

San Juan County Work Meeting
Hideout Community Center - Conference Room
Agenda
February 5, 2019

Present: Kenneth Maryboy - Commission Chairman
Willie Grayeyes - Commission Vice Chairman
Bruce Adams - Commissioner
Kelly Pehrson - CAO
John David Nielson - Clerk

Attendees: Ron Nielson, Walter Bird, Wesley L Hunt, Zola F Hunt, Sheriff Torgerson, Candice Lyman, Jed Lyman, Vaughn Hadenfeldt, Zak Podmore, Linda Sosa, Ann K Leppanen, Natalie Randall, Jeremy Redd, Joe B Lyman, Cheryl Bowers, Randy E Rarick, Betty Jones, Anna Tom, Thomas Morris, Loretta N Morris, Suzette Morris, Larry Wells, Curtis Henderson, Kim Henderson, Deb Bayles, Jami Bayles, Tim Peterson, Shanon Brooks, Mark E Anderson, Julia Brooks, Sharon Anderson, Ginnie Brooks, Kirk Bengel, Nicole Perkins, Retta Hall, Colleen Hawks, Dan Nakai, Maryleen Tahy, Janet Ross, Dani Nieman, Bob Turri, Phil Rentz, A Holiday, Lilly Holiday, Cassandra Begay, Tara Benally, Mary Benally, Jennifer Davila, Susan DeLorme, Jason Davis, Wendy Black, Ted Black, Janet Wilcox, Gordon S., Cindy Y., Alan Naumann, Scott Mitchell, C. B., Jonah Yellowman, C. W., Talia Boyd, Gilbert Sombra, Susan Smith

John David Nielson - SJC Clerk

John David presented the 2019 Elected Officials pay schedule for the commissioners to review.

Natalie Randall - SJC Economic Development Tourism

Natalie came to the commission to discuss a software tool called Short Term Rental Helper. Natalie explained that the tool would be used by her office to track short term rentals across the county which would help the county in making future decisions regarding TRT, business licenses.

Natalie talked to the commission about a Community Reinvestment Agency and Enterprise Zone and explained what that is. She talked about what the projects are currently ongoing and what the next steps would be moving forward. There was a discussion on how the CRA projects are impacting existing businesses.

Natalie also explained what an Enterprise Zone is and how that affects the county.

Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison

Jerry updated the commission on his meeting with Lance Porter from the BLM where sales were talked about. He also talked about an Oil & Gas project at Wilson Arch. Jerry also met with the Forest Service and briefed the commission projects that the Forest Service has going on. He also met with SITLA and explained what projects that they are working on. Jerry also mentioned other meetings that were attended as well as a meeting with Grand County Water & Sewer.

Nick Sandberg - SCJ Planning

Nick came to the commission to discuss the Bears Ears Plan. He explained that an administrative draft of the Bears Ears Plan will be available to cooperating agencies next week. Nick also mentioned that a revised plan will be available about mid April 2019. He also mentioned the Bears Ears Advisory Committee and explained that the Forest Advisory Plan is still being worked out due to the government shutdown.

Kenneth Maryboy - SJC Commissioner

Commissioner Maryboy presented 5 resolutions for consideration.

1 - RESOLUTION DIRECTING THAT DOCUMENTS BE COMPILED AND RESEARCH UNDERTAKEN IN ORDER TO RE-ESTABLISH A BLUFF TRANSFER STATION.

2 - RESOLUTION DIRECTING THAT REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION BE HELD IN LOCATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE COUNTY AND SETTING A SCHEDULE FOR SUCH MEETINGS.

3 - RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SAN JUAN COUNTY ATTORNEY, KENDALL LAWS, TO IMMEDIATELY PREPARE A COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY OF ALL CIVIL LITIGATION IN WHICH THE COUNTY IS A PARTY.

