

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
February 9, 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
 Rebecca Benally, Commission Vice Chairman
 Bruce Adams, Commissioner
 Kelly Pehrson (via phone), CAO
 Natalie Freestone, Administrative Support
 John David Nielson, Clerk/Auditor

Attendees: Crystal Holt, Roma Young, Johnnie Miller, Worthy Glover Jr., Shelby Seely,
Marilyn Boynton, Monte Wells, Jerry McNeely, Cade Lyman, Jodi Lyman, Chester Johnson, Jim
Hook, Bob Turri, Jeff Nielson, John Felmeth, Margie Dee, Donna Singer, Rick Meyer

Agenda was amended to add Kade Lyman, a University of Utah medical student. A motion to
amend the agenda was made by Commissioner Adams and was 2nd by Commissioner Benally.
Voting was unanimous.

The minutes of January 26, 2015 and February 2, 2015 were approved by a motion of
Commissioner Benally and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous

Johnnie Miller – UCIP

Johnnie discussed the process that the county would go through to set up a special service
district for health services. Included in the discussion were stipulations that would need to be
met and time frames required to meet the stipulation. Johnnie also mentioned protests that may
occur during the process of setting up the Special Service District and how to properly handle
them.

There was a small discussion on the transfer of assets from SEUHD to the new Health District
(building, vehicles and office equipment) . The manner in which this transfer would take place
would depend on the interlocal agreement. Also included in this discussion was the transfer of
sick leave for a current SEUHD employee from the current health district to the new health
district and if that would be possible.

Department Heads

Worthy Glover talked about having representation from all parts of the county. In the bylaws of
the new Health District it has been expressed that this representation is to come from
member(s) of each community where service is provided. A letter of interest was received from
Debbie Benally from Montezuma Creek as a request to serve on the local health board. After
some discussion, it was determined that the Health District needs to be formed first before an
administrative board could be created, but that a local health board could be created. A motion

to approve Debbie Benally to the local health board was made by Commissioner Adams and was 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Kade Lyman - University of Utah Student

Kade talked about UROP, Utah Rural Outreach Program, and its purpose. He explained how the program works and how it can be helpful to high school students who are interested in a career in the healthcare field. The organization helps to answer questions about funding, and education along with some hands on experience with animal organs. He presented a handout which gave some statistics on the number of schools/students, in the state and in the county, that were visited and “taught”

Crystal Holt – SJC Human Resources

Crystal ratified the hiring of Rosalita Bedoni and Carolyn Halliday. A motion to approve the hires was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal also talked about the need to replace 2 positions at the Sheriffs office, The two positions were offered to Nathan Halls for the full time position and Loren Randall for the part time. A motion to approve the hires was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

John David Nielson – SJC Clerk

John David presented for approval, the Single Event Beer license for Kirsten Ewing from Friends of Cedar Mesa. After a brief discussion a motion to approve the license was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

John David also presented to the BOE an appeal that was sent to the Utah State Tax Commission. During an October Telephone Status call a verbal agreement on the value of the property being appealed was reached between SJC Assessor and Shelby Seely. The BOE was not present during the call and needed to approve the verbal agreement. The BOE approved of the value and the BOE clerk will notify the Utah State Tax Commission of the decision.

Natalie Freestone - Administrative Support

Presented a letter written by Kelly Pehrson to the Department of Environmental Quality concerning a regional sewer in Spanish Valley. He encouraged the commission to review the letter. Commissioner Adams updated the commission on the CIB meeting from the previous week. The county had asked for a planning grant in Spanish Valley to look at the sewer and water situation in Spanish Valley and how the county could help the citizens who live in that area. The county was made aware that the City of Moab is already in the process of expanding their sewer plant to serve their citizens, but had made no consideration for the residences who live in Spanish Valley. A lengthy discussion followed concerning the sewer and water situation in the Spanish Valley area and also the cooperation between San Juan and Grand Counties and the City of Moab. After the discussion a motion to sign a letter was made by Commissioner Benally and was 2nd Commissioner Adams. Other letters that were presented were written to the

State Auditor regarding the Mexican Hat Special Service District. From years 2008 - 2011 a budget was not formally adopted which created some problems for that office. A motion to sign those letters was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting on both motions was unanimous.

