

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
July 1, 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: Kenneth Maryboy, Vice Chairman
 Phil Lyman, Commissioner
 Kelly Pehrson, SJC Chief Administrative Officer
 Norman L. Johnson, County Clerk /Auditor

Absent Bruce Adams, Chairman

Attendees: Nick Sandberg, Bob Turri, James Francom, Trudy DeAngelis, Walter Bird,
 Crystal Holt, Rick Bailey, Pat Smith, Teri Paul, Billy Gaines, Jennifer Swanson

The Minutes of June 24, 2013 were motioned for approval, with a slight change, by Commissioner Lyman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. The voting was unanimous. Commissioner Adams will be given the opportunity to make changes or comments.

Walter Bird – SJC Deputy Attorney

Walter presented proposed changes to the County Overtime policy. The wording adjustment will state clearly the intent and use of the employee benefit. The policy changed is Section Nine – Compensation, Part D – Overtime, paragraph 3. *“The use of compensatory time ... and must be used by the end of the fifth month (Sheriff’s Office employees) or the fifth pay period (all other employees) after the pay period in which it was earned. If accrued comp time is not used by the end of the fifth month (Sheriff’s Office employees) or the fifth pay period (all other employees) after the pay period in which it was earned, all overtime will be paid to the employee in monetary payments. All accrued compensatory time shall be used before the use of accrued vacation or other forms of leave.”* Following a brief discussion Commissioner Lyman made a motion to approve the policy change and it was seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Rick Bailey – SJC Emergency Services

Rick advised the Commission that the satellite link-up systems on our two mobile emergency command posts are not operational. Both of the systems are old and are no longer being supported with parts or regular service. Rick has a technician in Salt Lake looking into the county options but at this time he is not able to provide an exact cost. Rick thinks it will likely range from 3 to 12 thousand. Following a discussion Rick was given permission to proceed to bid on the units.

Rick made a brief report on the water situation in the Teec Nos Pos area and said the people are ok but the water for livestock is a big issue. The state is working with the Navajo Nation on the situation.

Norman Johnson – SJC Clerk / Auditor

Norman requested the Commission set the 2013 BOE hearing dates and suggested hiring a Hearing Officer. Following a discussion Commissioner Lyman made a motion to set the BOE dates on August 19th from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM and August 26th from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM and have the Assessor contact the potential hearing officer; however a decision on hiring the hearing officer is to be placed on the next agenda for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Vote was unanimous.

Teri Paul – Edge of the Cedars Museum

Teri gave the Commission a detailed up-date on the Goosenecks State Park and said they received 90 thousand visitors there a year. The State is considering placing a pipe strong box and asking for a \$5 voluntary fee donation. With the donations they could upgrade the camping area and potentially develop a bike trail, in connection with the NPS, to the Honaker Trail.

Teri told of the success of her efforts to develop the “Friends of Edge of the Cedars Museum” and the additional events it provided to the public at the Edge of the Cedars Museum. She encouraged everyone to join and get involved. The Commission thanked Teri for her leadership and the good job she is doing at the Edge of the Cedars and Goosenecks.

Crystal Holt – SJC Personnel

Crystal presented the name of Catherine Niven to be hired as a Monticello Library Assistant and Holly Fellmeth as an alternate. Following a brief discussion Commissioner Lyman made a motion to accept the recommendation of the two candidates and hire Catherine Niven at step one (1) as the Monticello Library Assistant. Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly Pehrson – SJC CAO

Kelly presented one building permit for a remodel of the LDS Chapel in Eastland. A motion to approve the building permit provided all the appropriate signatures are in place was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly reported on his meeting with the County Economic Development & Visitor Services Advisory Board. In their meeting they approved three (3) applications for grant funding. The grants are as follows (1) Dinosaur Museum for \$5,000; (2) Bluff Arts Festival \$3,000 and (3) Hillman Triathlon – Blanding for \$500. Commissioner Lyman stated he was pleased with the direction of the Advisory Board and made a motion to approve the grant requests. Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

A Contract from Utah Legal Services for Legal Services to the Elderly Citizens, was presented by Kelly in the amount of \$2,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Lyman to approve the

annual Legal Services Contract. Commissioner Maryboy seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Kelly discussed the Lands Bill open house set for Friday August 9th. There will be an afternoon meeting with the commission prior to the open house that evening.

Nick Sandberg – SJC Planner

Nick presented the commission with a letter addressed to Juan Palma, BLM State Director, expressing the County's sincere appreciation for the work completed by Dennis Teitzel . Dennis has been the Acting Field Manager since March of this year and has accomplished several good things. The Commission agreed to sign and send the letter.

Nick gave an update on the various Sage Grouse activities and said that there has been a 6 month extension request made by the Federal Fish and Wildlife. Work is continuing on the Colorado and the Utah agreements so that the Governors signatures can be attached to them. On July 16th Director Ash will be in Gunnison Colorado. The Commissioners will attend and will also invite Governor Herbert.

The SPEAR organization has asked that the County place a new logo on the trail markers showing the County's interest and ownership. There was discussion as to the design of the sticker and what logo to use. Nick was given permission to look for a new design. Last week there was a good SPEAR work project on Cedar Mesa.

Today at 1:00 is the Forrest Service coordinating meeting and next Monday at 1:00 is the BLM coordinating meeting.

Commission Reports

Commissioner Maryboy – has spent most of the week working on the very serious drought situation on the reservation and surrounding area. The Navajo Nation has declared a State of Emergency and released \$3 million dollars to relief efforts. Water is being hauled and some wells re-worked. He will be in the area this week continuing his efforts to assist in the relief work.

Commissioner Lyman – indicated he is impressed with the applicants for the joint USU – SJC position. The position should be filled by the end of the summer. He attended the Canyon Country Partnership and the San Juan Heritage Council meetings. Commissioner Lyman also went to Springerville, AZ, to a report on the wolf introduction which has been made in the area. He said some of the people there think the Sage Grouse are a bigger threat to the cattle industry than the Wolf. He also discussed a meeting he attended with Blue Mountain Dine and the West Water Group. Progress is being made on the Pacheco Trail and it may end up with the County receiving a deed to the property.

Commissioner Lyman said that HB 155 has been “shot down” much to the dismay of the states elected Sheriffs.

Citizen Comments

Mr. Billy Gaines, of Bluff, reported to the Commission that last weekend there were trucks hauling gravel from an un-taxed pit in the Bluff area and that there was no law enforcement there to apprehend them. He said the trucks are unlicensed and uninsured. He expressed his dissatisfaction with the lack of service being provided by law enforcement and tax revenue persons, while he has to seek work in Northern Utah.

Meeting Adjourned 11:47 AM