4 - RESOLUTION RESCINDING ALL PRIOR RESOLUTIONS OF THE SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION OPPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT OR CALLING FOR THE DIS-ESTABLISHMENT OR REDUCTION OF THE BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT, SPECIFICALLY RESCINDING RESOLUTIONS NOS. 2015-09 (A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH, SUPPORTING LOCALLY-DRIVEN LAND MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND OPPOSING PRESIDENTIAL DESIGNATION OF A NATIONAL MONUMENT(S) THROUGH AUTHORITY OF THE ANTIQUITIES ACT OF 1906), 2016-08 (DEFICIENCIES OF A PROPOSAL OF A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL MONUMENT IN SAN JUAN COUNTY; NOTIFICATION OF A COUNTY PREROGATIVES AND INTENT FOR LAND USE PLANNING), AND 2017-02 (RESOLUTION REQUESTING AND RECOMMENDING THE REVERSAL OF THE DESIGNATION OF THE BEARS EARS AREA AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT), CONDEMNING THE ACTIONS OF PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP IN VIOLATING THE ANTIQUITIES ACT OF 1906 BY UNLAWFULLY REDUCING THE BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT THROUGH THE PROCLAMATION OF DECEMBER 4, 2017 (NO. 9681) AND CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES TO FULLY RESTORE THE BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT.

5 - RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SAN JUAN COUNTY ATTORNEY, KENDALL LAWS, TO IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAW THE COUNTY'S MOTION TO INTERVENE IN HOPI TRIBE, et al. v. DONALD TRUMP, et al., CASE NO. 1-17-CV-2590; UTAH DINE BIKEYAH, et al. v. DONALD TRUMP, et al., CASE NO. 1:17-CV-2605 (TSC); and NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL, INC., et al., v. DONALD TRUMP, et al., CASE NO. 17-CB-2606 (TSC) AND TO FURTHER IMMEDIATELY TERMINATE ANY AND ALL REPRESENTATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN SAN JUAN COUNTY AND THE MOUNTAIN STATES LEGAL FOUNDATION.

County Attorney Kendall Laws gave a legal opinion on each resolution. After his legal opinion on each resolution Commissioner Maryboy opened the meeting up for public comments.

Joe Lyman - Blanding City Mayor

Joe Lyman presented a resolution from Blanding City opposing Bears Ears as it was originally established. He also said that the current Blanding City council may adopt an additional resolution with the same opinion. Joe also commented on his support of the Bluff Transfer Station.

Shannon Brooks - Monticello Citizen

Shanon asked why the county would change its opinion on their stance on Bears Ears. He also asked if the commission was aware of what has happened to the Grand Staircase National Monument and asked for assurances that Bears Ears would not follow the same fate. Shanon followed with another questions about access to the monument, the county's opinion on the work done by Ken Ivory. Lastly, Shanon expressed his concern that changing the stance on the monument would make the county look unsure of what they really want to do.

Kim Henderson - Monticello Citizen

Kim Henderson questioned Commissioners Maryboy and Grayeyes desire to heal and unify San Juan County by undoing resolutions that the previous commission had established which does not represent what the majority of the constituents want. Rather they represent the opinions of special interest groups.

Merri Shumway - Blanding Citizen

Merri Shumway asked the commissioners to hold off on making decisions on land issues because decisions made regarding federal lands affects the county and school districts' funding and ability to provide services.

Janet Wilcox - Blanding Citizen

Janet Wilcox asked if a referendum could be formulated to find out the opinion of the majority of the citizens in the county regarding the resolutions. She also mentioned that she hopes that the county can become more self-sufficient rather than relying on the federal government.

Jed Lyman - Blanding Citizen

Jed Lyman explained that Blanding is no longer being represented by a representative from the county. He also asked the commission who wrote the resolutions that were presented.

Curtis Henderson - Monticello Citizen

Curtis Henderson asked if the county had been consulted on the resolutions presented. He also mentioned that the Aneth Chapter was against the original Bears Ears designation.

Mary Benally - Bluff Citizen

Mary Benally stated that Utah Dineh Bikeyah has asked the county, state, and federal governments several times to sit down and talk about the Bears Ears issue, but that no such meeting have occurred. She talked about her background and ties to the land and expressed concerns about what will be done with the area. She expressed a desire for everyone to sit down and talk and possibly come to a compromise.

Ann Leppanen - Bluff Town Mayor

Ann Leppanen discussed about the Bluff Transfer Station and a desire to retain it. She talked about the work done to keep the transfer station and commented on the decision of the county commission to transfer land from the county to The Hole-In-the-Rock Foundation.

Anna Tom - McCracken Mesa Citizen

Anna Tom explained that she does not want the Bears Ears National Monument to go back to 1.9 million acres again because she would like to utilize the land for gathering wood and for gathering herbs. She explained that the desires of the elders are not being listened to and that decisions should be done the right way.

