

COMMISSION MINUTES

January 11, 2016

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this eleventh day of January, 2016. Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioners Garth 'Tooter' Ogden, Gordon Topham, and Gary Mason in the Commission Chambers of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. Clerk/Auditor Steven C. Wall and Executive Director Malcolm Nash were also present.

Commission Chairman for 2016 appointed:

Commissioner Mason moved to appoint Commissioner Topham as the Commission Chair for 2016, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Commission business:

Commissioner Topham then expressed his desire to postpone action on the Commission Assignments for a couple of weeks, stating that he would like to discuss with the Commissioners the possibility of changing some of the assignments. He noted they were all doing well with their assignments, but possibly having some changes may be positive.

Commissioner Topham then discussed the benefits the County is receiving from the National Association of Counties (NACo). He said he has the annual renewal for \$450, noting that they are very instrumental in ensuring the PILT monies, Secure Rural Schools Funds, and others as well, are approved in Congress.

He reported that he had been on a conference call earlier with several other Commissioners throughout the State, discussing the upcoming Freedom Festival that will be held here at the SVC in September. Several issues they had been discussing were some of the problems they had had last year. He said that while the festival is going, there will be a concert there, as well as several outbreak sessions discussing the heritage of the Western United States.

Commissioner Ogden reported he had received a scoping notice from the Forest Service re-evaluating grazing in three specific sections in Forest areas around us. Commissioner Topham expressed surprise that they were doing that because he had been involved with NACo and they had spoken with the Forest Service Chief in Washington last year, who had agreed with them that there would be no re-evaluation of specific grazing areas until an overall plan had been reviewed. The Commissioners will follow up to be sure what was happening.

Executive Director Malcolm Nash then reviewed with the Commissioners a report from the Landfill showing the amount of tons that have been disposed of there during the last three years. Commissioner Ogden reported that based on the tonnages of fees that we have to pay to the State, we are right on the verge of where we will be in the next higher classification and we will be paying more to the State. He said we are burning all of the trees that come into the Landfill to reduce the tonnage being buried. No further action was taken.

Minutes of the Truth in Taxation and Budget hearing approved:

After review and discussion of the Truth in Taxation and 2016 budget hearing, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the minutes of the December 8th public hearing meeting, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Minutes of the December 14th and December 21st meetings approved:

Commissioner Mason then moved to approve the minutes of the December 14th Commission meeting, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve minutes of the December 21st Commission Meeting adopting the 2016 budget, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Claims approved:

The Commission then reviewed the claims for December. Commissioner Ogden stated that the Commission will need to be more vigilant this year, and scrutinize the claims more closely this year, as there are no excess funds. Commissioner Ogden then made a motion to approve the claims for December, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Joint Cooperative Undertaking Establishing Public Insurance Agency Mutual approved:

Sheriff Curtis then reviewed with the Commissioners the agreement for a Joint Cooperative Undertaking to Establish a Public Insurance Agency Mutual for the purpose of the administering the Utah Search and Rescue Act. He reported to the Commissioners that there has been a grant fund with the State that the Counties can draw from to help with the costs for searches and rescues. This agreement will provide additional funding into that grant fund to help with search and rescue efforts throughout the State. The agreement lists several things that will be reimbursable through the program, and ways that it can be enhanced. Sheriff Curtis said that for the most part, the County has not been billing individuals for searches and rescues, but if we do bill the individuals in need of that service, then we cannot request reimbursement through this fund. Sheriff said these funds will be in addition to those currently being collected through the registration of boats, ATV's, snowmobiles, etc. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to ratify the cooperative agreement to provide for search and rescue funding, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement with Forest Service approved:

Sheriff Curtis then reviewed with the Commissioners the Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement between the Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Forest Service. It is a five year agreement, showing where the Forest Service and County will work together for enforcement throughout Forest Service lands, in addition to this there will be an annual contract with them stating the fees that will be paid each year by the Forest Service to the County for their assistance. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the agreement with the Forest Service for law enforcement, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Physician's Assistant contract for Inmate Services ratified:

