MINUTES OF COMBINED COMMISSION WORKING & REGULAR SESSION MEETING HELD MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M. IN DUCHESNE, UTAH

Present –

Commissioner Irene Hansen, Commissioner Tracy Killian, Commissioner Greg Miles, Deputy Attorney Tyler Allred, Attorney Stephen Foote, Surveyor Jerry Allred, Clerk-Auditor Chelise Jessen, Public Works Director Mike Casper, Public Works Deputy Director Clint Curtis, Treasurer Stephen Potter, Sheriff Travis Tucker, Human Resource Director Judy Stevenson, Economic Development Director Deborah Herron, Human Resource Generalist Tommi Mascaro, Community Development Director Mike Hyde, Community Development Director Mike Gottfredson, Duchesne County Residents Tracy Ross, and Jeff Chugg, and Commission Executive Assistant Melissa Hughes is taking the meeting minutes.

Opening Comments

(9:02 a.m.)

Chairperson Hansen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

(9:02 a.m.)

Public Works Update

(9:03 a.m.)

Public Works Director Mike Casper gave an update on existing projects and upcoming work. They are chip sealing in Neola, and to be more efficient on time, they have rented a chipper for 30 days. A crew is mowing the roadsides. They are seeing some high water from the rivers, but no significant issues exist. They have parked a track hoe in Upper Lakefork in case the culverts become blocked. A complaint was received about Wrinkle Road (CR 239). They would like dust suppressant applied to the road. At this time, Director Casper will remove the grader from that road to help with dust control. They will be testing a zipper in the Rock Creek area. The new zipper that was ordered should arrive in the next few weeks.

Discussion & Consideration of the County Privacy Compliance Plan

(9:09 a.m.)

Attorney Stephen Foote presented the Duchesne County Privacy Compliance Plan. He stated that the State of Utah received a complaint that a Commissioner and an employee allowed an individual to use a restroom for a gender not assigned to them at birth. Commissioner Hansen said the state received over twelve thousand complaints, and she thinks they are a political ploy. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the Duchesne County Privacy Compliance Plan as presented. Commissioner Miles seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Miles voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Discussion & Consideration of Response Letter Regarding the Greater Sage-Grouse Range-Wide Planning Draft RMP and EIS

(9:13 a.m.)

Community Development Director Mike Hyde presented the fifty-nine-page response letter to Greg Sheehan, Utah State Director of the Bureau of Land Management. He explained that the County agrees with the BLM that a balanced approach is critical here and supports the BLM's identification of Alternative 5 as the "preferred alternative" because it provides the best balance of the proposed alternatives. Conversely, Alternative 3 provides the least balanced approach and is not a reasonable alternative for consideration moving forward. For instance, and as discussed in more detail in the letter, removing fluid mineral leasing and livestock grazing under Alternative 3 is inconsistent with BLM's multiple-use mandate, inconsistent with state and county resource management plans, and contrary to Utah's Conservation Plan for Greater Sage Grouse. The parties discussed the letter and will review it further. *Commissioner Miles made a motion to approve the response letter and allow for adjustments. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Miles voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Discussion & Consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Forest Service

(9:18 a.m.)

Community Development Director Mike Hyde presented the MOU with the U.S. Forest Service. The purpose of the MOU is to document a framework for cooperation and define the relationship and duties between the parties in preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the National Old Growth Amendment. A Principal Contact for the Cooperator will also need to be appointed. The attorney's office reviewed the MOU, and there are no concerns. The parties discussed the MOU. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the MOU with the Forest Service and appoint Commissioner Miles as the Principal Contact. Commissioner Miles seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Miles voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Discussion & Consideration of the Applications from Local Businesses for the Utah Rural Grant

(9:25 a.m.)

Economic Development Director Deborah Herron presented an application from Nourish LLC. They purchased new equipment and electronics and had the exterior of the building painted. The application amount is $5,491.97 for the grant match. The parties discussed the business and the application. *Commissioner Miles made a motion to approve the matching grant for Nourish, LLC, as presented. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Miles voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Discussion & Consideration of the Board of Equalization (BOE) Adjustments

(9:29 a.m.)