Suzette Morris - White Mesa Citizen

Suzette Morris asked the commission to think about expanding the monument because it will affect the Native American people. She would like to utilize the land instead of giving back to the federal government. She asked the commission to listen and to compromise so that the communities could be healed.

Nicole Perkins - Blanding Citizen

Nicole Perkins read an article that will becoming out as a letter to the editor. She also expressed a hope that further dialogue could happen.

Cynthia Wilson - Monument Valley Citizen

Cynthia Wilson asked the commission to restore the Bears Ears Monument back to the 1.9 million acres and to listen to the voices of the people.

Betty Jones

Betty Jones expressed her thoughts in Navajo

Jonah Yellowman - Monument Valley Citizen

Jonah Yellowman asked that the work that was done by Utah Dine Bikeyah on Bears Ears National Monument be respected and heard. He would like the monument to continue to be protected.

Harve Holliday -

Harve Holliday explained that he would like the land to be protected and not destroyed because it is used everyday.

Cheryl Bowers - Blanding City Council

Cheryl Bowers explained that her opinion on the reduction of the monument came after listening to arguments from both sides of the issue that took place during home visits and public meetings. She asked the commission to research what the people want before passing any resolutions.

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A motion to approve the December 18, 2018 and January 15, 2019 minutes was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Grayeyes. Voting was unanimous.

Citizen Comments -

Jason Davis - Monticello citizen

Jason mentioned that, as a motel operator, Transient Room Tax is down. He mentioned that he would be happy to have a meeting with the commission and share information about how many people are staying in the motels. He also felt like it was a good idea to continue to promote international visitation.

Tammy Gallegos - SJC Aging Director

Tammy came to request a signature on the CSBG contract that was talked about in the January 15, 2019 Work meeting. A motion to have the Commission Chairman sign the contract was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Grayeyes. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly Pehrson - CAO

Kelly mentioned that the USDA is willing to help build a well in Oljato and that they would like the county to be the pass through with the grant money. A motion was made by Commissioner Grayeyes to allow the county to be the pass through for the grant. Commissioner Adams 2nd the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly had Kirk Benghe come to the commission to talk about board members for the San Juan County Board of Health. Kirk explained that mentioned that there are two open spots on the board, a spot for someone from Bluff and the other by a member of the county commission. Kirk explained that Bluff would like to appoint Lois Young as the Bluff member appointed to the board and requested that the commission approve the appointment. Commissioner Adams made a motion that Commissioner Grayeyes be appointed to the San Juan County Board of Health. This request was 2nd by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous. A motion was also made by Commissioner Adams to appoint Lois Young from Bluff to the Public Health board which was 2nd by Commissioner Grayeyes. Voting was unanimous. Kelly also requested that the commission appoint Marx Powell to be on the Water Conservancy Board. Kelly explained that the county had advertised for 3 weeks for openings on the board for members from Mexican Hat, Bluff, and Montezuma Creek. To date, nobody from Mexican Hat or Montezuma Creek had applied by Ed Dobson and Marx Powell had both requested to be the Bluff member on the board. A

motion to approve Marx Powel to the Water Conservancy Board was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Grayeyes. Voting was unanimous.

Commission Reports -

Commissioner Adams - Commissioner Adams talked about land management issues. He also attended the legislature meetings and informed the commission about bills that he has been following. He will also attend a CIB meeting this week

Commissioner Grayeyes - Commissioner Grayeyes reported on the 7 county coalition meeting that he attended where a 100 year plan and a railroad project were discussed. He mentioned the possible routes that were discussed at the meeting and gave his perspective as to where the routes would be the most beneficial to the county. He also talked about possibly doing an engineering study on sandstone column in Piaute Canyon to figure out how to re-reroute the road around the column. Commissioner Grayeyes also attended a meeting in Farmington, NM with Commissioner Maryboy, Kelly Pehrson, and Ben Musselman where they talked about a possible agreement between the county and NDOT to do road maintenance on the NDOT roads

Commissioner Maryboy - Commissioner Maryboy reported that he has had meetings regarding roads. He attended the meeting in Farmington, NM where road conditions were discussed. He will attend his chapter planning meeting and take road inventory.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Grayeyes and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.