

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
March 25, 2013

The regular meeting of the San Juan County Commission was held at 10:00 A.M. in the Commission Room at Monticello, Utah.

Present: Bruce Adams, Chairman
 Kenneth Maryboy, Vice Chairman
 Phil Lyman, Commissioner
 Rick Bailey, SJC Administration
 James Francom, Chief Deputy Clerk

Attendees: Dustin Fife, Bill Bates, Howard Randall, Kelly Pehrson, Crystal Holt, Nick Sandberg, Jerry McNeely, Marilyn Boynton, Trudy De Angelis, Bob Turri, Rick Eldredge, Lynn Laws, Ted Donaldson, Robin Cahoon, Sean Spencer, Jim Keyes, Robert McPherson, Jared Barret, Charles Delorme, Dennis Tietzel

The Minutes of March 18, 2013 were approved at the end of the meeting by a motion of Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Commissioner Adams did not vote due to his absence last week. Vote unanimous none opposed.

Dustin Fife – SJC Library

Dustin requested that the Commission approve to have Chamberlin Architects start the bidding process on the Monticello Library Building. It is expected that the costs should be less for these new bids due to starting the process early and now that it is separated from USDA. He also requested that the County consider paying a percentage of the costs of the roof because of the Senior Center located in the basement. Commissioner Maryboy made a motion to approve the bidding process and Commissioner Lyman seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Bill Bates - Utah Division of Wildlife

Bill Bates introduced Sean Spencer who is the conservation officer in Bullfrog, Ted Donaldson the farm bill biologist, and Robin Cahoon who is DWR's legislative liaison. The deadline for comments concerning the Gunnison sage grouse has been extended to April 12th. DWR's approach is to have Fish & Wildlife delay the sage grouse listing to give them more time to implement the conservation strategy. DWR would like to work in cooperation with landowners and the county.

The county has been working aggressively on the habitat area and has hired an attorney to see what can be done. The sage grouse in San Juan County is a satellite population compared to the core population in Gunnison. There are other issues that need to be considered including the predator issues and the economic impacts.

Howard Randall - Assessor

Howard Randall provided a handout of the 2013 Tax exempt properties for approval. Howard is waiting on the results of the 2012 appeal on the Community Housing and the exemption form return for the Episcopal Church in Navajoland. Commissioner Maryboy made a motion to approve all of the tax exemptions subject to the appeal and the exemption form. Commissioner Lyman seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Kelly Pehrson - Chief Administrative Officer

Kelly made a request for the purchase of a new desk. Commissioner Maryboy made a motion to approve the purchase and Commissioner Lyman seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Crystal Holt - SJC Personnel

Crystal presented two new employment request to replace previous senior center positions. Roselita Bedonie as a Bluff Senior Center Aide with Mark Keith as an alternate. Dasjon Jones as a Blanding Senior Center Aide with Veronica Clark as an alternate. Both would start at step 1. Commissioner Lyman made a motion to approve the hires and the alternates if the first choice does not accept. Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Nick Sandberg - SJC Planner

Nick presented Dennis Tietzel the acting field manager for the BLM in Monticello until May 15th. Nick met with Dennis and Brian last week. The BLM has started work on the wolf creek area to add some campsites, gravel the road, and may add fencing if money is available. The BLM is closing a road north of Hamburger Rock that is not on any of the maps, which was created by people driving to campsites. The BLM is working on a document to complete a road realignment in Arch Canyon.

Nick presented a MOU for the gunnison sage-grouse which now includes 10 colorado counties. Attorney Walter Bird reviewed the document and was ok with it. Nick requested a signature from the commission to move forward with the MOU. Commissioner Lyman made a motion to sign the MOU and Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

The individual land ownership parcels in the proposed designation area were mapped. Of the 1,221 parcels there are 440 different owners. That number only represents the surface owners. The additional owners of the mineral rights could be a much greater number.

A draft document from Shawn Welch was presented to the commission and some recommendations were made to send a separate letter along with his letter. Bob Turri also made a recommendation that the county should request an economic impact study be completed.

Lynn Laws -SJC Road

Lynn informed the commission that he would be using B Road funds to purchase a new road grader and a service vehicle for Monticello. Next week's road meeting was also postponed for a week.

Dr. Robert McPherson - Dr. Jared Barrett

Dr. McPherson and Dr. Barrett have been working together on a large project to show tourists the area from the Native American perspective. The project is called "Teachings of the Land" and it will be a 5 series volume computer app with companion guide books. The project could be expanded in the future to help inform people on other things in the county. This 5 year project will cost over \$75,000.