Monte Perkins - Maintenance Department

Monte presented 2 bids to purchase a cover trailer for the maintenance department. Loan Peak Trailer Sales and Wasatch Trailer Sales. He would like to purchase the trailer from Wasatch Trailer Sales. Commissioner Adams made a motion to go ahead with the purchase and was 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Monte also wanted to purchase a truck to be split between weed and maintenance department. The purchase would replace 2 current vehicles. He has a bid to purchase it. The purchase would come from the capital budget. After a brief discussion A motion to approve the purchase was made by Commissioner Adams to approve purchase of the truck and was 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting on both motions was unanimous.

Jerry McNeely – SJC Liaison

Attended a retreat with the CNHA board last weekend. The CNHA has a Discover Pool where they give grants, about \$50,000, to people who would like to come to the area to do scientific or educational studies. There were about 30 applicants that were narrowed down to 5. Four of the five applicants will be working in San Juan County. Forest Service and Parks reps were also at the retreat.

Jerry also met with SITLA. They went to Needles Overlook, Looking Glass Rock, Wilson's Arch, and Big Flats. He also met with Mike Dean, Kate Cannon, and the BLM.

Nick Sandberg – SJC Planning

Nick came with John Felmeth, to discuss the county's direction on the Lands Bill proposal. A lengthy discussion including what to include in the proposal and how to inform the public followed. Next week, the Lands team will present proposals and a list of items for possible resolutions to the lands bill. John followed up about last weeks discussion concerning cooperation and coordination. He suggested that before talking with someone about it, we should look at our (San Juan County) own view on the matter. Mark Ward is happy to help draft the language that could be used.

Nick also talked about what Wilderness does mean according to the BLM manual and renewing a memorandum of agreement with the Navajo Nation pertaining to the Lands Bill. To start the process on a renewal of the memorandum, Commissioner Benally and Nick will attempt to contact Moroni Benally at the Navajo Nation.

Commission Reports

Commissioner Benally met with Willy Grey Eyes who is a board member from Dine Bikeyah on Monday concerning Cedar Mesa. Attended the Citizens Advisory mtg on Tuesday. Attended the State Legislature on Thursday and Friday for legislation and was able to talk to Senator Van Tassell. Will attend the Native American and County Caucus this week.

Commissioner Lyman also attended legislation last week and was able to attend meetings with The Attorney Generals Office, UAC, and Taxpayers Association. Also had a conversation with Dr. Rolfs at the public health office. This week there is a BLM meeting and a board meeting with San Juan Counseling and then more meetings in Salt Lake on Thursday and Friday. Commissioner Lyman also mentioned a letter requesting \$5000 from the county for farm days which is done every 2 years.

Commissioner Adams attended legislation and a CIB meeting. At the meeting he was to get approval for the money for the Transportation District. They also talked about the study money for Spanish Valley. He attended a 6 county coalition meeting in Price on Friday where a contract was signed with Jones and DeMille to do a study of the infrastructure. This week there will be the Rural Caucus. UCIP board mtg on the 19th.

Commissioner Adams discussed the CIB meeting as far as Moab not including Spanish Valley (sjc residents) in sewer plant? Local/regional facility discussion about the difference in opinion between SJC and Moab/Grand County took place. Moab city had meetings with CIB without SJC

Citizens' Comments

Marilyn Boynton commented on the sewer plant in Spanish Valley. She also encouraged the county to be the entity that would help the Utah Navajos get wood in the future if they are unable to go to Cedar Mesa to get it themselves.

Chester Johnson would like to have the county help fix the dams that are on McCracken Mesa so that the water can be retained and used by the livestock. He also talked about grazing rights on McCracken Mesa. Years ago a policy was written giving the people that lived on the mesa grazing rights by the tribe. Chester believes the policy is outdated. He would like the Commission to help get the tribes attention concerning grazing rights and redefining those rights for the people who currently live on McCracken Mesa.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:45 pm