

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 06, 2012
BEGINNING AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE COMMISSION BOARD ROOM IN DUCHESNE,
UTAH**

Present

Commissioner Ronald Winterton acting as Chairman Pro Tem; Commissioner Kent R. Peatross, Clerk Deputy County Attorney Marea Doherty, Auditor Diane Freston, USU Agent Troy Cooper, Public Works Director Glen Murphy, and Commission Assistant BobbiJo Casper taking minutes of the meeting.

Absent

Commission Chairman Kirk J. Wood.

Opening Comments

Mr. Cooper said the prayer. There were no other comments.

Pledge Of Allegiance

Any wishing to participate.

Public Comment

Mr. Cooper stated that he was directed to hand deliver invitations to the commission from Noelle Cockett who is the Dean of College of Agriculture for dinner and a tour of the new Agricultural Science College on the Utah State University Logan Campus in March.

Consideration Of Payment Vouchers

The commission reviewed vouchers # 120642 through 120730 dated February 06, 2012, in the amount of three hundred twenty eight thousand two hundred twenty four dollars and twenty eight cents (\$328,224.28) as presented by Auditor Freston.

Commissioner Peatross motioned to approve the vouchers as presented by the Clerk Auditor's Office. Commissioner Winterton seconded the motion. Both commissioners voted aye and the motion passed.

Public Works/Landfill Department Update

Director Murphy reported that the Road Department spent last week working on County Road 52 (Mortensen Lane). They will be working on this road for the next few weeks. They are moving the crusher to Roosevelt this week and will get it set up. He was contacted by the DWR to see if the county would agree to vacate the old part of Lake Canyon Road. He is awaiting paperwork on it, but he doesn't see a problem with doing it. The oil companies want to drill an oil well behind Stan Keller's to the north. It is a county road with a bridge on it and a gate. He told Newfield that they would be responsible for the bridge and there wouldn't be a gate any longer. They will have to bring it up to county specs and possibly buy a right-of-way. He thinks that there is sixty six (66) feet in width up to the bridge and is a county "B" Road. From the canal back, he thinks it's a county "D" Road. The Road Department re-decked the bridge a few years ago and the gate was put up by the Meacham's who share the lock with the Ute Indian Tribe and ditch riders. We need to put a stipulation on the oil company that they protect the bridge and it can't have a gate on it because it's a county road; he can add this to the access permit.

Consideration Of A Business License Application For Thermo Fluids Inc.

Deputy Clerk Sweat stated that this business is out of Arizona who recycles used oil and antifreeze. *Commissioner Peatross motioned to approve the business license application as presented. Commissioner Winterton seconded the motion. Both commissioners voted aye and the motion passed.*

Consideration Of A Board Appointment On The Public Land Use Committee Representing Oil & Gas

County/Community Planning Administrator Mike Hyde joined the meeting at 1:26 P.M...

Administrator Hyde stated that he has not received an application from anyone that he sent an email to a few weeks ago. He will email Tim Eaton at Newfield to see if he is still interested. *This agenda item was tabled by general consent.*

Consideration Of National Greater Sage-Grouse Planning Strategy – Scoping Comments

Administrator Hyde stated that this comes about from the US Fish and Wildlife Service decision that greater Sage-Grouse warrants listing as an endangered species, but they didn't have time to deal with it due to higher priorities. They had a lawsuit from environmental groups claiming that several resource management plans across the west were inadequate to protect the Sage-Grouse habitat. BLM did an out of court settlement with those groups and agreed to go back and look at their resource management plans to try to better protect the habitat. They want to do so before the USFWS lists the species. Right now, the BLM did include the Ashley National Forest in this study, even though the Ashley initially felt that they had very little Sage-Grouse habitat. Scoping comments need to be in by February 15, 2012 to the western regional BLM office. Our comments address how we think they should address the environmental impact study and things that they ought to consider. We can take final action next week to give the commission a week to review the draft letter. We are hoping that the BLM will consider using the State of Utah's Sage-Grouse plan as their plan for habitat in Utah. Commissioner Peatross stated that a steering committee is being formed by the State of Utah for the plan. He may volunteer Administrator Hyde for the committee. Administrator Hyde stated that the local Sage-Grouse working groups should have a major role in this. Commissioner Winterton stated that everyone is coming up with their own plan and nothing is meshed together; Administrator Hyde has pointed this out and had done a good job with the letter. Administrator Hyde stated that we will do whatever we can to support what the State of Utah is doing because Sage-Grouse are better managed at the local or state level rather than the federal level. *Commissioner Peatross motioned to approve the content of this letter and take opportunity to read it before Wednesday for mailing to give the commission time to review and make any changes. Commissioner Winterton seconded the motion. Both commissioners voted aye and the motion passed.*

Consideration Of Minutes For Combined Commission Meeting Held January 30, 2012

Commissioner Peatross motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Commissioner Winterton seconded the motion. Both commissioners voted aye and the motion passed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Winterton adjourned the meeting at 1:46 P.M.

Read and approved this 13th day of February 2012.

Kirk J. Wood
Commission Chairman

Diane Freston
Clerk/Auditor

*Minutes of meeting prepared by BobbiJo Casper*_____