

MINUTES of the public meeting of the Uintah County Commission **September 27, 2021** in the Commission Chambers of the County Building at 147 East Main, Vernal, Utah. Meeting commenced at 11:00 am.

PARTICIPANTS: Commissioners Bill Stringer, Bart Haslem, Brad Horrocks. Bart Haslem will Chair

ATTENDANCE: Michael Cook, Zeke Atwood, Cindy Scott, Tonya Murray, Jaymon Thomas, Tim King, Steve Cochran, Janalle Kinsey, Melanie Silcox, Tracie Smuin, Dee Jay Chivers, Wendi Long, Sonja Norton, Jeremy Raymond, Jace Spencer, Tonya Craven, Quinn Bennion, Barbara Simper, Michael Wilkins

Minutes recorded by: Becky Richards

PRAYER: offered by: Lesha Colthorp

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by: Tonya Murray

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 20, 2021.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the minutes from September 20, 2021, Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW AND COUNTER SIGNATURE OF CERTIFIED LIST OF CLAIMS: Mike Wilkins

1. Check #376448, Robert Rothfeder, Claim Date 08-30-2021, amount \$7,875.00.
Conflict of interest.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the Claim check #376448, Robert Rothfeder, claim date 08-30-2021, amount \$7,875.00. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

CEMETERY CERTIFICATES: Mike Wilkins.

1. Rockpoint Cemetery Certificate, Bret Perrenoud, Block 176 Space 4
2. Rockpoint Cemetery Certificate, Ricky Tod Thacker and Christina Michelle Thacker, Block 333 Lot B Spaces 29,30,31,32.
3. Vernal Memorial Park Cemetery Certificate, Jennifer Farnworth, Block P6 Lot 2 Space 3.
4. Vernal Memorial Park Cemetery Certificate, Joshua Shepherd, Block H134.50 Lot 1 Space 2

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the cemetery certificates as presented by Mike Wilkins. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

TAX MATTERS: Mike Wilkins

Settlement stipulation Appeal No. 20-1445, Delhi-Trading LLC vs. Property Tax Division of the Utah State Tax Commission, was presented by Mike Wilkins. This stipulation was for the 2020 tax year. Mike explained that this refund will not happen right away.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the authorization of the Settlement Stipulation No. 20-1445, as presented by Mike Wilkins with authorization of signatures. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

REQUEST FOR ABATEMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES FOR TAX YEAR 2021: Barbara Simper

County Assessor requests Uintah County Commissioners to approve abatement of taxes in the amount of \$26,977.73 for tax year 2021, Serial #05:047:0061 in Tax District 14 for the property owner of record from HDE, LLC to Uintah School District: Situs address: 826 S 1500 E, Vernal, UT 84078.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the property tax abatement. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS LICENSES: Gabby Blackburn

Business license application was presented by Gabby, for a home based business license. Business name: Jojo's Joys, located at 2765 West 500 North, Serial #04:119:0001, Vernal, UT 84078. Uintah County Community Development is recommending that this business license be approved with the condition they follow all home-based business license zoning regulations.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the business license for Jojo's Joys business license with the condition they follow all home-based business license zoning regulations. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IWORQ SERVICE AGREEMENT UINTAH CONFERENCE CENTER / WESTERN PARK: Traci Smuin

Traci Smuin presented the agreement to the Uintah County Commissioners. Traci explained that this is a service agreement with iWorQ Systems Inc, and is going to help the County with seasonal work projects, monthly maintenance, daily maintenance and work orders. Tracy explained that they expect it will increase efficiency and management of better work flow. The cost of the service agreement annually will be \$2,250.00, the one time set up fee has been waived because the County has already used this program in other County departments. Traci mentioned that the costs of this agreement will be shared with Uintah County Conference Center, Western Park and Vernal Ice Rink.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the IWORQ Service Agreement for iWorQ applications and service with authorization of signatures as presented by Traci Smuin. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

BID AWARDING BUCKSKIN ELECTRICAL: Lesha Coltharp, Derrik Jaramillo

Lesha explained that Derrik has completed a lot of work and review of the two bids that were previously before the Commission. Derrik and Lesha are both recommending the bid awarding to BHI, based on price. Both of the bids met the RFP requirements. The total bid was in the amount of \$47, 819.72 from BHI, out of Vernal. Derrik explained that some of the trenching will be done by Uintah County's staff, which was bid at \$6,058.80, which will lower the amount of the bid to \$41,760.92. Lesha explained the remainder of the money to pay for this project will all come from the Recreational Grant.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the awarding of the Buckskin electrical to BHI out of Vernal, UT, in the amount of \$41,760.92, this is the amount of the bid with the trenching amount taken out, which Uintah County Staff will complete. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

BID AWARDING TUBE, SKI AND SNOWBOARD LIFT: Derrik Jaramillo

Derrik asked that this item be readdressed, later in the meeting.

