

COMMISSION MINUTES

March 28, 2016

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this twenty-eighth day of March, 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. Deputy Clerk/Auditor Barbara Crowther and Executive Director Malcolm Nash were also present.

Commission business:

Commissioner Topham said he is preparing a letter of recommendation to the Forest Service regarding their Planning 2.0. He said he had made changes from the letter last week.

Commissioner Topham then noted that he has a grandson doing an eagle project restoring a small cemetery in the Joseph area where the headstones have been knocked over. He said that the area is in the County, and he has made arrangements with the landowner for the project.

Commissioner Ogden said that they are moving forward with the scale project at the landfill, and getting information so that it can be bid out appropriately.

Minutes of March 14th Commission meeting approved:

Minutes of the March 14th meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Ogden, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Travel Council recommendations approved:

Tourism Director Kevin Arrington met with the Commission concerning recommendations from the Travel Council. He reviewed the recommendations of the Council, which met a few weeks ago, and included: a barrel racing competition, high school basketball, 4-H leader meet, attending the Go West summit and outdoor sports shows, replacing billboards, and printing a marketing brochure. After review, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the travel council recommendations, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Commissioner Topham briefly reviewed the information regarding the transient room tax funds, and how those funds may be used. He then asked for information about a new 'app' that Mr. Arrington has been working on so that people can find things to do in Sevier County and spend some time here while they are passing through.

Speed limit on Brooklyn Road discussed:

Commissioner Topham then discussed the speed limit on the Brooklyn Road, noting that it changes several times, and proposed changing to two more reasonable limits. He proposed 50 mph from 1400 South, Elsinore, down to 2250 South, Monroe, where the pavement ends, and keeping 35 mph from the Elsinore Town boundary south to 1400 South, Elsinore. Sheriff Curtis said he would like it to be all one speed so that we don't have a speed trap, and requested consistency. Dick Cumiskey, area resident, said that the proposal is reasonable. No further action was taken at this time.

King Minor Subdivision approved:

Skyler King met with the Commissioners concerning his request for a minor subdivision. Zoning Administrator Larry Hanson said that the Planning Commission had reviewed the matter in January, and recommended approval. Discussion followed concerning the recent approval of the water change, and the location of the subdivision near the Monroe cemetery. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the King Minor Subdivision, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Public Hearing to consider PUD application from Sigurd Solar LLC:

Commissioner Ogden moved to close the regular Commission meeting at 2:00 p.m. and open a public hearing to consider a Planned Unit Development application from Sigurd Solar LLC for an 80 MW-AC solar photovoltaic generation facility, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Commissioner Topham then opened a public hearing to consider the application of the Sigurd Solar LLC for an 80 MW-AC solar photovoltaic generation facility. Zoning Administrator Larry Hanson reviewed the request of Sigurd Solar LLC to have a solar farm on approximately 600 acres of land, and listed some of the concerns of the planning commission including waste during construction of the facility. Sam Sours, Sigurd Solar LLC, then gave a presentation about the project, and answered questions. Questions included the size of the project, possible glare from the panels, whether or not the power has been sold, whether or not there are agreements with UDOT regarding crossing the freeway, the number of employees at completion of the project, the number of employees during construction. Commissioner Mason asked if there was a guarantee of a certain number of employees, and Mr. Sours said no. Further discussion followed concerning the number of acres being taken out of farming ground, that there would be some glare, but not enough to impact traffic, that there is less than 5% of the power used to move the panels to follow the sun, the longevity of the modules being 40 to 50 years of lifespan, that they do not currently have a reclamation bond in place, but they do have an agreement with the landowners to remove the panels after use as well as a bond with funds to do that if they don't. Mr. Sours noted that they have worked with the County on County road changes that are needed, with the Canal Companies on agreements needed, and they are re-working the power purchase agreements at this time. Dick Cumiskey asked about access to the property. Mr. Sours spoke about the roads that will be utilized, noting that they will ensure that the bridges can handle the truck traffic when installing the panels, and that they would maintain the access roads 'as is' wherever possible. Mr. Sours said they are proposing one cut-off channel with a dispersion basin to redistribute the flood water. He then addressed fencing, their proposed timeline, and possible changes to the plan if needed. Commissioner Topham noted that the 'point of sale' for their resources would take place within Sevier County wherever possible. Commissioner Gary Mason said that while he is thrilled with the project coming to the area, he is not thrilled about the layout of the project.

Commissioner Topham closed the public hearing and the regular meeting then resumed.

The Commission then discussed any possible action on the Planned Unit Development request, and expressed concerns related to ensuring the canal companies needs are met, as well as the farmer's needs for irrigation water. After consideration, the Commission asked that the matter be placed on the next agenda.

Vote Center Locations for 2016 Election set:

Deputy Clerk Auditor Barbara Crowther said that the Primary and General Elections will be held by mail this year, and related the numbers that may be expected to vote at the vote centers. Discussion followed concerning the 'closed' primary, actions that the Clerk/Auditor's Office will take to notify any unaffiliated voters, and the number expected to participate in the Elections this year. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to set locations for three vote centers for the 2016 Election cycle, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Dental Benefit Contract approved:

HR Director LeighAnn Wheeler reviewed a contract with EMI for a dental plan with the Commission. She said the contract had been reviewed by County Attorney Dale Eyre. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the contract, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

CIB Project list approved:

Emery Polelonema, Six County Association of Governments, presented the Permanent Community Impact Board list to the Commission. Mr. Polelonema said he had visited with all of the towns, except Elsinore, since January making updates to the appropriate lists. He reviewed the changes and additions to the list. The Commission noted that some of the items on the list appeared to be recreational in nature. Mr. Polelonema said that this is a sort of wish list for some of the smaller towns, but the ultimate decision will come from the CIB board, so he doesn't discourage anything from being placed on the list. After review, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the PCIB project list as presented, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Ordinance 2016-3-1 adopted:

Executive Administrator Malcolm Nash then reviewed Ordinance 2016-3-1 creating the Community Development and Renewal Agency for Sevier County which would allow the agency to be created if there is a need for one. Mr. Nash said that this will allow use of the agency if a project area is created. After review, Commissioner Mason moved to approve Ordinance 2016-3-1 creating the Community Development and Renewal Agency, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.