

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
December 22, 2014

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 – CAO
 Norman L. Johnson, Clerk / Auditor
 Rebecca Benally, Commissioner Elect

Attendees: Jerry McNeely, Marilyn Boynton, Nick Sandberg, Roma Young, Crystal Holt, Susan Taylor, Pat Smith, Kay Shumway, John Fellmeth, Nicole Perkins, Sam Cantrell, Tammy Gallegos, Linda Larsen, Ryan Benally, Rozanna Sagg, Michael Sagg, Clint Howell, Joy Howell

The minutes of December 8 and the Notes of 15th were approved by a motion from Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Preston Grover – SJC Landfill Manager

Preston suggested to the commission that if they are considering a fee increase at the landfill it should be done soon so contractors could notify their customers. There was a discussion about the reasons and the need for a fee increase to maintain the landfill's financial position. The Commission asked that Kelly and Preston get together and bring a recommendation for action.

Crystal Holt - SJC Personnel

Crystal presented several payroll requests and adjustments for consideration:

As the Blanding Librarian Nicole Perkins, at step 68 a full time position. Nicole has been the part time Assistant Librarian for five and a half years. A motion to approve the promotion of Nicole Perkins was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

As the Monticello Lead Librarian, Crystal presented the name of Brenda Freestone, who is a part-time employee and will remain as such, at step 35. A motion to approve the promotion of Brenda Freestone as the Lead Librarian in Monticello was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous.

As a Deputy Surveyor it has been recommended that Jacob Regalado be promoted. Jacob has been a temporary Surveyor and will be placed at step 116. A motion to approve the promotion of Jacob Regalado was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

It is recommended that Amy Camacho be moved from a part-time Dispatcher to full time replacing a permanent employee who left the position. A motion to approve the promotion of Amy Camacho at \$14.62 per hour was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal presented the name of Karson Lacy to be hired as a Corrections Officer at \$14.62 per hour and when he finishes post he will be raised to \$16.06 per hour. A motion to approve the hiring of Karson Lacy was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Payroll increases were requested for Carl Perkins and Warren Keith who are taking over the responsibility of the Weed Department. The request is to move Carl to step 213 and Warren to step 136. Following a brief discussion a motion to approve the payroll adjustments was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Maryboy. Voting was unanimous.

Mr. Worthy Glover Jr. was presented as the person recommended by the new SJC Health Board, hiring committee, to become the Health Department Director at step 278. There was a discussion concerning the Health Department and what the processes will be. A motion to approve the hiring of Worthy Glover Jr. as the San Juan County Health Department Director was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. Voting was unanimous. The Commission held additional discussion on the process of blending with the Southeastern Utah Health District over the next six months.

Public Hearing – Adjustments to the 2014 SJC General Fund and related budgets

A motion was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman to go into a Public Hearing to receive input on potential adjustments to the San Juan County 2014 General Fund and related budgets. Voting was unanimous.

John Fellmeth, Chief Deputy Auditor presented financial information relating to the needed adjustments. In summary he said the General Fund needs to be adjusted by \$746,625; Emergency Medical Services by \$130,028; The Capital Projects Fund by \$1,200,000 and the Tort Liability Fund by \$21,000. An explanation was given for the various adjustments but mostly due to over spending because of grants or additional funds received during the year but the expense was not budgeted at the first of the year. Commissioner Elect Benally asked why there was no budget for the Montezuma Creek and Monument Valley Ambulance services. Linda Larsen explained those areas are now served entirely by UNHS. There being no other comments a motion to go out of Public Hearing was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman.

A motion was made by Commissioner Maryboy to approve the adjustments proposed by Mr. Fellmeth and authorize the Budget Officer to make any interdepartmental adjustments necessary. Commissioner Lyman Seconded the motion. A discussion was held on the process of adjusting individual department budgets to show they are in balance, when in fact there may have been an over expenditure. Following the discussion and a brief explanation there was a unanimous vote

on the motion.

2015 San Juan County Budget

John Fellmeth presented the final draft of the 2015 General Fund and related budgets. He reviewed the fund balances that would result from the proposed budget if it is adopted. With the 5% employee and Elected Official payroll adjustments the General Fund is \$150,776 short and will be balanced to the reserves. The total proposed budget expenditures are as follows: General Fund \$11,420,031; B-Road Fund is \$6,035,338; Health Fund \$405,018; Emergency Medical Services \$453,388; Capital Projects Fund \$160,500; Road Capital Fund \$28,811; Landfill \$378,337; Tort Liability Fund \$215,000; Tax Stability Trust Fund \$28,000; Library Fund \$522,093. The total 2015 budget expenditures for San Juan County are \$19,646,516.

