

**MINUTES** of the public meeting of the Uintah County Commission held **May 16, 2022** in the Commission Chambers of the Uintah County Building at 147 East Main, Vernal, Utah. Meeting commenced at 11:00 a.m.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Commissioners Bill Stringer, Chair Bart Haslem, Commissioner Brad Horrock was excused from the meeting.

**ATTENDANCE:** JC Brewer, Heidi Lundberg, John Laursen, Mike Wilkins, Dan Dilsaver, Wayne Simper, Wendi Long, Ken Campbell, T Mecahm, Sonja Norton, Willis Lefevre, Gabby Hawks Blackburn, Tegan Troutner, Mechelle Miller, Zeke Atwood, Jaben Carter, Darlene Reilley, Brenda McDonald, Dusty Monks, Danette Brooks, Cindy Scott, Tonya Craven, Rick May.

**Minutes recorded by:** Becky Richards

## **WELCOME**

**PRAYER offered by:** Jaben Carter

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** led by Becky Richards

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 09, 2022**

*Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the Minutes for May 09, 2022. Commissioner Haslem seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**REPORT OF WARRANTS:** Mike Wilkins presented the warrants that were printed May 13, 2022 in the amount of \$742,458.19.

**REVIEW AND COUNTER SIGNATURE OF CERTIFIED LIST OF CLAIMS:** Mike Wilkins stated that there are no claims presented at this time but there was a check issued for the incorrect amount, this was a clerical error. Mike explained that he does not have the ability to create, modify or delete the entry. This check in error has already been printed and pulled. The error check will have to be voided and put back through the processing.

**CEMETERY CERTIFICATES:** Mike Wilkins presented the cemetery certificates.

1. The Bourgeois Family Trust, Block 336, Lot C, Spaces 9-15 located in the Rockpoint Cemetery Phase 2.
2. James Blair Johnson, Alvaretta Johnson and Brian James Johnson, Lot 205 Spaces 24-28 located in the Vernal Memorial Park Cemetery.

*Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the Cemetery Certificates as presented. Commissioner Haslem seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**TAX MATTERS:** Dannette Brook from the Assessors explained the refund request is for Roy G. Dixon located at 410 West 2500 South Vernal, UT. The owner of the vehicle renewed his registration, then traded the vehicle prior to the expiration of the prior registration's expiration date. The State of Utah has already issued their portion of the refund. The refund request is located in Tax District #2 in the amount of \$110.00.

*Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the request for refund in the amount of \$110.00 as presented. Commissioner Haslem seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**BUSINESS LICENSES:** Gabby Hawks Blackburn presented the business licenses.

1. Bar V Bar Enterprises, Inc located at 8067 Red Cloud Loop Rd, Vernal, UT 84078. Serial #03:065:0056 in a split zone of AID Dryfork overlay zone and Ashley Springs protection zone. This is a home-based business that will mark trails and sell maps so that people can do self-guided tours. The trails are located at 6264 North McConkie Road and there is not a building at this location.

*Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the home-based business for Bar V Bar Enterprises with the condition to follow all home-based rules and regulations. Commissioner Haslem seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**BID OPENING - FINANCIAL AND HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT:** Mike Wilkins opened 5 bids that were all received on time. Jon Stearmer stated that it would be appropriate in this instance to read the Company names of the bids that were received.

1. Pelorus Methods, Orem UT
2. Caselle, Provo, UT
3. ClearGov, Inc Maynard Massachusetts
4. Tyler Technologies, Yarmouth ME
5. ADP, Always Design for People, Rosyland NJ

Mike stated that he would like the elected officials to be involved in this process of choosing a new software system. Mike expressed his opinion that if the County buys a new software it would be a waste of money.

**AMENDMENT TO THE PREDATOR CONTROL GRANT:** Zeke Atwood received an email from the State of Utah regarding an amendment to an existing Predator Control Grant. The original contract amount was for \$4,200.00. The state added an additional amount of \$1,710.00 because of excess funds from other counties that did not spend the grant money. The total amount of the new contract with the amendment is \$5,910.00. Jon Stearmer stated that his office did review this contract.

*Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the Predator Control Grant with the additional amount of \$1,710.00 including authorization of signatures. Commissioner Haslem seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**SPECIAL NEEDS REGISTRY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:** Heidi Lundberg explained that this is an updated memorandum of understanding with the State Division of Emergency Management. The last time Uintah County updated its special needs registry was back in 2013. This MOU gives access to authorized individuals to the special needs registry in case there was an emergency so Uintah County can respond better.

*Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the updated Memorandum of Understanding for the Special Needs Registry with the State Division of Emergency Management including authorization of signatures. Commissioner Haslem seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**DISCUSSION OF VERNAL CITY UTILITY LIENS ON HAVEN ESTATES SURPLUS PROPERTIES:** Mike Wilkins explained that there are two lots on the surplus sale located in Haven Estates. There are two liens from Vernal City on the Haven Estate lots. The utility lien for power and the other is for infrastructure. Mike wanted clarified from the commissioners that the money received from the sale of the lots would go to pay fees, back taxes and then any money left would go to pay off the liens from Vernal City before the money would go to unclaimed properties. Jon Stearmer advised clearing up all the public utility liens on the two haven estates properties in question, therefore making the taxpaying entities whole. If there is any remaining money then it would go to unclaimed property. The consensus from the Commissioners was to pay off the Vernal City utility liens after the sale.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Commissioner Haslem opened the meeting for a public comment period. JC Brewer asked the Commissioners to explain the bids that are titled financial and human capital management and asked what the County is outsourcing. Commissioner Stringer answered the bids are for a software program that the county will use to manage financial services and human resources. There could be some services provided. Services could include the management of the server and tech support for the software. Tammy Mecham, Uintah County Citizen believes the Commissioners are misleading and feels that they need to serve the public and the employees. Furthermore, she is aware of a public meeting where there were four elected officials that recommended the Commissioners not bid out for new software. Willis Lefevre, Uintah County citizen thanked the Commissioners for their service and understands that they are passionate about what they do but feels like the environment in the meetings are toxic and recommends implementing better communication with the employees, elected officials and the public. John Laursen, Uintah County Citizen voiced his concerns regarding the financial and human capital management program and asked the Commissioners not to pursue obtaining a new software because it would be a waste of taxpayers' money. Sonja Norton, Uintah County Citizen asked the Commissioner to explain what type of software system the County uses. Commissioner Stringer explained the existing software doesn't move well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Furthermore, the County does the programming and soon these programming languages will become obsolete. Commissioner Stringer stated that the new system software will serve the county better and he encouraged change. Sonja Norton asked why the current system Oracle is not in the bids and did they have an opportunity to submit a bid? Commissioner Stringer stated that Oracle did have an opportunity to submit a bid. Furthermore, if the County does not see any of the bids that suit the need of the County the Commissioners will look

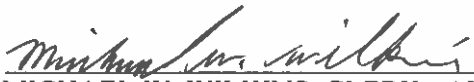
elsewhere and possibly consider Microsoft. A new software program will allow the County to hire people who can write programs. Commissioner Haslem voiced that he is not taking the process of finding a new software program lightly and there has been a lot of discussion regarding what program will best suit Uintah County. The current software that the county has is limited to one or two people that know how to write the programming. New software will open the door so that any business could step in and take over the writing and managing of the programs that the County would need. The new software will have the capability to track who is doing stuff inside the software system. Brenda McDonald voiced her concerns regarding obtaining a new software program for Uintah County and is aware of other counties that have been held hostage by a software system at a cost of \$30,000 before they could get back up and running. Brenda encouraged the Commissioners to speak with Reed Hatch with Sanpete County regarding the software problems. Brenda understands that the current system is old but it is being updated all the time with new things that come along and would like the Commissioner to listen to the Elected Officials more in regards to the new software program. Commissioner Haslem stated that he would like Brenda McDonald's office involved in the process to obtain a new software program.

Haslem closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

*Commissioner Stringer made a motion to adjourn.*

**ADJOURN: 11:42 a.m.**

  
BART HASLEM, CHAIR

  
MICHAEL W. WILKINS, CLERK - AUDITOR



