

**MINUTES** of the public meeting of the Uintah County Commission held **October 31, 2023** in the Commission Chambers of the Uintah County Building at 147 East Main, Vernal, Utah. Meeting commenced at 3 p.m.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Commissioners Sonja Norton, John Laursen, and Brad Horrocks.

**ATTENDANCE:** Mike Wilkins, Ben Winslow, Thor Fiedler, JC Brewer, Jon Stearmer, Travis Campbell, Wendi Long, Cindy Scott, Jace Spencer, Lesha Coltharp, Cindy Scott, and Doug Hammond.  
Minutes recorded by Tai Duncan.

**WELCOME:** Commissioner Horrocks welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**PRAYER** offered by Travis Campbell.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Commissioner Norton.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the October 23, 2023 work session and October 24, 2023 Commission meeting.**

*Commissioner Norton moved to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2023 work session and October 24, 2023 Commission meeting. Commissioner Laursen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

**2. REPORT OF WARRANTS** – Mike Wilkins, Clerk-Auditor, presented warrants dated October 26, 2023 in the amount of \$1,096,619.58. Checks of note are \$40,000.00 to MGS Investment Leasing for the Road department, \$49,481.00 to Unified Fleet Services for the lease payment, and \$740,426.42 to Vernal City for the Airport.

**3. REVIEW AND COUNTER SIGNATURE OF CERTIFIED LIST OF CLAIMS** - None

**4. TAX MATTERS** - None

**5. 2024 RURAL COUNTY GRANT ACCEPTANCE** – Travis Campbell, Economic Development, noted this was presented several weeks ago to have the application approved. The State of Utah Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity has approved the application and provided a contract for electronic signature. Travis asked for approval to accept the grant award and authorize electronic signature.

*Commissioner Laursen moved to accept the Rural County Grant as presented and authorize electronic signature. Commissioner Norton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

**6. BOARD APPOINTMENT – Weed Board**, Commissioner Horrocks postponed this item.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT** –

JC Brewer presented a handout of House bill 186 to the Commissioners. Six to eight weeks ago he spoke about an issue that bothered him; the sale of US lands to foreign nations. Since he spoke about it previously, he has had a lot of conversations. He recently spoke with Representative Scott Chew and determined what he wanted to accomplish has already been done in Utah. House bill 186 prohibits the sale of land, water, mineral, and associated rights in the State of Utah to any foreign agent or entity. His next step is to acquire a list of states that have similar legislation and find federal legislation that does the same. This is a huge step in his personal battle in stopping foreign countries from buying more land in the US. He spent a lot of time and effort over the years protecting our country and he won't quit now.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:09 pm.

  
BRAD HORROCKS, CHAIR



  
MICHAEL W. WILKINS, CLERK – AUDITOR