Following a discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman to adopt the 2015 General Fund and related San Juan County Budgets as presented. Voting was unanimous.

Norman Johnson – SJC Clerk / Auditor

Norman presented 2015 Beer License renewals for the Halls Crossing Store, Halls Crossing Marina, Hite Store, 3Step Hideaway, Cottonwood Steakhouse and Comb Ridge Coffee along with a local consent form. With a brief discussion a motion to approve the applications was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman. The voting was unanimous.

Clint and Joy Howell – SJC Residents

Joy and Clint presented a request to have the taxes charged on Central Assessed Parcel SA-4031 reviewed. There was an in-depth discussion on the value of the property and the oil produced. The Howells are dissatisfied with the attention they have been given by the USTC and wanted the Commission to make adjustments to their values and or have the taxes abated. After additional discussion Commissioner Adams suggested the Commission write a letter to the USTC requesting a review of the Howells situation. A motion was made by Commissioner Maryboy and seconded by Commissioner Lyman to write a letter to the Utah State Tax Commission on behalf of the Howells. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly Pehrson – CAO

Kelly presented the Northern Liaison Agreement for an increase of \$200 per month. With a brief discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Lyman to increase the pay of the Northern Liaison to \$1200 per month. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Adams. Commissioner Maryboy was absent for the vote.

Kelly presented a renewal of the Public Defender Contract in favor of Happy Morgan. Given the

current circumstances it appeared to be in the best interest of the County to increase the monthly fee to \$10,500 until office space can be found in the Public Safety Building then it will drop to \$10,000 per month. Following brief discussion a motion to approve the contract adjustment was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Commissioner Maryboy was absent for the vote.

In last week's work meeting, the "Bluff Committee for Culinary Water Solutions" made a request of \$4,980 to assist them in a mediation process between Bluff Water Works and the Bluff Service Area. After a brief discussion the Commission agreed to assist the mediation, but the funds are to be released only after there is a confirmation that the two entities are really interested in cooperation and are moving toward a solution.

Kelly presented a building permit for Jared Berrett for a Residence Blanding. A motion to approve the permit provided all signatures and fees are in place, was made by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Commissioner Maryboy was absent for the vote.

NACo is being held on February 21-25 in Washington D.C. – Kelly asked who was planning to attend? Commissioner Lyman and Commissioner Elect Rebecca Benally are planning on going.

Jerry McNeely – SJC Liaison

Jerry discussed his tour with SITLA around the Fidelity oil fields. He said they are right on the county line and should be a benefit to San Juan County soon. He attended a meeting in Green River with a presentation from a Colorado group about land use and gave a handout to the commission on their high points. Jerry met with the Forrest Service and said the cattle problem, in the Pack Creek area, is getting worse but the USFS seem to be softening their position on the width of OHV trails in the 2 mile area. Jerry said Kate Cannon is frustrated with the procedure for selecting concessionaires in Canyonlands.

Nick Sandberg – SJC Planner

Nick commented on the concessionaires in Canyonlands and said it may be another year before it is resolved. The Commissioners agreed to write a letter to see if they might have any influence on the process. Nick said that BLM's Section 106 will have an impact on statewide travel planning. He reported that Gunnison County, Colorado, has asked for specific information on how the listing of the Gunnison Sage Grouse will impact counties but they have not received any information at this time. Commissioner Adams said he was at the Utah AG's Office this week and they will join SJC in the notice of intent to file legal action.

Commission Reports:

Commissioner Lyman has spent a lot of time on the Public Health issue and is working on how the County Public Health will interface with SEUHD. At present the intent is to work as a shadow agency for six months. Most contracts are July 1 fiscal year agreements. On January

14th the Cultural Resource Planning Meeting will be held and take up most of the day.

Commissioner Maryboy will be around this week and is meeting with sand and gravel permit holders in an effort to create a stockpile of gravel for use by the chapters. He said the Mexican Water Chapter has 2 cabins available for rent to tourists. He is involved with the Navajo oil and gas and sees a potential of layoffs coming mid-year in 2015. The special session of the Navajo Nation started today and will go thru tomorrow.

Commissioner Adams was in SLC meeting with the AG's Office on Thursday and also attended a UCIP budget meeting.

Citizen Comments:

Marilyn Boynton asked what was meant by a statement last week of the County being "leaner and meaner". Commissioner Adams said he meant they were keeping a tight rope on the budget but was not sure just how many county FTE's had been eliminated by attrition during the year, but there are several.

Commissioner Adams recognized and welcomed members of Commissioner Elect Rebecca Benally's family.

Meeting Adjourned 12:12 PM