

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
March 10, 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, CAO
 John David Nielson, Clerk/Auditor

Attendees: Bill Todachinnie, Jerry McNeely, Bob Turri, Nick Sandberg, Wilber, Roma Young, Kay Shumway, Todd Thorne, Rick Meyer, John Foster, David Vaughan, Lee Shenton, Crystal Holt, Preston Grover, Sam Cantrell, Jim Keyes, Marilyn Boynton, Deborah Halls, Monica Alvarado, Wilbur Capitan

Agenda was amended and Approval of Minutes from February 9th, February 17th, and March 2nd was done by motion from Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Nick Sandberg - SJC Planning

Nick came before the commission to secure a new date to have a meeting with Dine Bikaya. Different dates were discussed and Tues. 17th at 11:00 is the date when Nick will attempt to set the meeting.

Commissioner Adams also mentioned a resolution that was ran this last week regarding grazing, mining on Cedar Mesa and the San Rafael Swell. The bill made it through legislation and is being reported that the bill makes the highest priority. It's believed that the resolution came about to counter the use of the antiquities act.

Commissioner Lyman mentioned the Friends of Cedar Mesa event and suggested that Josh and Vaughan be invited to the meeting next week with Dine Bikaya.

The event was attended by Commissioner Benally. While at the event there some discussion regarding the Lands Bill and the County's position. More discussion, covering the Lands Bill, took place with the desire to understand Dine Bikaya's stance. Kay Shumway commented on the Friends of Cedar Mesa event, and the manner in which Commissioner Benally represented the county. He also mentioned that Commissioner Benally talked about Energy Development and how important it is to the Navajo People.

Lee Shenton - Grand County UMTRA

Lee came to the commission to request permission to place a historic marker in San Juan County to recognize those who have contributed to the uranium industry. He presented a handout detailing examples of possible markers, location, and wording. Also included in the

handout was information about the estimated cost of the project and other information. They have already contacted the BLM as to the site.

A motion to approve the marker was made by Commissioner Benally and was 2nd with some discussion on the location by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous

A motion to go into a Public Hearing was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

10:32 am

Public Hearing - Landfill Rates

Kelly Pehrson introduced the issue and talked about the current landfill rates and the need for changes. The new rates were disclosed along with the estimated amount of increased revenue which should be around \$30,000 commercially and \$15,000 for vehicles.

Wes Shook felt that the rates should be raised even higher. He also talked about the monthly permits and a need to keep the permits because of the lack of garbage pickup in Bluff. He also mentioned that in order to keep the fire hazard low, the tumble weeds need to be disposed of. He would like to burn them, but has had a difficult time getting a burning permit. Without the burning permit he needs to take them to the landfill which could get very costly without a landfill permit. He suggested the price for a monthly permit be 2 ½ times the cost of a single dump. Further discussion followed regarding the burning of waste on personal property

Some possible solutions that were suggested are:

- Asking Waste Management if they would be willing to service the Bluff area.
- A possible punch pass with a limited number of dumps
- Keeping the monthly permit and charge the commercial businesses on a per dump basis

A motion to leave public hearing at 11:03 am was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous

Proposed Landfill Pricing Changes:

\$10.00 - Truck

\$15.00 - Double Axel

\$30.00 - A Ton

\$25.00 - Residential Monthly Permit

No Commercial Permit

A motion to approve the proposed changes to the landfill pricing was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous

Todd Thorne - SEUALG

Todd is the new Community Development Block Grant Manager and Revolving Loan Fund for the Southeast Association of local governments. He came to introduce himself and talked about what he does and his desire to reach out to local governments. He mentioned that last year there weren't very many applications for funding and he would like to meet with the communities and find out if he can help them with projects that they may have.

Jim Keyes - USU Extension Office

Jim met with Lance Porter and the new state BLM director in SLC. Reported on the grazing permits and when the permittees are being required to move their livestock by the Range Con. Jim also talked about the dispute between SITLA and the two Johnson brothers which was settled by one brother taking 7 sections and the other brother taking 5 sections. An SARE application for a \$10,000 grant has been submitted. This is to help educate permittees on how to collect data and also to educate Navajo Grazers on how to give shots to their cattle.