This item was revisited at the end of the meeting and Derrik recommended that the bid awarding be to Geise Engineer Inc, from Northumberland, Pennsylvania, in the amount of \$41,700.00. Derrik explained that this money would also be money from the Utah outdoor recreational grant.

Commissioner Stringer moved to award the bid grant to Geise Engineer in the amount of \$41,700.00, as presented by Derrick, with authorization of signatures. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 9-27-2021, R1 UCIP OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR UINTAH COUNTY: Tonya Craven

Tonya explained that this resolution comes about every year. It is to decide a voting representative and an alternate representative for Uintah County's Indemnity pool annual membership meeting to be held November 11, 2021. Tonya stated that Mike Wilkins is the current representative and herself as the alternate representative for last year.

Commissioner Stringer asked what the requirements are for a representative.

Mike Wilkins stated that he would like to continue to be the UCIP Voting Representative.

Commissioner Horrocks moved to approve Tonya Craven as the official representative for UCIP, with Bart Haslem as the alternate representative. Commissioner Stringer recommended the motion. Commissioner Haslem called for a vote. Commissioner Stringer voted nay. Commissioner Horrocks voted aye. Commissioner Haslem voted nay. Motion did not pass.

More discussion regarding the UCIP and Commissioner Stringer mentioned that he likes the idea of continuity.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve a motion to appoint Mike Wilkins as the UCIP official representative and Tonya Craven as an alternative representative. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Commissioner Stringer voted aye. Commissioner Horrocks voted nay. Commissioner Haslem voted aye. Motion passed.

COMPENSATION POLICY 310 – ELECTED OFFICIALS SHERIFF'S SALARY: Tonya Craven

Discussion regarding this Compensation Policy 310 took place, with mention that if needed we can have that discussion when the other elected officials' salaries are adjusted, and mentioned that this can be tabled to a later date.

Commissioner Haslem mentioned that all the duties of the elected officials that are coming up need to be looked at and would like this item tabled for a later date.

2022 – HEALTH BENEFITS: Tonya Craven

Tonya explained the Cigna annual Renewal amounts.

Comparison Amounts

BCBS Value Care monthly Premium is \$320,435, this is a 14.64% increase

BCBS Focal Point monthly premium is \$280,675, this is a 0.41% increase

Cigna monthly premium is \$303,284, this is a 8.5% increase

Tonya explained that when looking at these plans, the BCBS Focal Point with an increase of only 0.41% looks nice, but if the County has a year like last year, going with this type of plan all of the funds would go right back to Bluecross Blue Shield and not back to Uintah County. Tonya also stated that the BCBS Focal Point, plan is offering a \$100,000 administrative, which would be on the first pay cycle, that first month. Uintah County can see that Cigna is continuing to offer the \$20,000 wellness, and \$15,000 tech credit that the County could utilize with a health joy or some other tech that could be used for our employees.

Tonya explained that comparing our supplemental life insurance, Cigna vs Lincoln, if we go back to Lincoln we would be able to recapture a benefit which allows the employee to increase in increments without doing an EIO, once you hit

your max Lincoln it allows you to continue to increase it by \$10,000 increments each year , up to \$20,000, without having to do a Evidence of Insurability, which is a great benefit to the employee. With Lincoln you can do the online file exchange, where as Cigna is a self-bill.

Tonya explained that the County has been with PEHP for a very long time, but when she got looking into the benefits, Lincoln provides a better benefit than PEHP for a better cost.

Further discussion regarding the differences in PEHP and Cigna took place.

Mike Wilkins explained that if an employee is on Tier 1 retirement and becomes disabled, PEHP has a benefit for a long-term disability as part of that plan, the person continues their pension plan as if they never skipped a day of work. Mike stated that he thought it was on Tier 2 also with PEHP's LTD that are incomparable.

