

San Juan County Work Meeting
Hideout Community Center - Conference Room
Agenda
April 3, 2018

Present: Bruce Adams - Commission Chairman
Rebecca Benally - Commission Vice Chairman
Phil Lyman - Commissioner
Kelly Pehrson - CAO
John David Nielson - Clerk

Attendees: Cody Deeter, Bob Turri, Kirk Benge, Les Rogers, Jerry McNeely, Deena Phillips, Elmeron Phillips, Kendall Laws

Cody Deeter - Bluff CRA

Cody came to the commission meeting to discuss the Bluff Dwellings proposed reinvestment project area plan & budget. Cody presented and reviewed the project area with the Commissioners. He also talked about financing and budgeting of the project.

John David Nielson - SJC Clerk

John David informed the commissioners of 3 properties that are being removed from the San Juan County tax roll because they are United States Trust Lands.

Les Rogers - Tax Issue

Les came to the commission to request a letter of support to help Elmeron & Deena Phillips overcome some consequences resulting from a tax code that was meant to help businesses who hire Native American employees. Les explained the code and how it works.

Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison

Jerry met with SITLA and went on 2 field trips with Brian. Jerry attempted to meet with the Forest Service. He also met with Lance from the BLM

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A motion to approve the March 20, 2018 minutes was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Kendall Laws - SJC Attorney

Kendall came to the commission to talk about joining a coalition in litigation over the opiate epidemic. He explained who the litigation would be against the pharmaceutical companies and their local distributors and key opinion leaders. Kendall also explained the reasons why there is the litigation and how that litigation would work. A motion to join the litigation was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Kendall also talked about the type of litigations regarding the opiate epidemic and suggested that the county use Durham Jones & Pinegar and Phipps Anderson Deacon as the law firms for this litigation. A motion was made by Commissioner Benally to contract with Durham Jones & Pinegar and Phipps Anderson Deacon LLP for the litigation. This motion was 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly Pehrson - CAO

Kelly presented several letters for signature. The first letter is a request for San Juan County to be a cooperating agency with the Bears Ears planning. A motion to sign the letter and the contract was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

The second letter was a request asking for relief on the MLP and was addressed to Mr Steed. Commissioner Adams explained the content of the letter. A motion to sign the letter was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

The last letter was the county's scoping comments on the planning of Bears Ears. A motion to sign the letter was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly presented a Resolution to start the process of making Gouldings a CRA. A motion to was made Commissioner Benally to sign the Resolution. Commissioner Lyman 2nd the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Lastly, Kelly presented the drought declaration for the month of April to be signed. A motion to sign the declaration was made by Commissioner

Commission Reports

Commissioner Lyman - Commissioner Lyman attended a hearing in Panguitch. The hearing was on a lawsuit initiated by SUWA suing Panguitch County over their open meetings. Kendall Laws also offered some comments regarding this and other hearings. Commissioner Lyman also talked about a call from Mark Lambert and attended the scoping meeting on the National Monuments. Commissioner Lyman talked about projects from the 7 County Coalition and then followed up with LaRae Black's request for a back-up on cemetery worker to open graves. He also expressed appreciation with the CRA work that Cody has done.

Commissioner Benally - Commissioner Benally attended the early childhood coalition meeting in Blanding. She explained that a nurse pursuing a doctorate will be doing a study on mothers and soon to be mothers who may suffer from postpartum depression. Commissioner Benally also attended the Tribal Treasury Advisory Committee Meeting where the tax credit for businesses was discussed. She also went to the Utah Navajo Health System groundbreaking and the Aneth Community School parent training. She will attend the Aneth and Red Mesa Chapter planning meetings and a Heritage Language Conference.

Commissioner Adams - Commissioner Adams attended the UDOT meeting, scoping meeting and will attend the RS2477 client committee meeting this afternoon. He also mentioned the San Juan County Republican Convention will be Thursday at 7:00

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:05