

**San Juan County Work Meeting**  
**Hideout Community Center - Conference Room**  
**Agenda**  
**February 7, 2017**

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

**Attendees:** Jerry McNeely, Bob Turri, Nick Sandberg, Kendall Laws, Wendy Black, Ben Musselman, Dean Collard, Doug Pehrson, Lance Porter, Bill Boyle, Ed Roberson, Abby Jossie, John Young, Rick Eldredge, Rick Meyer

**Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison**

Jerry talked about a CNHA meeting. Also at the meeting were the BLM, Forest Service, and Parks Services. Jerry reported what each agency talked about at the meeting. Kate Canon reported on Arches and talked about some ideas that she has for the park's area such as park reservations, a turn lane at the gate entrance, & widening the road. Mike Diem from the Forest Service talked about the Bears Ears National Monument. Jerry also talked about a stop light that has been put up at the entrance of Arches.

He also attended a water meeting and gave a printout of Ken's Lake water storage level. He met with SITLA and mentioned that they are trying to sell Canyonlands Outpost. Jerry also met with BLM and Forest Service. He mentioned that the Forest Service has someone working on the Brownell Easement and the LaSal Mine complex

**Nick Sandberg - SJC Planning**

Nick mentioned that Glen Canyon put out their final environmental impact statement on the highway management plan. He drafted some comments about the statement which he presented to the commission.

Nick also talked about Old Spanish Trail and mentioned that it was designated as a National Historic Trail. He attended a BLM meeting on how San Juan and Grand counties could promote the trail. Nick talked about an abandoned mine reclamation project after a public notice was posted by Susan White of Utah Division of Oil Gas & Mining. He also mentioned that the Cal Black Airport 1990 patent has been reaffirmed and title has been conferred to the county. Nick also mentioned the 2nd open house for the Resource Management Plan from 5-7 pm on 2/7/2017 and gave a summary of the results of survey.

**Ed Roberson - State of Utah BLM Director**

Ed Roberson came to the commission to introduce himself. He talked about some of the things that he has been involved with during his career. Commissioner Benally asked what Director Roberson's view was on upcoming regulation about law enforcement agreements between the

BLM and local law enforcement. Commissioner Benally also commented on federal overreach and the need for law enforcement to be done locally. She later commented Bears Ears Monument process and how local input was really not considered.

Commissioner Adams commented on Grazing AUMs reductions and encouraged a closer look at grazing and the restoration of some of those AUMs. He also talked about extraction in the county and asked the Director to look how extraction could happen.

Commissioner Lyman commented the heavy handedness by the BLM in the raid on Blanding and other issues and expressed his lack of confidence in them.

Sheriff Eldredge came and commented on the law enforcement of the public lands. He would like to see uniformed BLM rangers not be involved with the law enforcement of the county on public lands, but work with the county sheriff's department.

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A motion to approve the January 17, 2017 was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

**Linda Larson - SJC EMS Director**

Linda informed the commission that she needs to have a new Medical Director Contract. She would like to have Zeb Crofts be the director and presented a contract for approval by the commission. After some discussion, it was decided to bring the contract back at another commission meeting.

**John Young - SJC Jail Commander**

John came to the commission to request the permission to rebuild the east gate at a cost of under \$4,000. The funding would come from the inmate commissary account. A motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Sheriff Eldredge requested the purchase of 4 more body cameras. The cost of this would be covered by a \$5,000 grant. A motion to approve the purchase was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Sheriff also talked about the leasing of trucks. He explained how leasing newer trucks are a lower cost to the county.

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

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SAN JUAN PUBLIC  
HEALTH SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT, AND RELATED MATTERS**

Eric Johnson presented the purpose of the public hearing. He stated that no action would be taken today, just answering questions. After the hearing there will be a 60 day comment period

before a resolution to create the new Special Service District. Eric mentioned that it is not the purpose of the will not be to be a taxing entity. There were no public comments or questions.

A motion to leave public hearing was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

### **John David Nielson - SJC Clerk**

John David presented a beer license that came up for renewal. A motion by Commissioner Adams was made to approve the renewal. Commissioner Benally 2nd the motion. Voting was unanimous.

### **Kelly Pehrson - SJC CAO**

Kelly presented a personnel policy change. The change has to do with employee discipline. Kelly explained that a hearing officer would be hired to hear employee's grievances instead of commissioners. Other changes covered the pre-hearing and appeals process relating to employee discipline. A motion to approve the personnel policy change was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly also advertized for some chip and seal maintenance at Bluff airport and the Cal Black airport. Two bids were received and Kelly recommended Intermountain Slurry Seal as the winning bidder. A motion to accept the bid of Intermountain Slurry Seal was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

Also presented were the Fire contracts from the Forest Service, that had previously been talked about by Jason Johnson. The contract indicates that the county will pay half of the salary of the Fire Warden and explains his responsibilities. A motion to approve the contracts was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly talked about the CIB priority list that needs to be sent to CIB. He explained what type of projects go on the list and indicated that the list can be amended at any time. A motion to approve the CIB priority list was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

Openings for membership on the Water Board are being advertized. Also, the terms of Nate Langston and Merlin Grover are up and they are requesting to be reappointed to the board. After some discussion a motion to table the reappointment of the board members was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams.

Kelly discussed a request from Congressman Chaffetz's staff to write a letter to the Oversight Committee to request a hearing in San Juan County once a GAO study is completed to discuss the study. The study has to do with the bus school routes on the reservation.

Kelly mention a Homeland Security Grant that the county gets. He requested that the grant money be used for a truck for Bruce Bushore and other equipment. A motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

An RFP was sent out for an alert system to alert citizens of emergencies within the county. A total of 5 bids were received. It was suggested that Alert Sense be given the bid. Funds for the

system will be used by the Homeland Security Grant. A motion to approve the bid was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voty was unanimous. Commission assignments were previously discussed and was brought up again. A motion to approve Commissioner Adams to be the new Commission Chairman was made by Commissioner Benally. The motion was 2nd by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

### **Commission Reports -**

**Commissioner Adams** - Commissioner Adams attended at the legislative session at the state capitol and will attend a meeting with commissioners from rural counties and their representatives.

**Commissioner Benally** - Commissioner Benally met with new Aneth Chapter presidency on January 24th. They talked about Bears Ears, NRF, and PILT allocations. She also visited the Canyon Country Discovery Center. Commissioner Benally also attended the rural caucus meeting, met with NDOT and BIA about roads, attended the Women in Government meeting and the American Indian Caucus at the Capitol Building. Most of the talk at the American Indian Caucus was about the Bears Ears National Monument. She also talked a little about a new organization Utah League of Voters and will continue to attend the legislative session.

**Commissioner Lyman** - Commissioner Lyman expressed appreciation to the other commissioners during his time as commission chairman. Mentioned a UDOT meeting.

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