

COMMISSION MINUTES
February 13, 2017

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this thirteenth day of February, 2017. Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioners Gary Mason, Garth ‘Tooter’ Ogden, and Ralph Brown, in the Commission Chambers of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. Clerk/Auditor Steven C. Wall, Human Resource Director LeighAnn Wheeler, and Executive Administrator Malcolm Nash were also present.

Commission Business:

Commissioner Mason updated the Commission on some of the legislative bills they are working on. In particular Senate Bill 156, which deals with a fallen officer’s surviving spouse, and the implementation of a pool to help pay for medical insurance for the surviving spouse and family. He indicated there are still a lot of questions concerning the bill, but UAC is watching it very closely.

Commissioner Ogden gave a report on the meetings he attended with the 7 County Coalition. He said they appointed Mike McKee as the Executive Director, and he will be stepping down from his Commission position in Uintah County to fill the position. He then discussed some of the legislative bills he has been watching, including: House Bill 230 and House Bill 114, both dealing with elections, and House Bill 239 dealing with funding for the JRI program. He said the legislature is looking at pushing more of the Economic Development to the rural areas of the State.

Commissioner Brown reported on the discussion he had with Bret Ludlow of the Central Utah Counseling Center concerning Radon, and the activities they are promoting in the area because of that.

Commissioner Mason then invited HR Director LeighAnn Wheeler to join a discussion on House Bill 149, which is a bill they are asking for support with which deals with child abuse. Some of the issues surrounding the bill were discussed. They then discussed a bill that Representative McIff had been pursuing over the last few years concerning allowing the purchase and transfer of water rights throughout the State instead of maintaining water rights in the local area. The bill would allow them to move water to different areas for development purposes, and is currently being run by Representative Mike Noel as Mr. McIff is no longer a legislator. The concern is how do you physically move water from one area of the State to another area of the State. This would be a paper transfer only, and would not address any of the concerns regarding where the physical water actually goes after the transfer, and what to do with the water after the transfer.

Minutes of January 9th and January 23rd Commission Meetings approved:

Minutes of the January 9th and January 23rd Commission Meetings were reviewed and approved as corrected on a motion by Commissioner Ogden, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Claims approved:

Claims for the month of January 2017 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Ogden, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Refund request approved:

Assessor Amy Garren-Clark then updated the Commission on a legislative bill concerning possible changes to the licensing requirements for rural County Assessor offices. Ms. Clark then recommended a refund of \$150 to Gordon Topham who registered a vehicle in the first part of December, then traded the vehicle. She reported he had requested reimbursement from the State, and had received it. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the refund as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Business license for R/T's Muffler Tire and Auto approved:

The Commission then reviewed a business license application from Rex Tanner for R/T's Muffler Tire and Auto. After review and discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve a business license at a fee of \$50 per year, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Beer license for Pheasant Run renewed:

After review of a beer license renewal application from Pheasant Run, noting it had been approved by Sheriff Curtis, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the beer license renewal, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Landfill Write-off Requests approved:

Landfill Supervisor Kelly Conder then discussed with the Commissioners then discussed with the Commissioners write-offs in four accounts including: Western Fence in the amount of \$22.42, Nelco in the amount of \$4.50, Kmart in the amount of \$1,062.32, and Mel Clark in the amount of \$23.04. After discussion and noting that some were penalties and interest only, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the write-offs as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Mission Statement for Intergenerational Poverty Committee approved:

Maureen Allred, Six County Association of Governments, reported on the Inter-Generational Poverty Committee that had been set up last fall. She reported they have been working with the Lieutenant Governor's Office, and working with all of the entities in the Sevier County area including schools, cities, counties, religious groups, and working on a mission statement. She said the Committee was set up under the Sevier County Commission to discuss the future of the committee, funding for the projects, and how it would fit with the Statewide program that all of the counties are working on throughout the State. Ms. Allred presented a mission statement from the Committee, and requested letter of support from the Commission. After review and discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the mission statement, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous. They then discussed some of the projects that had been done before and possible future projects.

New Hires accepted:

Human Resource Director LeighAnn Wheeler then reported that there were some new hires in the County. She said last year two Sheriff Deputies, Erick Macart and Colten Thompson, had resigned and moved to other entities, and they had gone through the hiring process to replace the two deputy positions. She reported they had hired Victor Murdock on December 27, 2016, and Justin Mecham on January 2, 2017. Both were hired as Deputy Recruits at \$15.56 per hour, Grade 12, Step 2, because of their backgrounds and degrees in Criminal Justice. She said they are both attending POST at this time, and will be on a 1 year introductory period. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to ratify the employment of the two new deputies at the Sheriff's Office as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Ms. Wheeler then reported that they had gone through the interview process for a part-time position in the Clerk/Auditor's Office. She recommended the hiring of Valorie Johnson as a part-time Deputy Clerk/Auditor beginning February 6, 2017, at Grade 7 Step 1, \$11.57 per hour, to fill the open position in that office. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the hire as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

Travel Council Recommendations approved:

Tourism Director Kevin Arrington then reviewed with the Commission the recommendations from the last Travel Council meeting. He discussed each of those with the Commissioners. After discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the expenditures as recommended, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

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