

SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
March 24, 2015 at 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Bruce Adams, Commissioner
 Phil Lyman, Commission Chairman
 Rebecca Benally, Commission Vice Chair
 Kelly Pehrson - CAO
 John David Nielson - Clerk/Auditor

Attendees: Robert Hatch, Worthy Glover, Kate Cannon, Shelby Seely, Roma Young, Marilyn Boynton, Charlie DeLorme, David Carpenter, Tim Chamberlain, Jerry McNeely, Pat Smith, Crystal Holt, Linda Larson, Roma Young, Scott Christensen, Sam Cantrell, Jeremy Hoggard, Nick Sandberg, Bob Turri, Dina Brown, Mark Curtis, Jackie Randolph, Chester Johnson, Kevin Moore, Greg Adams, Monica Alvarado, Davis Filfred, Tony Hall

Amended agenda - A motion to add Robert Hatch and Davis Filfred to the agenda was made by Commissioner Adams and seconded by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes - A motion to approve minutes for March 10 and March 17 was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Department Head Concerns

John David Nielson - Clerk/Auditor

Presented tax exemption requests for The Archaeological Conservancy, Blue Mountain Dine Associates, S.E. Utah Museum of the American West, First Baptist Church, San Juan Community Church and Utah Navajo Health System Inc. A motion to approve the applications and requests was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

Presented three properties owned by the county that had previously been struck off. There is some interest from individuals to purchase these properties. John David asked if the Commission would like to sell them. Commissioner Adams suggested that a legal review of the properties be done by the County Attorney or Deputy Attorney before making a decision. The decision to sell or not to sell the properties was tabled pending the legal advice.

Tim Chamberlain -

Mentioned that the Business Resource Center received a \$10,000 grant and explained that it would be used to get some equipment for the Arts and Events Center so it could better serve businesses who want to do events there. Tim also mentioned the Custom Fit Program and the area that it services.

Robert Hatch - representative for Cody Gurgainers

Requested a tax abatement on behalf of Cody Gurgainers who know longer lives in the State. There was a discussion about his situation and the property in question. It was decided that legal advice should be considered before making a decision on what to do.

Pat Smith - SJC Library Director

Pat gave an update of the condition and activities at the different libraries. She mentioned standardizing the cataloging for the satellite libraries. In Montezuma Creek there was some minor remodeling. Some changes in the La Sal Library are also planned. Cataloging and appearance changes to the Blanding Library are being looked into. She also mentioned that some vandalism has occurred at the Blanding Library. Steps have been taken to mitigate the vandalism. Pat also mentioned summer programs for the youth. She and Nicole Perkins have registered for a training and a conference. Pat also mentioned a grant that the library would be receiving and explained how the money would be used. A memorandum of agreement between San Juan County Library and the Utah State Library Division regarding the grant was presented to the Commission to be signed. Commissioner Benally made a motion to sign the agreement and was 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was unanimous.

Dina Brown - Fidelity Oil & Gas

Dina came to discuss Fidelity's operations in Grand and San Juan Counties and to give an update on what was going on. She presented a couple of maps showing the locations of their operations. Dina mentioned applications that they're submitting for drilling and talked about the process, which includes an environmental assessment by the BLM as well as a comment period from the public. Dina also explained that part of the process of choosing a location to drill means taking into consideration; the wildlife, archeology of the land, and other factors. There was more discussion about Fidelity's desire to work with and communicate with the county as issues and circumstances arise.

Linda Larson - SJC EMS Director

Linda requested some out of state travel to Wyoming for some training on rural EMS education. She also explained a little bit about the training. The dates will be May 4th, 5th, and 6th. A motion to approve the travel was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally.

Voting was unanimous

Charlie DeLorme - SJC Visitor Services

Updated the Commission of an upcoming Governor's office of Economic Development visit and gave them a calendar. Charlie also mentioned the San Juan Heritage council and the Governor's Economic Development Summit. Charlie also mentioned using Elevated Transit as a possible use of transportation to meetings.

Crystal Holt - SJC Human Resources

Presented Brittany Carlson, Katie Knight, Rick Meyer, and Sena Yoakum as hires from the Health Department. A motion to approve the hires was made by Commissioner Benally and was 2nd with discussion by Commissioner Adams. A small discussion took place regarding the benefits rolling over from Southeastern Utah Health Department. Voting was unanimous.

