

**SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**May 20, 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  
                  Kelly Pehrson, SJC Chief Administrative Officer  
                  Norman L. Johnson, County Clerk /Auditor

Attendees:     Nick Sandberg, Bob Turri, Barbara Trask, Trudy DeAngelis, Jerry McNeely,  
                  James Francom, Rick Bailey, Crystal Holt, Marilyn Boynton, Keith Price, Pam  
                  Hansen, Jeff Nielson

The Minutes of May13, 2013 were approved with a motion by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. The voting was unanimous.

Crystal Holt – SJC Personnel

Crystal Holt presented the name of Troy Lopez to be a replacement hire for the County Road Department at step 89. Troy was selected from a field of seven candidates. A motion to approve the hire was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Keith Price – K2O

Keith gave the Commission a detailed update on the activities and progress being made by K2O in their potash exploration and development. He said their operations started 4 ½ years ago and has now received the BLM permits necessary to continue prospecting on Federal Lands. The company has secured \$20 million for the exploration work and will begin drilling around June 15, after the pronghorn fawning season. K2O has already drilled 3 very successful holes, on State Lands and have access to 13 Oil and Gas well logs indicating the presence of commercial quantities of potash. At present they are very satisfied with the progress made by the BLM. Keith restated their plan to be a good corporate citizen and to priority employ SJC residents. He said during the construction phase there will be 2500 workers and when in production it will take 200 permanent employees to run the operation.

Rick Bailey – SJC Emergency Services

Rick advised the commission that LeGrand Johnson has a UDOT contract to do work on Hwy 191 from mile marker 106–108 and 111–114 this summer. Rick said he has submitted 4 applications to the old Forrest Highway Project fund but said only some work in the Hovenweep area will have much of a funding chance.

Rick presented Amendment #2 to the NRCS Cooperative Agreement 68-8D43-12-52 for the EWP FY12 Piute Creek Project. The amendment will extend the project to February 6, 2014 thereby allowing more time for completion. A motion to approve the Chairman signing the Agreement was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Rick requested authorization to have the Chairman sign the EMPG Grant for FEMA Funds in the amount of \$32,500. The funds are used to defer some of the Emergency Services administrative costs. A motion to approve the Chairman signing the grant application was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Norman Johnson – SJC Clerk / Auditor

Norman presented an application from Jefferson Salonen Jr., Root of the Rocks Music Gathering, for a 3 day Special Events Beer License. The event will be held June 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> in the north end of SJC. Following a brief discussion The Special Events Beer License was granted, provided the Sheriff is in agreement, by a motion from Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly Pehrson – SJC CAO

Kelly presented two building permits for approval. Empire Electric – microwave tower – Monticello and David Butler – home addition – Bridger Jack Mesa. A motion to approve the two building permits provided all the appropriate signatures are in place was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly presented a resolution restating the counties support for HCR 011 SO1 adopted by the 2013 State Legislature supporting the transfer of the Utah Navajo Trust Fund management to the Utah Dine’ Corporation.

**RESOLUTION 2013-03  
RESOLUTION REAFFIRMING SAN JUAN COUNT’S COMMISSION SUPPORT OF  
FEDERAL LEGISLATION THAT WOULD TRANSFER MANAGEMENT AND  
ASSETS OF THE UTAH NAVAJO ROYALTIES HOLDING FUND (formerly the Utah  
Navajo Trust Fund) TO THE UTAH NAVAJO RESIDENTS**

The entirety of the resolution is made as an attachment to the minutes

Following a brief discussion a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-03 was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. The voting was unanimous.

Kelly requested permission to send a letter to the State Building Board supporting having a local representative on the board and not moving the (Grand and San Juan) position to Cedar City. Following a brief discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy to authorize sending the letter. Voting was unanimous.

In other business Kelly said he had a letter ready for the commission's signature congratulating the San Juan High Gils softball team for taking the State Championship. Kelly said the management of the White Mesa Uranium Mill would like to visit with the commission on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM to review the present and future planning operations of the mill.

#### Jerry McNeely – SJC Northern Liaison

Jerry reported that everyone seems pleased with the 22 permits issued by the BLM to K2O and that they seemed to have done a responsible job on them. He also said the BLM is working on addition permits for the Lisbon Valley Mine and the LaSal uranium mine complex. Jerry mentioned that the BLM was not real supportive of the Root of the Rocks music event but that they recognize it is on private land. The new BLM Canyon Country District Manager is Lance Porter.

In other Items Jerry said he continues to work with the attorney's on the RS2477 project in both Grand and San Juan Counties and on the Tangren Lane gas project.

#### Nick Sandberg – SJC Planner

Nick continues to work with the Colorado Counties on the Gunnison Sage Grouse issue. Meeting dates are being worked on along with programs to protect the species from extension. The next major meeting with all the counties will be June 13<sup>th</sup> in Montrose. Commissioner Adams said a resolution is being worked on from UAC to WIR and then on to the NACo Annual Meeting in San Antonio.

Nick is working on various projects involving the BLM such as the Cedar Mesa ATV route and Recapture Trail. The Arch Canyon stream alteration permit has been sent to the state for approval. He is also working on items for Mark Ward on HB142.

Nick said the next meeting with the Nation and Dine' Bikeyah will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June and reminded the Commission of today's 1:00 PM executive session meeting with the Grand County Council.

#### Commission Reports

Commissioner Lyman – attended San Juan Farm Days last week and was very impressed. Thursday he went with the RS2477 attorney's and was in SLC for the Republican Convention on Saturday. This Wednesday he will meet with the USU Chancellor and hopes to have a talk on establishing a committee regarding the joint position being worked on. He has been invited to go on a river trip with State Parks June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Maryboy - said he will be in Flagstaff for WIR this week and continues to work on the resolutions of support for the Trust Fund.

Commissioner Adams – last week he participated in a conference call with UAC and WIR and then attended the Republican Convention on Saturday. This week he will attend WIR in

Flagstaff. Commissioner Adams asked if things were ready for Lieutenant Governor Bell's visit on 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> and said they will need one vehicle. The slow opening of the Halls Crossing Ferry and early planned closure is of serious concern to the County as it is viewed as a closing of a County / State Highway.

### Citizen Comments

Marilyn Boynton presented four questions and or comments to the commission.

1. What are the Sage Grouse Deadlines? Answer, the end of September.
2. Are additional Deer warning flashers going to be placed along the highway? Answer, It is a State Highway but we will check with UDOT
3. Her Whooping Crane Experience. Marilyn related the experience she had had with the Federal Fish and Wildlife and a migratory flock of Cranes in Colorado.
4. She asked Keith Price if there was any possibility of striking oil and gas in their drilling that would be more valuable than the potash. Answer, Keith indicated he did not think that was possible due to the types of formations they will be drilling in.

Meeting Adjourned 11:32 AM