

## COMMISSION MINUTES

**January 9, 2017**

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

### **Chairman for 2017 appointed:**

Commissioner Ogden moved to appoint Commissioner Mason as the Chairman for 2017, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

### **Public Hearing to consider Special Service Districts #3 and #4:**

At 1:30 p.m., Commissioner Ogden then moved to suspend the meeting, and open a public hearing as advertised regarding the establishment of Special Service District #3 and Special Service District #4, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous. Those present included: the Commissioners, Clerk/Auditor Wall, Executive Director Nash, Ed Shaw, Mike and Cindy Roberts, Dave Anderson, Eric Johnson, and Ken May.

Chairman Mason explained the source of the monies for the Special Service Districts #1 and #2, which are mineral lease monies, and indicated that the proposal is to establish two new districts and split the mineral lease monies out further. He said there will be no new money or taxes, but the money would be split into four different districts instead of two districts.

Eric Johnson, Attorney, also explained that there is no new money, but it is just a redistribution of the current funds. Mr. Johnson noted that SSD#3 would utilize the money for Public Safety expenses such as maintaining and operating the jail, but would not include employees. He said SSD#4 would provide for public safety equipment such as fire trucks, ambulances, etc. Mr. Johnson further explained that under the State Laws, Counties have the latitude to establish the special service districts. He then explained the process of doing that. He also explained that under the current proposal, the districts would just be a redistribution of the current money that is coming from separate funding. He said that if the districts wanted to propose additional funds or propose a tax, it would have to come before the County and it would need to be put on the ballot and be approved through the election process.

Ed Shaw expressed his concerns about the taxing ability of the special service districts. But, after the explanation that has been given, he understands it better and does not oppose it. He said he was just against adding another bureaucracy.

Mike Roberts then asked if the 25% coming off the top of the money going to the Road Department would decrease the road money and crew. Commissioner Mason explained that the funding sources now would not change because the Road Department is funded by B Road Money through the County, but the funding that is being discussed here is not coming to the County, but does go to SSD#1, so it would not affect the Road Department.

Commissioner Ogden stated that one of the districts would provide funding for the Jail to help improve and maintain the jail.

Ed Shaw said it seems that there are more local people being arrested and put in the Jail, and asked how this is affecting the income coming from the State and Federal funds for the State prisoners. The Commission explained that there is more local activity at the jail, which does reduce the beds available

for State inmates, which decreases that funding. The Commission said this is part of the reason they are looking at providing a special service district to keep funding available to maintain the jail.

Cindy Roberts then asked about the building along 100 East in Richfield that was just constructed, and expressed concern about the expenses for that building, and that it is on the backs of the public. She asked if we can cut down in the jail to reduce costs, and not put more money into it and upgrade it. The Commission explained that the facility she is talking about along 100 East in Richfield is a Central Utah Counseling Center project, and not a County project. The Commission noted that they received grant funding to build the facility, and it was not something that will be paid for by the residents of the County. They also explained that we need to continue to maintain the jail to keep it operational.

Ken May then stated that because of his prior involvement with the coal mine and mineral lease money, he understands how the mineral lease monies work. He said he supports the two new districts, and use of the funds for these good causes, which will relieve some of the pressure on the County's General Fund.

Dave Anderson asked how much money is coming in through the Mineral Lease funds each year to the special service districts. Commissioner Mason reported that over the last four years, it has averaged approximately \$6 million per year.

Mike Roberts then asked about future funding of the districts, and if it will continue to be split the same way or done differently. Commissioner Mason expressed that the split will be looked at each year to see what was needed in each of the areas, but that they would use the same funding source and not look for additional sources.

Commissioner Ogden then moved to close the public hearing and resume the regular meeting, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Commission business:**

Executive Director Malcolm Nash mentioned that we had received a grant from Rocky Mountain Power in the amount of \$1,400 for the Children's Justice Center.

**Commission assignments for 2017 set:**

The Commissioners then reviewed the Commission assignments for 2017. After review of the list, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the assignments as presented, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

**Minutes of December 12<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting approved:**

Minutes of the December 12<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting were reviewed and approved as corrected on a motion by Commissioner Ogden, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Claims for December approved:**

Commissioner Ogden then moved to approve the claims for December 2016 as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Contract for United Talent Artist Collin Raye approved:**

Tourism Director Kevin Arrington met with the Commission concerning a contract with the United Talent Artist Collin Raye to perform at the Sevier County Fair in the amount of \$12,500. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the contract, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Travel Council recommendations approved:**

The Commission then reviewed the Travel Council recommendations. After review and discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the payments as recommended by the Travel Council, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Indigent burial request approved:**

The Commission then reviewed a request from Springer Turner Funeral Home for costs associated with an indigent burial for Tralaye Procelle. The Commission noted that the matter had been reviewed by the County Attorney, who recommended allocating funds for the burial. After review, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the payment of \$1,100 for the indigent burial as requested, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Business license approved:**

The Commission then considered a business license request for the Circles of Learning for Juliesue Westwood for consulting services. After review, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the business license at a fee of \$25 per year, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Beer license renewals approved:**

The Commission then reviewed beer license renewals for Top Stop Convenience Store, Fishlake Lodge and Lakeside Lodge. The Commission noted that Sheriff Curtis had reviewed and approved the renewals. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the beer license renewals as requested, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Board of Equalization:**

Commissioner Ogden then moved to suspend the regular Commission meeting and open the Board of Equalization, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

The Commission then reviewed parcel numbers 1-S18-9 and 1-S18-30 that was purchased by Salina City this year. The original owners had paid pro-rated property taxes for the first two months during the closing, and Salina City was asking that the remainder of the taxes be abated. After discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to abate the taxes on parcel 1-S18-30 and 1-S18-9 in the amount of \$254.48 for Salina City, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

The regular meeting then resumed at 2:25 p.m.

Commissioner Brown then discussed information he had received at the Utah Association of Counties meetings that suggested each County produce a video showing information about the County, and also providing information to the residents over the radio. The Commission decided to work with Tourism Director Kevin Arrington on that.

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