They made a request for \$20,000 for the start up costs from San Juan County. Charles DeLorme with SJC Economic Development explained that he has earmarked \$5,000 for the project. It was suggested that the county could use \$5,000 from the general fund and that the State could potentially match the funds to come up with the \$20,000 requested. Charles DeLorme was assigned to follow up with the State regarding the matching funds. Commissioner Lyman made a motion to use \$5,000 from the general fund and \$5,000 from economic funds and Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Rick Eldredge - SJC Sheriff

Rick explained that the rate for the contracted inmates has gone up from about \$45 to \$46.85 per inmate, which comes out to about \$47,000 per year. Rick made the request that the Sheriff's office could use the new revenue for raises for his department. The commission requested a written proposal showing the increase in funds and the costs of the wage increases. The commission would then decide how best to use those new funds.

Jerry McNeely – SJC Liaison

Jerry reported that the K2O project is being held up due to a conflict on the maps that has been sent to the attorneys. A campground is being built in Kane Creek by the BLM and they would like to close an old road to make it a bigger campground. Jerry recommended that the road be closed, because the road is not in use anyway, it is liability, and it could be reopened if someone wanted to mine there.

Jerry met with the Forest Service, NPS, and SITLA. He is still battling with the housing authority. Spanish Valley Water and Sewer Board reported that there is no water in Ken's Lake. The Board is meeting with the BLM to see if they can cut down the water flowing out from 3 sec/ft to 1 sec/ft.

Rick Bailey - SJC County Administration

Rick presented two building permits: Stephen Schultz - shop in La Sal and Geary Miller/Gretchen Krantz - residence in Spanish Valley Coronado Subdivision. Commissioner Maryboy made a motion to approve the permits and Commissioner Lyman seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Rick requested to reduce the landfill tippage rate for clean dirt. He proposed that it be changed to \$15/ton for the clean dirt the current rate is \$25/ton. Commissioner Lyman made a motion to change the rate to \$15/ton for clean dirt and Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Following up on the Utah Navajo Chapter Recreation Funds it was proposed that the Chapters work with the Utah Navajo Fair group that has about \$43,000 in excess funds. NTUA is interested in a connection from the Mexican Hat public water system to the Halchita water system for about five to ten years, while their demand is low.

Rick met with the Navajo Nation Division of Transportation and was please with the meeting. Walter is going to review a MOU between NNDOT and San Juan County. Rick discussed the possibility of a community channel that would have very little cost, but that we would need someone to provide the content for the channel. He also mentioned the sale of the Abajo Communications Building Lease Site. The Cross Commission Agreement with Navajo Police Department has been approved. Now they just need to receive the training to receive the cards.

Rick discussed several upcoming meetings including: a four county NPS meeting, UDOT's, annual visit, lunch with Creamer and Noble, community meetings on the Navajo Mountain to Oljato Roads, and a meeting with UNHS Ambulance Service on March 29, 2013.

Requested extension of time on the USDA EWP Grant for Paiute Creek Bridge. Commissioner Lyman made a motion to sign the extension agreement and Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Update on shooting range in Blanding the National Guard would be doing the work. Just need a right of way permit from the BLM, which is in the process. Rick presented an update draft resolution for HB 148. Rick discussed licenses for the translator systems shared with the Eastern Utah Television and Technology Association. Rick also mentioned that Kelly Pehrson will be responsible for the commission agendas in the future.

Commission Reports

Commissioner Lyman - had discussion with Southeastern Utah Health District Blanding Branch which reported they have lost three of their nurses. He would like to find a workable solution to provide the needed services in our area. Commissioner Lyman went to the Republican Convention and felt they had a good discussion.

Commissioner Maryboy - met with NDOT, Senator Hinkins, Mike Noel, and with Donna Singer. He has a Utah Dine Corporation meeting saturday in Teec Nos Pos.

Commissioner Adams - attended the Republican Party Convention. He expressed concern for the future of the Republican party with people changing their affiliation back and forth. UCIP has a surplus of about \$84,000. The board is looking at putting that money in a reserve fund, rate stabilization fund,

or in a rebate program. Commissioner Adams will be meeting with Kathleen Clark wednesday night concerning the Gunnison Sage-Grouse.

Citizens Comments:

Linda made a request to the commission to take a county vehicle to Durango to attend a presentation in Jackson Hole. The EMS group would be paying all of the travel costs from the flight, hotel, etc. There was a citizen comment turned in from Marilyn Boynton who left before being able to comment.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.