

San Juan County Commission Work Meeting
Hideout Community Center - Conference Room
Agenda
September 19, 2017

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, Jerry McNeely, Ben Mussleman, Mark Vlastic,
Kendall Laws, Jenny Hale, John Locke, Nick Sandberg

Cody Deeter - Transportation Funding

Cody came to the commission to talk about funding for updating and maintaining roads in San Juan County. He talked about key factors and funding options that should be considered when road maintenance is discussed.

Mark Vlastic - Landmark Design

Mark came to the commission to talk about Landmark Design's role in designing the Water and Sewer System in Spanish Valley. He talked about what Landmark Design does and explained the process that they go through when completing a project

Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison

Jerry met with SITLA and talked about the property in Bluff. Jerry also met with the BLM and the Forest Service. He also mentioned a water study meeting this Thursday.

Nick Sandberg - SJC Planning

Nick brought a cost agreement to the commission for signature. He explained that the agreement covers work that will be done with the Shooting Range in Blanding. Nick also mentioned scheduled meetings the Coordination planning meeting with Mark Pentecost and Mike Diem and another coordination meeting the BLM.

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Attendees: Kendall Laws, Crystal Holt, Ben Musselman, Sam Cantrell, Shelby Seely, Jerry McNeely, Nick Sandberg, John Fellmeth, Rick Meyer, Bob Turri, Carol Shook, Linda Sosa, Eileen Fjerstad, John S Jackson, Mark Boshell, Lynda McNeil, Ann Phillips, Beverly Kier-Smith, Britt Hornsby, Joyce Martini, Ann Leppanen, Lois Young, Kirsten Ewing, Amanda Podmore, John McKenny, Josh Ewing, Bob Helmes, Zak Podmore, Lawrence Guymon

A motion to approve the September 5, 2017 minutes was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal Holt - SJC Personnel

Crystal came to the commission to get approval on several hirings. She presented Brayden Giddings as a new corrections officer in the jail. A motion to approve the hire was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal also presented Jackie Palmer and Megan Shaw as the new clerks at the Road Department. There were 14 applicants with 13 interviews. A motion to approve the hiring of the two clerks was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Ben Musselman - SJC Public Works Director

Benny mentioned the broken water line by the fair grounds. He said that the City of Monticello would like to partner with the county to fix and maintenance the water line. There was a discussion where Benny explained why it would be helpful to partner with the City and maintenance the line. A motion was made by Commissioner Benally to replace water line and was 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

John David Nielson - SJC Clerk

John David presented the BOE recommendations to the commission for their approval. A motion to go into public hearing was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

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

Commissioner Adams stated that the public hearing was happening to consider vacation of two road portions of San Juan County, Utah. County Roads B-2721 portion on private property (Approximately 270 Feet) and D-5036 in its entirety all located within Sections 1, 12, 13 and 24, Township 40 South, Range 21 East, Salt Lake Base and Meridian. B2721 Cottonwood begins at US 191, and abuts D-5036 which ends on Federal lands and intersects no other roads. The petition is brought by the private owner pursuant Utah State Code 72-3-108 County roads -- Vacationing and narrowing.

A map showing the area of the proposed road closure was presented to the public. John Fellmeth briefly explained the map and how the road relates to the private property along with BLM and SITLA land

Ben Mussleman - SJC Public Works Director

Benny read a statement proposing that the county vacate the road

Rick Meyer - SJC Citizen

Rick explained his reasons why he proposed the road closure.

Josh Ewing - SJC Citizen

Josh commented that the issue has to do with public access to public lands and good public policy.

Ann Phillips - SJC Citizen

Ann, as an archeologist, talked about rock art and archeological resources and the importance of having access.

Bev Kier-Smith - SJC Citizen

Bev asked if the road was vacated would the public easement also be vacated. She sees vacating the road as creating a problem that isn't already there.

Shelby Seely - SJC Citizen

Commented that he supported the landowner's decision to close the road.

Ilene Fjerstad

Ilene questioned the purpose of the road closure and commented that there would be very little impact to the private property.

Lois Young - SJC Citizen

Commented that she has walked the road many times and would like to have the road remain open.

John McKinney - SJC Citizen

John stated that he would rather not see the road closed

Shelby Seely - SJC Citizen

Shelby commented on access being available vehicles as well as those walking

Rick Meyer - SJC Citizen

Rick explained that an additional walking path is being constructed in Bluff

Phil Lyman - SJC Citizen

Phil commented on other roads of access to the public lands and felt like a double standard may exist

Lawrence Guymon - SJC Citizen

Lawrence questioned whether they could put a gate on the road

Rebecca Benally - SJC citizen

Rebecca commented that preservation of Native American sites are more likely to happen when there is less access.

Josh Ewing - SJC Citizen

Commented on different types of access

A motion to close the public hearing was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Commissioner Adams thanked everyone for their comments and explained that a decision would be made after all factors have been considered.

Kelly Pehrson - CAO

Kelly presented a Bluff Arts festival grant in the amount of \$3,000. A motion to approve the grant was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous. Kelly also had a request to sign a letter of support for expanding utilities at Ticaboo. A motion to sign the letter was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting unanimous.

Kelly requested that the commission ratify the cost agreement for funds to the shooting range in Blanding. A motion to ratify the signing of the cost agreement was made by Commissioner Lyman and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Finally, Kelly presented a letter for the Cal Black Airport showing that the county agrees to follow certain procedures pertaining to funding received. A motion to sign the letter was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Commission Reports:

Commissioner Lyman - Commissioner Lyman reported on the 7 county coalition meeting in Price. He will also attend the Energy Fuels Open House and then will travel to SLC for meetings and will attend UAC in the coming weeks.

Commissioner Benally - Commissioner Benally attended the Aneth Chapter meeting where roads were talked about. She explained that the community is appreciative of the work done to improve roads. Commissioner Benally also reported that the county hosted a road meeting with NDOT, BIA, and the Chapters. She was pleased how the meeting went and explained that the Navajo Nation is seeing the good work done by San Juan County on roads. Tomorrow, Commissioner Benally will attend meetings in St. George, UAC meetings, and the Red Mesa Chapter meeting.

Commissioner Adams - Commissioner Adams attended an NRF meeting, a CIB meeting. He will attend various meetings the next couple of weeks.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 12:26