Clerk-Auditor Chelise Jesson presented a list of properties that needed value added after the 2024 tax roll was closed. Before closing the roll, the Assessor completed several checks between the programs, and everything seemed correct. The list of properties has been corrected as BOE changes. The parties discussed the new system. *Commissioner Miles made a motion to approve the list of BOEs as presented. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Miles voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Discussion & Consideration to Ratify a Portion of the Tax Sale

(9:31 a.m.)

Treasurer Stephen Potter presented a list of parcels sold in the tax sale. Money has been received for the properties listed. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to ratify the portion of the tax sale that has been presented. Commissioner Miles seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Miles voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Auditors Office – Vouchers

(9:35 a.m.)

Clerk-Auditor Chelise Jessen presented the June 10, 2024, vouchers, check numbers 165293 through 165377, for $913,660.12. The parties reviewed the vouchers submitted. *Commissioner Miles made a motion to approve the vouchers for June 10, 2024, as presented. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Miles voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Discussion & Consideration of the Support Letter to the Duchesne County School District for the School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) Grant

(9:44 a.m.)

Commissioner Hansen explained the request for the support letter. The School District is applying for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) grant. The SVPP grant is a vital resource that enables schools to implement measures that can significantly reduce the risks associated with violence in and around our educational facilities. They propose to utilize the grant funds to integrate an advanced safety management system technology to address school climate and student safety. This will enhance security and equip students and staff with the tools to identify and respond effectively to potential threats. The parties discussed the letter and suggested corrections. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the support letter for Duchesne County School District for the SVPP Grant as corrected. Commissioner Miles seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Miles voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Consideration of Minutes for Combined Commission Meeting held June 3, 2024
(9:45 a.m.)

The parties reviewed the combined Commission meeting minutes for June 3, 2024. *Commissioner Miles made a motion to approve the minutes for June 3, 2024, as corrected. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Miles voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Discussion of the CIB Annual Retreat
(9:54 a.m.)

Commissioner Miles explained how Duchesne County hosted the CIB Board's annual retreat. The group toured part of the County, stopping at a Crusoe Energy facility, the Roosevelt Library, and an Ovintiv Energy facility. The meeting was held at the Centennial Event Center. Commissioner Miles expressed his appreciation to all involved in planning and preparing the outstanding event. He received a lot of praise from the attendees. Some tough conversations were had during the meeting, and they will stay vigilant and remind their friends on the CIB Board how Duchesne County is significantly impacted.

Recess 10:02 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

Commissioner Miles made a motion to recess. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Miles voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.

Discussion of Possible Subjects for the Next Meeting
(10:20 a.m.)

Calendaring & Weekly Update on Events
(10:23 a.m.)

Discussion & Consideration of Volunteers
(10:37 a.m.)

Human Resource Generalist Tommi Mascaro presented a list of volunteers. The applicants have cleared the background check. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the volunteers as presented. Commissioner Miles seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Miles voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.*

Human Resource Update
(10:40 a.m.)

Human Resource Director Judy Stevenson gave an update for her department. She listed the open positions with the County and announced the interviews they will conduct this week. She stated that the Workers Comp audit went well.

Closed Meeting – Strategy Session to Discuss: The Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual;
(10:45 a.m.)

Commissioner Miles made a motion to go in and out of a closed meeting for a strategy session to discuss: The Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Miles voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The motion passed.

Back in Session
(11:39 a.m.)

No action is to be taken.

Adjournment
(11:40 a.m.)

Commissioner Killian made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m. Commissioner Miles seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Miles voted aye, and Commissioner Hansen voted aye. The forum adjourned.

Read and approved this on the 24th day of June 2024.

Irene Hansen
Irene Hansen
Commission Chair

Chelise Jessen
Chelise Jessen
Clerk-Auditor