Crystal presented the names of Wayne Yanito and Kelly Pehrson for salary increases:

Wayne - is being moved from the south district to the north district which requires a step increase. The Heavy Equipment operator position has been filled by Val Hurst. There were 16 applicants resulting in 10 interviews. A motion to approve the wage increase and new hire was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous

Kelly Pehrson - Has become certified as the County's Emergency Management Public Information Officer and there is request to increase his salary. Commissioner Adams indicated that Kelly did not have all the certifications required at the time of hire, but that the county would increase his pay when Kelly obtained all the required certifications. A motion to approve the increase was made by a Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Kate Cannon - National Park Service

Came to talk about day use permits in Canyonlands on the White Rim Road and the roads over Elephant Hill. She explained that the purpose of the permits is to control the number of vehicles that are allowed on the roads. This will allow them to keep the roads as they are without widening them and damaging the landscape and how they would work. A lengthy discussion occurred.

Davis Filfred - Council Delegate

Came to the commission to talk about the Navajo Fair. He came to resign his position as the director of the fair. Davis talked about a few debts still owed, but was unsure how to take care of them. There was some discussion about money given to the fair and who is responsible for the oversight of these funds and the fair itself.

Tony Hall -

Tony gave the Commission an update of the projects that are being done and to answer any questions that the Commission might have. His company plans on putting 13 holes in the ground this summer for the wind turbines.

Kelly Pehrson - Chief Administrative Officer

Kelly presented the edited version of the Resolution 2015-01

Resolution 2015-01

A RESOLUTION OF SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH APPROVING THE ASSUMPTION OF EMPLOYEES FROM SOUTHEASTERN HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO THE NEW SAN JUAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was Unanimous

(The entirety of the signed resolution is made as an attachment to the minutes hereto)

Kelly also presented the resolution 2015-02

Resolution 2015-02

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING SUPPORT FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE UTAH CONSTITUTION THAT THE BODY OF THE UTAH STATE SENATE BE COMPRISED OF ONE SENATOR FROM AND REPRESENTING EACH COUNTY IN UTAH

Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the resolution and was 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was Unanimous

(The entirety of the signed resolution is made as an attachment to the minutes hereto)

Kelly presented building permits for Ruth Nielson, Gary McCain, Mike Shumway, Hole in the Rock Foundation, and Diane Young. A motion to approve the permits was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally. Voting was unanimous.

Kelly presented to the Commissioners to look over the rental agreements and fees for the new Community Center.

The county advertised for the Mag/Chloride annual bid. Only one came back from the same company (Desert Mountain) that bid last year. The price is comparable to last years fee. A motion approve the bid was made by Commissioner Benally and 2nd by Commissioner Adams. Voting was Unanimous

Jerry McNeely - SJC Liaison

Talked about the maintenance of a citizen's road and whether the road department had made a commitment to do a certain type of maintenance. Also talked to the BLM about different sites. SITLA is going to sell a piece of ground to the Hole in the Rock Group and another piece of land, used for helicopter tours, will be permitted.

Nick Sandberg - SJC Planning

Talked about a meeting between the Lands Council and Dine Bikaya over the Lands Bill. He presented several dates in April. Commissioner Benally talked about the confusion in communication between Dine Bikaya and the people and the need to find common ground.

Commission Reports

Commissioner Adams - attended the NAUST regional meeting on the 20th with Commissioner Benally. It was mentioned that NDOT has allocated funds for 4 roads in the county. And the apparent desire to work with SJC. Will meet with UAC and UCIP this week.

Commissioner Benally - attended the Utah Navajo Coordination meeting and talked about county roads. She met with the road dept to identify roads that can be worked on. attended the Aneth chapter meeting and discussed roads that would be worked on. Commissioner Benally will meet with NDOT on Wednesday in Bluff and will meet with Navajo Nation President Shelly.

Commissioner Lyman - mentioned the CCP meeting in Moab.

Citizens Comments

Marilyn Boynton commented on the Lands Bill and talked about making an NCA

Motion to go into an Executive session was made by Commissioner Adams and 2nd by Commissioner Benally

Meeting Adjourned at 2:02 pm