Jim also reported that greenback cutthroat trout were found within the grazing permit and is going to be listed as a threatened species. The LaSal Livestock collaboration is setting up a grazing program for the LaSal livestock to help protect the fish and help the cattle. The best solution to this problem is to build a fence, which may require a few hoops to jump through. That process is being worked via a facilitator. The cost for this is \$2000/month. Jim is requesting a fund of \$2000 for one month. Each of the other entities within the collaboration take their turn paying the monthly fee. A motion to fund was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Commissioner Lyman abstained from the voting.

Sam Cantrell - SJC Surveyor

Sam came to the commission to request a purchase of some new survey equipment. He went over a handout detailing the reasons for the purchase and replacing the older equipment. To mitigate costs he would like to sell off older equipment via internet auction. The clerk/auditor's office would set up the account and handle the transactions.

A motion to move forward with the requests made by Sam was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Monica Alvarado - SJC Road Department

Monica came to ratify the decision made to go ahead with the bids requested for the oil and gas. Commissioner Benally made a motion and Commissioner Adams 2nd the motion. voting was unanimous.

Kelly Pehrson - CAO

Kelly came to ratify the consulting contract for the new Health Department. Minor changes had been made by the Public Health Director giving him authority to contract others for help.

Commissioner Benally made a motion to pass the contract and was 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was 2 for and 1 against.

Kelly also requested the purchase of new vehicles. One would be for Commissioner Benally to use and the other vehicle would be added to the fleet. Commissioner Adams made a motion to

approve the purchase and was 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Commissioner Benally abstained from voting.

Kelly brought the resolution regarding the retention of the 4 SEUHD employees to the new health department to the commission for approval. A motion to adopt the resolution was made by Commissioner Benally and was 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous

Rick Meyer suggested that the Health Department regularly report to the commission on what's happening around the county. He also had a request to carry over some of the benefits. Commissioner Adams preferred that the conversation about benefits be brought to the commission by the Health Department Director

Kelly also presented a building permit for Mario Richardson for approval.

Kelly then presented a subdivision map for approval. The map showed some road realignment. Commissioner Benally made the motion to accept the map and was 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous

There was a discussion about the swimming pool in Montezuma Creek being turned over to the Aneth Chapter. Wilbur Capitan from Aneth Chapter and Bill Todachinnie requested the release of the swimming pool/building to Aneth chapter so that they can renovate it for community use.

Kelly presented a capital projects improvement list from CIB. A motion to approve the priority list as presented was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Crystal Holt - SJC Personnel

Crystal came to ratify the hire of Seresa Gines at the La Sal center. A motion to approve the hire was made by Commissioner Adams, and 2nd by Commissioner Benally

A request to ratify the hiring of David Palmer for the maintenance position at the sheriff's office was also made. A motion to approve the hiring was made by Commissioner Benally, and 2nd by Commissioner Adams

Five people applied for the Waste Facility Worker position located at the Landfill. Theron Yoakam was offered the position. A motion to approve the hire was made by Commissioner Adams, and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison

Jerry gave a summary of his meetings and conversations. There was a discussion about a project that SITLA is doing. They are going to lease a section of land to a scenic helicopter tour company that wants to come in and do tours over Natural Bridges. They are also considering leasing a piece of property by the hole in the rock trail.

Jerry also talked to Mike Dean, Kate Cannon at Park Service, and Melody from Sen. Hatch's office. Upcoming meetings are the Sewer and water mtg on the 12th at 1:30 along with San Juan Water and Sewer at 5:30, also on the 12th.

Commission Reports -

Commissioner Lyman has CCP in Moab next week. He also talked about meetings that he attended in Washington DC

Commissioner Benally - attended NACO, and a capitol hearing. She will be going to SLC to follow Senate Bill 90, and then will attend a number of different meetings

Commissioner Adams - Reported that Ralph Okerland will be the director of the 6 counties

Citizen Comments -

Marilyn commented on PJs and her conversation with the owner of the four corners free press. She also commented on the possibility of a new national monument

A motion to go to executive session was made by Commissioner Adams, and 2nd by Commissioner Benally

Adjourned at 1:23