative Officer

Kelly presented proposed rate changes at the Landfill. The proposed rate changes would be:

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| truck | Old Rate - \$7 | New Rate - \$9 |
| double axel | Old Rate - \$12 | New Rate - \$14 |
| | Old Rate - \$25 (a ton) | New Rate - \$27 (a ton) |

There was also a proposal to get rid of the monthly permits which are currently available for

personal and commercial use. Increasing rates would help to increase revenue which would be used to purchase new equipment. After a discussion by the commission as to how much increased revenue this would create, the Commission tabled the discussion for a later date pending a revenue analysis. Commissioner Benally suggested that the Landfill be open on Saturdays for ½ day.

Several Water Conservancy Board positions, which is a four year position, were advertised in the paper for two weeks. Several positions are available. One each from Eastland, Bluff, Blanding, Monticello, and Montezuma Creek. A motion was made by Commissioner Adams to appoint Gary Crowley for Eastland, George Matocha for Bluff, Danny Fleming for Blanding, Grayson Redd for Monticello, and Shane Shumway for Montezuma Creek. Commissioner Benally seconded each motion. Voting was unanimous

Scott Christensen requested the purchase of a new truck for the road department. Along with this purchase an old road department truck would be sold to the Weed Department. This would help out the Weed Department who is in need of a new truck. The money to purchase the old truck for the Weed Department would come out of the General Fund and the Road Department would purchase the new truck out of their budget

Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison

Jerry went to Dark Canyon Lake on Tues to check on the pads that had been rebuilt. They are being well used and all are happy with them. He also met with Kate Canon from Parks Service and talked about the rate increase from \$10 to \$25 dollars in each park. She is also working on concession permits. Jerry discussed the Master Leasing Plan with the BLM. He met with Mike Dean with the Forest Service. Discussed road issues with Scott Christensen and met with SITLA.

Nick Sandberg - SJC Planning

Nick Presented a Notice of Intent to Sue for Violations of the Endangered Species Act Related to the Decision to List the Gunnison Sage-Grouse as Threatened for the Commission Chairman to sign. After some discussion Commissioner Adams made a motion to sign the document and was seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

On Wednesday Nick will attend a meeting with the BLM in Dolores to discuss the Sage-Grouse issue. On January 20th at the Blanding Arts and Events Center at 3:00 there will be a Public Land Citizen Advisory Council.

A meeting regarding the Master Leasing Plan which was a meeting for cooperators (the counties, the parks service, the state of Utah) to view the different plans. There is a 90 day comment period before the plan goes out to the public. Nick presented maps, Alternative A and Alternative D as they pertain to Oil and Gas Leasing showing how restrictive it could be. Nick plans on making comments about the restrictiveness of the plan. He was asked to comment on the restrictions that are in the County's Energy Zone. Comments were made that the restrictive areas of the map are a buffer zone for the BLM or in other words an extension of the BLM

Commission Reports:

Commissioner Lyman - On Wednesday Commissioner Lyman will attend the Heritage Council Meeting. On January 22nd he will attend the Health District Board Meeting. There will be a telephone property tax appeal phone call this week. Commissioner Lyman wanted to put a spot on the agenda for Department Heads who would like to bring anything before the Commission. He also asked for a training on Google Docs and Calendar so that it could be better utilized

Commissioner Benally - Commissioner Benally will attend the SJC Commission Summit - Work Session. January 16 there will be a meeting at the Red Mesa Chapter to discuss how the county and the chapters can work together to create a more cohesive county. That meeting will be at 10:00. She attended a meeting with chapter presidents and they had a question about the money given to them for Road, Recreation, and Senior Citizens. The amount given was based on the number of voters in each precinct and they wanted to know what the breakdown was per voter and the formula that was used.

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

Citizens Comments:

Marilyn Boynton commented on a 5 page letter that was sent to Four Corners Free press. She commented that she sent a letter to the editor as a response to the 5 page letter

Mary Tso came with her son Andrew requesting gravel and pavement for the road improvement on county road 492 on Cahone Mesa and road 4291 due to the poor road conditions. There was a lengthy discussion about the state of the road and the restrictions that the county faces in making road improvements on the roads in the county which are on the Navajo Nation. The main problems that the county faces are a lack of funding to make improvements and the BIA's restriction on any changes made to the road without a costly environmental impact statement

Commissioner Lyman made a motion to go into an Executive Session at 12:13 and was seconded by Commissioner Benally

Meeting Adjourned at 12:50 am