

COMMISSION MINUTES

December 12, 2016

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this twelfth day of December, 2016. 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 and Executive Administrator Malcolm Nash were also present.

Commission Business:

Commissioner Topham reported he had received a letter from the Governor’s Office of Recreation stating that there is money available now to build a bridge and improve the trail area near UM Creek in the amount of approximately \$40,000 in grant money. He also reported he had received a letter from the BLM expressing their desire to participate in developing our Resource Management Plan.

Executive Director Malcolm Nash then reviewed with the Commissioners a letter he had received from Community Energy Solar with an update on the progress of that project.

Minutes of November 28th Commission Meeting approved:

Minutes of the November 28th Commission meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Ogden, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Claims for November approved:

Claims for the month of November were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Mason, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Equipment declared surplus:

The Commission then reviewed a request to surplus an Alamo Weed/Lawn mower, Asset Number 2156, in the Road Department. It was reported that the mower was no longer in use, and should be available for sale. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to declare the lawn/weed mower surplus and authorize it for sale, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Sevier County Emergency Operation Plan approved:

Deputy Cody Barton and Sheriff Nate Curtis reviewed with the Commissioners the Emergency Operations Policy that they had been working on, and had given to the Commissioners for review prior to the meeting. Deputy Barton reported that he had been working with the Cities, so that their plans would coordinate with our plans, with several of them using our plan as their plan, for emergency operations throughout the County. After discussion and noting that Deputy Barton had updated the Policy and updated relevant information including the dates and assignments of who was to do what in case of emergency, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the Sevier County Emergency Operation Plan, including the duties and assignments as recommended, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Public Hearing to consider adoption of 2017 budget:

At 2:00 p.m., Commissioner Ogden moved to recess the regular meeting and open a Public Hearing to consider the adoption of a budget for the calendar year 2017, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous. Those attending included the following: County Commissioners, Clerk/Auditor Steven Wall, Deputy Cody Barton, Sheriff Nate Curtis, Mr. & Mrs. Boucher of Elsinore, Dave Anderson with the Richfield Reaper.

Commissioner Topham reported that in the budget this year, there was an increase from last year due to the EWP projects that were being worked on for the flooding area in the amount of approximately

\$3,300,000, and if that were removed the budget is actually less than last year. He reported that the actual decrease was due to fiscal management of the Department Heads, as well as the early lay-off program that was implemented by the County during 2016. He then discussed some of the issues with the centrally assessed valuations, and what may or may not happen with taxes for the 2017 year. He noted that while there is no planned tax increase, the actual taxes for the residents may adjust based on what happens with the centrally assessed properties.

Commissioner Mason then stated he wanted to give credit to the Department Heads for the management of the budget throughout the year, and helping the County decrease expenditures. He also noted that most County employees are doing more because of the decrease in personnel due to the early retirement.

There were no comments from the public.

At 2:05 p.m., the regular meeting resumed.

Resolution 2016-12-1 adopted:

After review and discussion of the budget, Commissioner Mason moved to adopt the 2017 budget as presented by resolution 2016-12-1 as presented, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

After review and discussion of the current 2016 budget, it was noted that the County had remained within acceptable budget parameters. Commissioner Ogden moved to authorize the Clerk/Auditor to move funds between departments to cover the shortfall as needed with no increase in the final budget, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Agreements with Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands approved:

Ronald Torgerson, Fred Johnson, and Matt Christensen of the Utah Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands then reviewed with the Commissioners the Cooperative Agreement between the Utah Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands, the County Fire Warden Agreement, and the budget agreement for the 2017 year to provide fire protection. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the Cooperative Agreement and the County Fire Warden Agreement between the Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands and the County, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous. Commissioner Ogden then moved to approve the recommended budget from the Wildfire Program as presented in the amount of \$24,950, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Refunds approved:

Assessor Amy Garren-Clark recommended a refund of \$50 to Trent Nielsen, noting he had registered his vehicle in late September, and then bought a new one in October. She reported he had already requested and received a refund from the State of Utah, and recommended a refund from the County. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the refund as recommended, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Assessor Garren-Clark then reviewed a list of recommended adjustments to corrections on property values including the pumping plant exemptions for Garkane Power and Pacificorp. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to authorize the adjustments of approximately \$1 million in taxable value changes as recommended, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Refunds for overpayment of taxes approved:

Treasurer Cheryl Buchanan met with the Commission to review a list of overpayments on several accounts amounting to approximately \$26,421, and recommending a refund of those overpayments to

property owners. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to authorize the refunds as recommended, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Contract with Broken Heart Rodeo Company approved:

Tourism Director Kevin Arrington then reviewed with the Commissioners a contract with the Broken Heart Rodeo Company for the rodeo for the Fair during 2017. He indicated that the agreement would be in the amount of \$12,400. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the rodeo agreement, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

2017 Travel Council members approved:

Mr. Arrington then reviewed with the Commissioners the proposed Travel Council Board, indicating that the number on the Board is not set, and that if there are others that wish to participate, they would be welcome to be on the Board. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the Sevier County Travel Council for 2017 as recommended, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Contract with Rural Public Lands County Council and Robert K. Weidner approved:

The Commission then reviewed the agreement with the Rural Public Lands County Council and Robert K. Weidner as a lobbyist in Washington DC to continue the help he has provided with the PILT, Secure Rural Funds, and public land use in our general area. The agreement is in the amount of \$16,000 for 2017. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the agreement with Robert K. Weidner for 2017 in the amount of \$16,000, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Resolution 2016-12-2 for Seven County Infrastructure Coalition and agreement approved:

Rob Patterson, representing the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition, reviewed with the Commissioners the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement to establish the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition which would include Sevier County, Carbon County, Daggett County, Duchesne County, Emery County, San Juan County, and Uintah County. Mr. Patterson explained some of the items they have been working on, noting that the money currently funding the coalition is coming from the CIB, and that the CIB is actually the group that helps with funding to do larger projects throughout the Counties. He said that there is currently no dues required of the Counties involved. The Commission noted that the County Attorney had not completed his review of the Resolution and the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement to authorize the County's Participation in and Creation of the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition. After review and discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to adopt Resolution 2016-12-2 authorizing the County to participate and creating the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition and the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement establishing the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition subject to review and approval by the County Attorney, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Commissioner Topham then reminded the Commissioners that they would need to review the list of Board and Committee members whose terms were expiring, and to get new members or re-appoint members for 2017.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.