

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
May 19, 2015 at 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Phil Lyman, Commission Chairman
Rebecca Benally, Commission Vice Chairman
Bruce Adams, Commissioner
John David Nielson, Clerk/Auditor
Natalie Freestone, Administrative Assistant

Attendees: Joe B. Lyman, Bob Barry, Larry Wells, Mike Bradford, Wesley L. Hunt, Zola F Hunt, Marilyn Boynton, Kendall Laws, Charlie DeLorme, Larry Sorrell, Joe F. Lyman, Marilyn Lyman, VerDonna Blake, Arlin Henderson, Shelby Seely, Adele Seely, Scot Christensen, Julene Christensen, Brandon Christensen, Jeremy Redd, Monte Wells, Jaxon Wells, Mason Lyman, Debra Imel, Letha Burtenshaw Stewart, Brian Stubbs, Robert Fredere, Johnnie Miller, Dawn Howe, Patsy Shumway, Jody Lyman, Kay Shumway, Trent Holliday, Levi Meyers, Nick Sandberg, Clint Howell, Joy Howell, Emil Romero, Nancy Romero, Sharon Smith, Gene Gruette, Galen L. Headley, Jerry Howell, Billy Howell, Sharon Guymon, Doug Pehrson, Jed Lyman, Candice Lyman, Taylor Harrison, Gail Johnson, David Carpenter, Damon Black, Ben Musselmen, Karen Wells, Merri Shumway, Shane Shumway, Britt Barton, Tim Chamberlain, Cade Lewis, Ron Eberling, Carl Van Steeter, Gary Lichtenstein, Crystal Holt, Jerry McNeely, Blaine Nebeker, Misty Christiansen, Merlin Grover, Keith Ivins

An Executive session was added to the agenda, with a motion by Commissioner Adams and a 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was Unanimous

Approval of Minutes - The minutes from April 14th, 21st, 28th, and May 5th were approved by a motion from Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Department Head Concerns - No Department Head Concerns

San Juan Soil Conservation Board - Bob Barry

Bob came to present a proposal to the commission of coordination. Bob gave a brief description of the Soil Conservation districts and their purpose. He brought Misty Christiansen who is the coordinator of a five county area to explain what the coordination means and how it can be used. Misty explained that coordination was mandated into law with the passing of FLIPMA in 1976 and explained how, in theory, it's supposed to work. She mentioned the passing of House Bill (HB)323, what that means to the county and how the conservation district can help the county it comes up with resource management plan required by HB323

Gary Lichtenstein - SJC Resident

Gary is on a committee that has the project of trying to bring the citizens together to find a plan to manage Culinary Water Solutions. He mentioned that in December 2014, the Commission granted \$5000 to this project and then explained how those funds were used. Due

to the success of phase one of the project, Gary is requesting another \$2300 to complete phase two of the project. He estimates that the total cost of this phase could be up to \$8000. To this point a total of \$5700 in contributions has been received from the citizens in the Bluff area. A motion to contribute the requested \$2300 in support was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Charlie DeLorme - SJC Economic Development

Charlie presented an out of state travel request for Allison Yamamoto-Sparks to attend a 3 day conference about tourism, tourism relating to social media, and other topics. The funds for the trip would be used from the Employee Education budget. A motion to approve the travel was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

Scot Christensen - SJC Road Department

Scot presented a request to buy a secured garage door for a building at the county yard. There were two bids and Scot wanted to use the lowest bid in the amount of \$1978. The funds used to purchase the garage door would be taken from the building maintenance fund. A motion to approve the purchase was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal Holt - SJC Personnel

Crystal came to ratify the hiring of Adam Halliday as heavy equipment operator with Robert Gustin as the alternate. Kyle Palmer and Dexter Shires were chosen to fill the two EMT positions with Brian Palmer as the alternate. The position of Health Educator was offered to Denise Arthur with Danielle Gardner as alternate. The Blanding Senior Center has one part time position with Melissa Slade being the choice for that position with Benita Whitehorse as the alternate. A motion to approve the hires was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Kendall Laws - SJC Attorney

Kendall came to the commission to request approval to hire a deputy county attorney. A motion to table the request until after the executive session was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

John David Nielson - SJC Clerk/Auditor

John David presented the amended contract between San Juan County and the Department of Human Services for signature. The annual distribution of \$39,030 from the state was significantly lower than last year due to an increase in the county's population. A motion to sign the amended contract was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Bruce Adams - SJC Commissioner

Commissioner Adams presented resolution 2015-03. He gave some background about the protest ride from May 2014 and events leading up to the protest. He discussed how the

resolution could possibly relieve some of the financial liabilities put on Commissioner Lyman. The entire resolution was read into the minutes.

Resolution 2015-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH SUPPORTING COMMISSIONER PHIL LYMAN'S RIGHT TO LEGAL DUE PROCESS AND EFFECTIVE LEGAL REPRESENTATION

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Commissioner Lyman abstained from voting. The motion carried

(The entirety of the signed resolution is made as an attachment to the minutes hereto)

Natalie Freestone - SJC Administrative Assistant

Ratified the decision to transfer land to the Hole in the Rock who will relocate the Bluff transfer station. The Hole in the Rock will do all the deed work associated with this transfer. A motion to ratify this decision was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally.

Voting was unanimous.

Natalie also presented a letter from the San Juan Health District asking for the support of the Commission to apply for a grant to upgrade the X-ray machine and radiology room and equipment at San Juan Hospital.

Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison

Jerry reported on a meeting with SITLA, they met at LaSal to look at 30 acres possibly up for sale and other property possibly up for sale were also looked at. He also met with Mike Diem from the forest service about a planned burn. He also mentioned the Brownell easement, and LaSal mine complex. He also mentioned road locations that the BLM will pave. An ATV trail and other happenings were also mentioned. Jerry met with Kate Cannon and also mentioned various meetings with Moab City and SJSSD.

Nick Sandberg - SJC Planning

Nick mentioned the Resource Management Meeting today and the cancellation of the Public Lands initiative meeting that was scheduled for today at 1:00 p.m.

Commission Reports -

Commissioner Lyman - Commissioner Lyman talked about a meeting with San Juan Counseling. Budget issues and Centrally Assessed property values were also mentioned.

Commissioner Benally - Commissioner Benally attended chapter meetings and the Navajo Nation Presidential inauguration. This week she will attend graduations.

Commissioner Adams - Commissioner Adams attended the Navajo Nation inauguration. This week he will attend graduations and then will participate in trainings and workshops in June.

Citizen Comments

Larry Wells - Larry presented the Commissioners with a letter. He commented on the court cases and the action that he felt should've been taken by the Commission and the Sheriff's office. He encouraged the Commission to be aggressive in taking action against the BLM like previous commissioners.

Joe B. Lyman - Expressed his opinion that Commissioner Lyman acted as a Commissioner or on his own during the protest. He mentioned support from Blanding City Council towards Commissioner Lyman as well as other city and county government bodies. Joe also stated that Commissioner Lyman deserves all our respect and support.

Sheriff Eldredge - Sheriff Eldredge stated his commitment to serve and protect the citizens of San Juan County. He encouraged the citizens to make him aware of any problems with the BLM.

Nicole Perkins - Nicole encouraged the hire of a new deputy county attorney to help our current attorney.

Emil Romero - Emil commented on the overstep of the Federal government and encouraged the county to continue to fight the Federal government.

A motion to go into executive session was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally.

Meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.