Tim King with GBS benefits stated that they would look into that retirement point with PEHP, he further explained that the one concern that GBS had was on the definition of disability and regarding how long the benefit would continue.

Tonya stated that she would have Tim look into the LTD contract closer. Tonya noted to take a look at these voluntary benefits so that the employee has the opportunity to look at critical illness, voluntary accident, voluntary hospital, indemnity and healthjoy is a part of that tech credit if we would continue with Cigna that we would like to merge our EAP with. These are benefits that the County does not pay for, but are offered to the employee to have.

Tonya suggested to the County Commissioners to stay with Cigna and move forward, not disrupting the current plan. Tonya explained that right before the meeting Tim King with GBS was able to negotiate a 7.5% renewable percentage rate, but Cigna would like a commitment from Uintah County today.

Tim King explained on the BlueCross Blue Shield quote, the Focal Point Network, which is the .41% increase over current, is a network that Regence BlueCross BlueShield has offered for a number of years but has been solely available only on the Wasatch Front. It's only been the Hospitals along the Metropolitan market. As of January 1, 2022, they have expanded the focal point network to include Vernal, Roosevelt hospitals and doctors, but many of the Dr's in Park City and Heber valley are not in the network. Tim explained that it is a narrowing network less accessible to hospitals.

Commissioner Stringer asked to clarify some of the benefits and if an employee is covered or not.

Tonya explained that if you are out of Utah or anywhere you still need to compare and decide if you want to stay with an in network vs. out of network, your coverage is dependent on if you go to an in network doctor or an out of network doctor and what the plan pays is different on what network you choose to be seen in.

Commissioner Stringer asked if the employee can find information regarding their insurance, to be able to help decide and find a provider?

Tonya answered that depending on insurance you can usually go to an app, or a website so you can gather the information on your plan and find providers in your network.

Tim King explained that if the County wants to lock in the 7.5% today, it is a savings of annual premium of \$39,236.96.

Commissioner Stringer moved to accept the plan with Cigna 2022 with authorizing signatures. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RURAL COUNTY GRANT APPLICATION APPROVAL: Zeke Atwood

Zeke explained that this is a grant specifically for rural areas to obtain economic benefits. This rural county grant program application was brought before the Commission a couple of weeks ago. This grant is offered by the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity and in order for this application to be submitted, it has to have the project. The projects approved by the Community Economic Development Board, as well as the governing body of the County. The Community Economic Development Board met with us last week and they had wanted to change one of the projects, so we had to bring this back to the Commission, to change that project. One of the projects that we had talked about last time was the business retail marketing analysis that the County currently contracts with Buxton to give that analysis. The Economic Development Board didn't feel like they were getting the deliverables out of that so they wanted to change that. The Economic Development board wanted to change it to a \$25,000 grant initiative. This initiative establishes a small matching grant program to provide funding to nonprofit and small businesses for the expansion and promotion of the arts in the downtown district for projects that provide measurable economic benefit to the County and City. This does come with a grant match that would come out of the Community or the County Economic Development Office fund.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the Rural County Grant Application as presented by Zeke Atwood. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN UDOT & UINTAH COUNTY FOR TECHNICAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE: Zeke Atwood

Zeke explained that this would be an agreement between UDOT and Uintah County for technical planning assistance on the building on some trails. This agreement would help with maps, environmental effects, adjustments of property boundaries, and with some of the possible challenges that might arise when building these trails.

Commissioner Stringer clarified that this is grant money that Uintah County has already been awarded. Zeke answered yes.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the MOU with UDOT and Uintah County for technical planning assistance as presented, with authorization of signatures. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

CHILDRENS' JUSTICE CENTER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Tonya Murray

Tonya explained that the Memorandum of Understanding with Uintah County and the Uintah & Daggett Counties' Children Justice Center Advisory Board. This is in accordance with Utah Code, this has been reviewed by Jon Stearmer. This provides a statewide program that provides a comprehensive, multidisciplinary, intergovernmental response to child abuse victims in a facility known as the Children's Justice Center. This MOU will be effective January 01, 2022.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the Children's Justice Center Memorandum of Understanding with all listed agencies, with authorization of signatures. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NATIONAL CHILDRENS'S ALLIANCE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT: Tonya Murray

Tonya explained that this is an agreement that will help by improving access to critical mental health services for child trauma victims in rural Utah. Project cycle will start October 1, 2021 – December 31, 2022. Parties involved are the National Children's Alliance (NCA) and Uintah / Daggett County Children's Justice Center (CJC)
Maximum billing amount for Uintah / Daggett County Children's Justice Center for the project if \$29,155.00.

