

COMMISSION MINUTES
February 24, 2014

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this twenty-fourth day of February, 2014. Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioners Gary Mason, Garth 'Tooter' Ogden and Gordon Topham in the Commission Chambers of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. Clerk/Auditor Steven C. Wall, County Attorney Dale Eyre, and Executive Administrator Malcolm Nash were also present.

Commission Business:

Commissioner Ogden updated the Commission and reported on a summit meeting he had attended concerning Sage Grouse. He indicated there are several western states looking at trying to coordinate efforts so that we are all handling the Sage Grouse the same way.

Commissioner Topham reported he had attended a meeting with Senator Lee where Senator Lee had discussed his thoughts on future PILT funding, and items that should not be included in the Farm Bill each year. He said he is trying to separate PILT out so that it is on its own with a permanent funding solution.

Commissioner Topham reported he had received a letter from UDOT discussing sidewalk, curb and gutter along State Highways. He indicated he will pass that information along to the Mayors.

Minutes of February 10th Commission Meeting approved:

Minutes of the February 10th Commission Meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Mason, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Claims approved:

Claims were then approved on a motion by Commissioner Ogden, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

IHC Property Tax Exemption reviewed:

Gary Beck, Administrator for the Sevier Valley IHC Hospital, discussed with the Commissioners the new upgrade that had been made at the hospital, and moving the doctors from old clinics to the hospital. He reviewed what each of the other buildings were being used for, and updated them on the plans to move dialysis to a permanent facility, as well as the durable medical equipment and home health care utilizing the old clinic. They discussed IHC's local donation to people who are unable to pay, and the Commission then opened the discussion on what should or should not be taxed. The Commission noted that the Tax Exemption filing is due shortly. Mr. Beck indicated that they do provide free care to local individuals in sums more substantial than what the taxes would be, and noting that he also realizes that some of the clinic operations should be taxed as the doctors are in competition with private doctors, etc. Discussion followed concerning current practices in the facilities they have, and Mr. Beck indicated that he would do some checking with IHC and other hospitals in rural areas to see what they are doing in other counties. He said he would then meet with Commissioner Mason and Assessor Amy Garren-

Clark to review the findings. Assessor Garren-Clark reminded him that the Tax Exemption Relief Applications are due by March 1st. The Commissioners thanked him for the information, noting they were excited for the new remodel and the improvements in the hospital, and look for more improvements to be made.

Refunds approved for tax overpayment:

Amy Garren-Clark then reported that two parcels owned by A&D Jensen Contractors, parcel 4-320-37 and 4-320-38, had been double taxed for the last few years. She indicated that at one time they had been locally assessed (until 2007), then they had become centrally assessed and removed from the County tax rolls. She said for some reason they had come back on the County rolls and were being both centrally assessed and locally assessed. She recommended a refund for the 2013 taxes in the amount of \$234.80. She reported she had spoken with the owners, A&D Jensen, and had told them that she would be unable to refund prior years, but would try to refund 2013 and correct the issue for future years. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden approved the refund as recommended, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Business License for M & R Equipment approved:

A business license for Brittany Neilson for M & R Equipment was reviewed by the Commissioners, noting that it is a change in ownership and name for the Equipment Center. The Commission noted that it had been reviewed and approved by the Zoning Administrator. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the business license at a fee of \$50 per year, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Public Hearing to consider ordinance requiring building permit on all structures:

Commissioner Ogden then moved to recess the regular meeting at 2:05 p.m. and open the meeting for a public hearing as advertised to consider an ordinance requiring all agricultural structures to obtain a building permit prior to construction, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Zoning Administrator Larry Hanson then commented that if it was truly an agricultural structure, and not storage for personal items, that the individuals would be required to obtain a building permit but there would be no cost. He said this would allow the Building Department and Zoning Administrator to verify the setbacks and ensure that the buildings were built to code. It would also let the Assessor be aware of the improvements for tax purposes.

Commissioner Mason commented that this had been discussed by several agricultural groups, at canal meetings, etc. with very little opposition with everyone realizing that it would be good for them to ensure they met setbacks and other building requirements.

There were no other comments. The public hearing was adjourned at 2:10 p.m. and the regular meeting resumed.

Ordinance 2014-2-1 adopted:

The Commission then reviewed Ordinance 2014-2-1 requiring building permits for all buildings within Sevier County including buildings for agricultural uses. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to adopt ordinance 2014-2-1, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Memorandum of Understanding for Children's Justice Center approved:

County Attorney Dale Eyre then reviewed with the Commission a Memorandum of Understanding for the Sevier County Children's Justice Center and the other entities like the County Attorney's Office, County Sheriff's Office, Richfield City Police, Salina City Police, and the Utah State Division of Child and Family Services. The Memorandum of Understanding is to let everyone know what the purpose of the Children's Justice Center, the operation, and staff, etc. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Resolution 2014-2-2 requesting permanent multi-year PILT funding approved:

Commissioner Topham then discussed Resolution 2014-2-2 calling on Congress to provide permanent multi-year funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program. He indicated that the State Legislature is drafting a concurrent Resolution with other States to send to the Federal Government, attempting to provide permanent funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to adopt Resolution 2014-2-2 calling on Congress to provide permanent multi-year funding for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Resolution 2014-2-3 creating Sevier County Predator Bounty Program approved:

Commissioner Topham then presented a resolution 2014-2-3 to create a Sevier County Predator Bounty Program to provide a policy on how we handle predators including Coyote, Red Fox, and Raccoon. After review and discussion of some recommended changes, Commissioner Mason moved to adopt Resolution 2014-2-3 to create a Sevier County Predator Bounty Program and to set the bounty for 2014 for the local program at \$20 for each set of coyote ears, \$10 for each set of red fox ears, and \$5 for a complete raccoon tail, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.