

COMMISSION WORKSESSION

June 17, 2024

Minutes of a regularly scheduled worksession of the Sevier County Commission held this seventeenth day of June 2024. Meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m. with Commissioners Scott Johnson, Greg Jensen, and Ralph Brown in the Conference Room, Room 116, of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. Executive Administrator Malcolm Nash, Rusty Bastain of Redmond Minerals, Inc., Steve Young of Holland & Hart LLP, Ken Taylor of Redmond Minerals, Thomas Peters of Peter Schofield LLP, and Chad Lloyd from the Sevier School District were also present.

Rusty Bastain outlined the situation with Redmond overpaying property taxes in 2022 but not discovering the overpayment until 2023. The company is interested in having the overpayment refunded.

Ken Taylor presented some slides showing the financial impacts to taxpayers for the error. Steve Young outlined how the Utah State Code allows for refunds under two conditions. One solution uses the judgement levy tool that is commonly used. The second option involves either adjusting the value or abating tax liabilities to correct errors or for human interests.

The argument is that Redmond overpaid is giving to the residents \$270,000 in cash that the county and school district used for their operations that the taxpayers didn't pay. The proposal is to adjust Redmond's values lower so they pay less taxes and the rest of the taxpayers pay more and that money is returned to Redmond. This works because the county and district get the same amount of money they were given the previous year.

Discussions included doing this in the 2025 tax year, not 2024 since rates are about to be approved on June 24th. The time frame including doing it all in one year or spreading it out over 4 to 5 years to keep the impacts to taxpayers minimal; \$2.00 to \$3.00 per year.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.