

COMMISSION MINUTES
September 12, 2016

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this twelfth day of September, 2016. Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioners Gary Mason, Gordon Topham, and Garth 'Tooter' Ogden in the Commission Chambers of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. Clerk/Auditor Steven C. Wall and Executive Director Malcolm Nash were also present.

Commission business:

Commissioner Topham reported he had received a letter from inmates asking for help in finding someone who could hear a request for early release for good behavior. He said they had referred the letter to the Sheriff, so it can be handled by those with the authority to do that.

Commissioner Topham then said he had received a letter from the Manti-LaSal National Forest concerning the Levan Peak Transmission Site and renewing our transmission site lease with them. The letter was forwarded to Johnny Parsons, Communications Department.

Commissioner Mason then updated the Commissioners on the grazing meetings he had attended in Manti with the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and grazers. It was two days of meetings with one day including the grazers and the other just the governmental entities. He reported the local representatives from the Forest Service and BLM are trying to work as much as they can with the grazers and Counties, but most of the decisions come from Washington DC and they do not have much latitude to make changes here.

Commissioner Topham then reported on the Celebration for Western Lifestyles and Freedom Festival. He reported that the concert went well. It was not packed, but there were several at the concert. He said that Saturday there were some exceptional instructors, but it was not very well attended.

Minutes of August 22nd Commission meeting approved:

Minutes of the August 22nd Commission meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Mason, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Claims for August approved:

Commissioner Ogden then moved to approve the claims for August as presented, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Indigent Burial funds request approved:

The Commission then reviewed a request for indigent burial funds for Dennis Monroe Peasall. It is noted that the County Attorney had verified that he was an indigent resident of the County. After review, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the request for \$1,000 to the Jenkins-Soffe Funeral Chapel and Cremation Center, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Garkane Energy Cooperative Franchise Agreement Ordinance to be considered later:

The Commission then reviewed an ordinance granting Garkane Energy Cooperative a Franchise Agreement. The Commission questioned whether it should be an ordinance or a resolution. After gaining the advice of the County Attorney, the matter was referred to a later meeting when the procedures to adopt an ordinance could be met.

CIB Capital Improvement List amended:

The Commissioners then reviewed a request from Redmond Town to amend the Consolidated Local Capital Improvement List used by the CIB to add a project resurfacing part of a roadway in Redmond Town in the amount of approximately \$300,000. The project would include reshaping part of the road, drainage, and installing culverts, as well as chip sealing some of the roads in town. After review and discussion, Commissioner Ogden moved to approve the request from Redmond Town to amend the Capital Improvement List that had been presented to the CIB so Redmond Town could follow through and present the project to CIB, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Contract amendment approved for Children's Justice Center:

The Commission then reviewed the amended contract between Sevier County and the State of Utah Attorney General's Office for the Children's Justice Center. It would be amendment #3 to Contract 160223, which would add an additional \$87,673 for the contract year from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the amended contract, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

Travel Council recommendation approved, update on ATV Jamboree:

Tourism Director Kevin Arrington updated the Commission on the progress of the ATV Jamboree, noting that most everything was in place and he would be finishing up preparations this week as the Jamboree would be starting up next Monday. He reported there were over 500 who had pre-registered, and they usually picked up a few extra the week of the Jamboree.

He then reviewed with the Commissioners the Travel Council recommendations. After discussion, Commissioner Ogden then moved to approve the recommendations as presented, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Board of Equalization convened:

At 2:25 p.m., Commissioner Mason then moved to suspend the regular meeting and convene as the Board of Equalization, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

The Commissioners then discussed a request from the Richfield Assembly of God with representative Randy Popineau on property owned by the Church asking for consideration of abatement of taxes on the residence that is on the parcel. The Commission contact Mr. Popineau via telephone. Discussion followed concerning the situation of the Church, that the Church property had been sold and had not been used for religious services, that the request was on the residence where the Pastor had been living only. Mr. Popineau indicated they had been holding church services elsewhere in Richfield, and were only asking for the exemption on the home as the pastor was living there. The Commission noted that there were four separate parcels, and during the sale of the Church the parcels would be combined/split to separate the home from the Church. After review and discussion, the Commission had several other questions which were referred to the County Assessor for additional information on where the services had been held, and who had officiated at those services. No action was taken at this time.

The Commission then reviewed a request from Stephanie Zehren-Thomas, Attorney for the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah asking for property exemption on property the tribe owns in the north part of Richfield, parcel 1-2-8. The Assessor had put a value on the parcel this year as the property is not in the tribe's name, nor is it on a reservation. She said she is in the process of cleaning up our records and putting parcels that did not qualify for exemption back on the tax rolls. She said the Tribe is in the process of getting the deed corrected so that the property is in the Tribe's name, and they have indicated that it is and has been used for exempt tribal purposes since 1992. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to

grant tax exempt status for 2016 on parcel 1-2-8, and asked that the adjustments be made on the tax records, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

At 2:40 p.m. Board of Equalization closed and the regular meeting resumed.

Change adopted to Sevier County Policies and Procedures:

HR Director LeighAnn Wheeler then reviewed a change to the Sevier County Policies and Procedures, Section 9 on Compensation. Section 9.F.(C) i discussing when an employee is promoted and changes grades, the manner in which to adjust their salary. This is a clarification in doing that which will make it easier for the Department Heads and Administration to administer. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to adopt the changes to the Policies and Procedures as recommended, second Commissioner Ogden, unanimous.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.