The Sheriff then presented a copy of the agreement between the Sevier County Jail and Physicians Assistant Bret Hilton indicating that we have not had a written agreement before, but for the past several years he has been providing services at the jail and will continue to do so. Mr. Hilton visits the Jail one day per week, and is on call at all times if the Nurses have questions or need any additional help. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the agreement at \$1,000 per month to provide physician services for the inmates, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Business license for C&M Performance approved:

A business license for C and M Performance, mobile repair for automobiles, for Michael Taylor was reviewed. The Commissioners noted that it was a mobile repair, that it would not be a repair shop at his home. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the business license at a fee of \$25 per year, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Beer license renewals approved:

Beer licenses were reviewed and approved for renewal after noting that the Sheriff had signed off on both Top Stop and Pheasant Run on a motion by Commissioner Ogden, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

New hires for HR and Assessor approved:

LeighAnn Wheeler, Human Resources, then met with the Commissioners to introduce Kelly Stevens, who had been hired to fill the vacant position in her office. She noted that they had reduced the hours from 30 hours per week to 20 hours per week, and recommended with her experience hiring her at Grade 9 Step 1 at \$12.92 per hour. She also reported that they had hired Genette Williams as an Appraiser Apprentice in the Assessor's Office, noting she has had some previous experience with the Utah County Assessor's Office and had taken some of the classes, and would not have to take all of the classes required this year. Assessor Amy Garren-Clark said Ms. Williams would be under her direct supervision until she gets through her classes and does the required work as needed to become a certified appraiser. She recommended the hire at Grade 14 Step 1 at \$17.05 per hour to fill the position in the Assessor's Office. It is not a new position as one will be retiring from that office, and they are hiring Ms. Williams to get some training prior to the position being vacated. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the two new hires as recommended, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

A question was asked by Mike Snow, attendee, about the new hires, noting that he understood that the County would not be hiring, but would be combining jobs, etc. due to the diminished budget as was reported in the recent budget hearing. Commissioner Topham reported that the one position had been cut-back from 30 hours to 20 hours, and the other was an appraiser position that needed to be filled as there had previously been four positions in that office and they are currently at 3 and this will keep the office at 3 positions.

Tour of Utah County Participation Agreement approved:

Tourism Director Kevin Arrington then reviewed with the Commissioners the Tour of Utah County Participation Agreement. He was excited to be hosting the State's Stage 3 start again here in Sevier County, noting it will fill all of the hotels as well as all of the excitement that it does generate. Mr. Arrington said that this year it will be the week before the Fair, and he is working with Richfield City in helping to host the Stage 3 start with Richfield City covering a lot of the in-kind items such as garbage disposal, porta-potties, etc. He reported that the cost would be similar to the cost two years ago. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the agreement subject to final review and approval by County Attorney Dale Eyre, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Hay wagon from old float declared surplus:

The Commission then discussed with Mr. Arrington his request to declare surplus an old hay wagon that had been used for a County Float, noting that we now have an ATV trailer that is doubling as a float and the hay wagon can now be disposed of. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to declare surplus the old hay wagon that has been used for the float and authorize it for sale, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Cooperative Agreement with USU for Extension Services approved:

The Commission then reviewed the standard Cooperative Agreement between Utah State University and Sevier County for the Extension and 4-H program they sponsor here in Sevier County with the County providing offices and helping to pay for some of their expenses. All of the employees are paid by Utah State University. The agreement does match what was approved in the 2016 budget. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the agreement subject to final review and approval by the County Attorney, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

No action taken on agreement with Wolverine Gas & Oil:

Commissioner Ogden then reviewed the agreement between the County and Wolverine Gas & Oil concerning the property the County is pursuing to expand its landfill. Commissioner Ogden reported we have been working for approximately 7 years with the BLM to be able to obtain the land to expand the landfill. The concern is that Wolverine Gas & Oil does have mineral rights on the land, and they were concerned that the mineral rights continue on with Wolverine Gas & Oil. Concerns were expressed of some wording in the contract, and the matter was taken under advisement for the County Attorney to review and sign the document.

Commissioner Ogden and Commissioner Topham reminded the public in attendance that they are not happy with the tax increase that they had to do, and they will be scrutinizing the claims, as well as the offices, and looking at all of the positions throughout the year. They said they will be mindful of the actions of the County Departments.

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