Year 1: \$4,695.00 (includes \$2580.00 equipment)
Year 2: \$24,460.00

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the National Children's Alliance / Uintah / Daggett County Children's Justice Center Professional Service Agreement, including authorization of signatures. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

SURFACE USE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SITLA REGARDING DOCS BEACH: Mike Cook

Mike explained that Uintah County has been in discussion with SITLA for a long time regarding a lease of 421 acres North of the Rod and Gun Club for a rock crawl park / OHV area. Jon Stearmer is wanting some changes in minor wording issues. Mike suggested to wait until Jon Stearmer can be here.

Commissioner Stringer asked the amount of the lease would be.

Mike explained that the annual lease is \$28,000 per year, but \$24,000 will be paid out of the SITLA OHV fund, the other \$4,000 will be paid, for example patrolling the area, any management, or time volunteer hours can go towards that \$4,000, so no out of pocket money will the County have to pay. SITLA will take 10% of any fees generated from this area as help for payment.

Commissioner Stringer asked how long the lease is for. Mike stated it was a renewable 5-year lease, the County can give up or renew.

Commissioner Haslem tabled this item.

NON-COMPLIANT STRUCTURES- BUILDING DIVISION: Matt Cazier

1. BUILDING DIVISION-REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO RECORD A CERTIFICATE OF NONCOMPLIANT BUILDING OR STRUCTURE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 351 N 5750 E WHITEROCKS, UT. SERIAL NUMBER (14:016:0025).

Matt explained that this is a single wide mobile home prior to the year 1976 and is currently not allowed on private property as a dwelling as per state code. Community Development did notify the owners and owner was trying to comply. The property owner has had three extensions, and currently the Department has not heard back from the property owner. Community Development is recommending this be recorded as a non-compliant structure.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the request certificate of noncompliant building located on 351 North 5750 East, Whiterocks, UT. Serial Number 14;016:0025. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. BUILDING DIVISION-REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO RECORD A CERTIFICATE OF NONCOMPLIANT BUILDING OR STRUCTURE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 5339 E INDEPENDENCE, UT. SERIAL NUMBER (14:030:0010).

Matt stated that originally this building was an agriculture structure, which is exempt from getting a building permit. Additional work was completed on this building which required a building permit. Application for a building permit was submitted to the building department to change to a dwelling. Community Development has been trying to work with the owner and is not getting very far and would like to recommend immediate posting for noncompliant building.

Stringer moved to approve the immediate posting of certificate of noncompliant building for property located at 5339 E Independence, UT. Serial number 14:030:0010 Commissioner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

3. BUILDING DIVISION-REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO RECORD A CERTIFICATE OF NONCOMPLIANT BUILDING OR STRUCTURE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 04:067:0145. SERIAL NUMBER (04:067:0145).1067 N 1500 East.

Matt explained that this was a garage / metal building that was constructed without a building permit. Notification of noncompliant was given to the property owners. Property owner submitted a building application, but the building plans were not engineered.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve the immediate posting of the certificate of noncompliant building. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. BUILDING DIVISION-REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO RECORD A CERTIFICATE OF NONCOMPLIANT BUILDING OR STRUCTURE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3638 W PIT ROAD SERIAL NUMBER (05:087:0007).

Matt explained that this is a Commercial business location, that originally was only temporary. The property owner applied for a permit. Community Development has been trying to work with the property owner, but has given a deadline to become compliant by November 1, 2021. Matt would like the Commission to consider authorizing posting of noncompliance after November 01, 2021 deadline.

Stringer asked Matt if the property owner knows the ramifications of the property becoming a noncompliant building.

Matt stated that the Community Development can deny a business license for having a certificate of noncompliant building, but he doesn't think the property owner knows.

Commissioner Stringer asked if the owner has a Conditional Use Permit.

Matt stated that they have a current Conditional Use Permit, but until November 01, 2021 the property owners are follow all rules.

Commissioner Stringer moved to approve authorization of posting of a certificate of noncompliant building to be filed after November 01, 2021, if the property owners do not comply. Commissioner Horrocks seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURN 12:26 pm



BART HASLEM, CHAIR

MICHAEL W. WILKINS, CLERK-AUDITOR

