

**SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING**  
**July 8, 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, Trudy DeAngelis, Crystal Holt, Jennifer Swanson, Monte Wells, Wilford Jones, Howard Randall

The Minutes of July 1, 2013 were motioned for approval, with a slight change, by Commissioner Lyman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal Holt – SJC Personnel Office

Crystal advised the Commission of changes and decisions made by UCIP. Utah Counties Indemnity Pool (UCIP) has added a “cyber liability” protection clause to the insurance policy without an increase to the county premiums. This insurance will be very beneficial in the case of a computer system hacking or loss of information from some type of cyber-attack. The insurance will protect the county and those who might be harmed by the loss of information. The past year has been successful for UCIP and as a result the county will receive a dividend of \$4,030. The current San Juan County UCIP equity is \$292,494

Norman Johnson – SJC Clerk / Auditor  
Howard Randall – SJC Assessor

Norman and Howard requested the Commission approve hiring a Hearing Officer for the 2013 tax cycle. They recommended Valli Smouse of Moab. There was a detailed discussion about the use of hearing officers and how that reflects on the taxpayers and their relationship with the County Commission, who has final responsibility for the taxes paid. Will the use of a hearing officer provide assistance or just be another layer of bureaucracy? Following the discussion Commissioner Maryboy made a motion to give the hearing officer a try for one year and then judge its value and functionality. Commissioner Lyman seconded the motion. Voting was as follows. Aye Commissioner Adams and Maryboy, Nay Commissioner Lyman. Commissioner Adams declared the motion passed.

Howard Randall - SJC Assessor

Howard requested permission, from the Commission, to look at taking some of his retiring employee’s responsibilities and adding them to another department’s part time person and

making them a full time benefited employee. Overall this would reduce the county FTE's by one person. A healthy discussion centered on not changing responsibilities but just reducing the Assessors staff by one FTE and maintaining the Clerk's Office part time person as such. Following some additional discussion it was decided to hold an executive session next week to discuss this personnel issue.

Commissioner Lyman asked County Assessor Randall about the notice of mediation, which many of his constituents had received, from last year's BOE that have been scheduled for hearing over the next couple weeks. Commissioner Lyman feels that he, as a member of the BOE, has not been brought into the loop. The Assessor and the Clerk / Auditor have received copies of the hearing notices; however, there is confusion on who is to participate in the telephone hearings. Timing of the hearings is difficult as the Commissioners and Clerk / Auditor will be in Dallas for NACo meetings most of the time between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month. Clarification will be sought from the Tax Commission by the Assessor.

#### Kelly Pehrson – SJC CAO

Kelly presented a building permit from Matthew Bigler for a residence in Old LaSal. A motion to approve the building permit provided all the appropriate signatures are in place was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly discussed the upcoming August 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> field trips and meeting schedules with Representative Chaffetz and Bishop. He said he is working on a meeting with Zion's Bank for a presentation on investments and will be meeting with Cody Deeter on refinancing the Mexican Hat Special District Water Bonds.

The Commissioners noted that their July 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting will be cancelled as they will be at NACo.

#### Nick Sandberg – SJC Planner

Nick said the BLM planning meeting, originally set for today, has been postponed until next week to give the new Area Manager time to settle in. He also discussed the July 16<sup>th</sup> Gunnison, Colorado, meeting with Director Ash on the Sage Grouse issue and said requests have been made for a 6 month extension on the deadline, for listing the species, is in process. Nick said the BLM is continuing work on the Safari event and the field trip into Dark Canyon will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> of next week.

#### Commission Reports

Commissioner Adams – indicated he was out of the County last week on personal business but that this week he will be at CIB and attend the Saturday Horse Sale.

Commissioner Lyman – indicated he attended last week's Forrest Service coordinating meeting and will be on the Dark Canyon field trip on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Last week he went to the Grazing Improvement Board meeting in Moab and participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events in Blanding. Commissioner Lyman said he is working on a NACo Resolution, with Commissioner Gardner of

Washington County, concerning the Arizona Strip and the White Mesa Mill. Commissioner Lyman is also working with Kevin Carter on the acquisition of County D Roads.

Commissioner Maryboy – has spent most of the week working on the very serious drought situation on the reservation and surrounding area. Most of the water tanks are nearly full now and water is being hauled. He will continue to work on the water issues this week and will be at NACO starting the 17<sup>th</sup>. The Nation will be in Council session from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### Citizen Comments

Jennifer Swanson reported on her photo project here in San Juan County. To date she has taken 6 or 7,000 photos. She said attendance at the commission meetings helps her to understand more about the county.

Meeting Adjourned 11:36 AM