Minutes of the Commission Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Carbon County, State of Utah, held Wednesday, June 5, 2024 in the Commission Room of the Administration Building, Price, Utah, commencing at 4:30 p.m.

Those present:	Larry Jensen, Commission Chair Tony Martines, Commissioner Casey Hopes, Commissioner
Also present:	Christian Bryner, County Attorney Geni Hawk, Commission Secretary Kellie Payne, Human Resources Seth Marsing, Clerk/Auditor Jeff Wood, Sheriff

Commissioner Jensen started the meeting with a presentation by Commissioner Hopes for the ground breaking that was held today.

Commissioner Hopes said today is a monumental day. We started the Aviation Campus in 2019 with an agreement between Utah State University and Carbon County and created classroom space at the airport. This began the growth of the flight program which started with a handful of students and one plane and now we are up to five planes. We are almost to capacity with the number of instructors and planes. USUE has assured us that they will continue to bring more planes, students and trainers here and will continue to grow the program.

Last year we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Utah State University for the management of the airport. They now manage all activities at the airport including mechanics and fuel. Today we are bringing in the mechanics side of the program which they call the MP. Students will be trained on how to fix all aspects of an airplane from the frame to the engine. These MP mechanics will work on the same turbines which are used in our power plants and on windmills. These mechanics are very versatile and do not have to work in aviation but can also work in local industry. Today was the ground breaking for this project.

This project includes building an 80 x 130-foot building that will house two classrooms for a maximum of twenty-five students in accordance to FAA rules. We are excited about this and are grateful for the funding partners. EDA funded over a million dollars and the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity also funded a million dollars. We will also use some entitlement money from the FAA for the ramp and apron to make this happen.

Commissioner Martines said this is an amazing project and they are also looking to the future for expansion including additional hangars. We want to commend everyone who is involved.

Commissioner Jensen thanked Commissioner Hopes who has been involved in all aspects of the projects. This will have a huge impact over time in our community and will increase our tax base.

1) ***Approval of Minutes***

Commissioner Hopes said one correction in spelling was made earlier this week but no additional changes were needed. Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the May 15, 2024 Commission Meeting minutes with the correction. Commissioner Hopes seconded. Motion carried.

2) ***Employee of the Month – Kellie Payne***

Kellie said our June 2024 Employee of the Month goes to Lt. Adam Cox. He has been employed with Carbon County for sixteen years and started in March of 2008. He became our jail lieutenant in March of 2020. Cletis Steele is the person who nominated him.

Cletis said Adam was promoted to Sergeant in 2016 and Lieutenant in 2020. Last year he earned his jail commander certification. Cletis has worked with Adam since 2015 and he has proved to be a dedicated employee and a great leader. He is always available for any task at any time of day and is willing to go. Adam makes sure that all shifts and trainings are covered and has a great relationship with the sergeants. He has an open-door policy and doesn't ask anyone to do something that he is not willing to do himself. He has a great attitude and it is a privilege to work with Adam. He spends his entire day helping and serving others and we are really happy to have him.

Sheriff Wood said he agrees with everything Cletis said. Adam is the go-to person when something needs to get done. He is a forward thinker and gets out ahead of things. He does a great job for the county and the sheriff's office.

Adam thanked Sheriff Wood and Chief Deputy Steele for everything they have done for him and for the support from the commissioners.

3) ***Super Service Award – Tina Grange***

Tina said a member of the community sent in this nomination and she reminded the public that they can send in Super Service nominations by email to tina.grange@carbon.utah.gov or on our Facebook page.

Tina read the nomination for Stuart from Starbucks. He provides outstanding service, he greets customers cheerfully with a smile, he displays positive energy and embodies the dedication and enthusiasm not often recognized. He is very deserving of this award. Tina presented the award to Stuart Burgess with Starbucks.

Stuart said he is glad he makes people smile every day. The commissioners thanked him.

4) ***Ratification of agreement with Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum to sell Geocaching Collectible Coin – Tina Grange***

Tina said this is part of the SPX Geo Tour that we have relaunched this year. We have learned that cachers love to collect coins from different areas and tours they visit. With our grant funding we have purchased collectible coins and have reached out to our museums to see if they would be willing to sell them.

Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum's proposed agreement says the coins will sell for $20 and the museum will keep 50%. The other half comes back to the county and will be put back into geocaching projects. We had our first event on June 1 and had to rush the process so the coins would be available to purchase. They sold seven that first day.

Commissioner Martines asked if the coins will be reflective of Carbon County. Tina said yes, one side has the SPX Geo Tour logo and the back has the Land Elevated logo because we received the grant funding from the Utah Office of Tourism. These coins are trackable so you can keep it or you can hide it somewhere else and follow it everywhere it goes.

Commissioner Hopes made a motion to ratify the agreement with Utah State University Prehistoric Museum to sell the Geocaching collectible coin. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

Tina said SPX stands for Stewardship, Preservation and Exploration and geocaching is an opportunity for Carbon County to add to our assets that bring visitors into our area. There are only seventy Geo Tours available nationally and Carbon County is lucky enough to provide one of those tours. We have hidden thirty-five caches throughout the Carbon Corridor and it involves 300 miles in traveling to find all of them. We developed a passport to go along with those caches. The Geo Tour events are noted on Geocaching.com and it goes on their blog. If you are a user you can see where your map is and what events are happening. On June 1 we started at 9 a.m. with a live radio remote broadcast, free donuts and coffee and a ton of giveaways. The timing was perfect because people were coming or going to a mega event in Arizona. People came from all over and one visitor who found all of the caches said our tour had a wow factor.

We have to renew this tour every year in order to keep those caches. We do not have to hold an event every year but it is a great opportunity to bring people into our area. We had over 1,000 people sign up for our tour. We believe 175 have completed the entire tour. Some people will visit our area again to complete the tour. It was a great turnout.

5) ***Review & possible approval of kiosk agreement with Price City and Utah State University Eastern – Tina Grange***

Tina said this is a continuation of the funding from the State Tourism Office to build our kiosks. Price City has been wanting one since we started the program two years ago and decided to partner with Utah State University because the location will be close to the museum. This is the agreement and they have had it approved in Price City Council and are now asking for approval from the commission. This will start the process to get the kiosk built.

Commissioner Martines said the other kiosks are being used and are in ideal spots. He appreciates Tina and the travel board and the work to get participation to get these placed. Tina said it is a great partnership with a split of 60/40. The county covers 60% of the expenses which is funded by tourism dollars and the 40% is paid by the partner.

Commissioner Hopes made a motion to approve the kiosk agreement with Price City and Utah State University Eastern. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

6) ***Annual Certification of Contribution Rates – URS 07/01/2024 – 06/30/2024***

Kellie said URS sends out their rates each year and we have to approve them. This year is a little bit different. A few years ago, we opted to pick up a 2.59% contribution for public safety and do two substantial salary hikes across the public sector. There has been an additional coverage of 2.14% for a combined total of 4.73% that the county will need to pay into the retirement.

The second one is our Tier II Public Retirement system. This one says, if the pension contribution rate remains below 10%, the surplus is diverted into the 401K. But if it exceeds 10%, which it has done for July 2024, then employees may be responsible to contribute to their benefit.

After discussing this with the commission and Seth, we have decided that we will do a 1% salary increase to our Tier II members to offset the contribution and help minimize the affect on employee's net pay.

Commissioner Martines said some of this cost is forced upon us. It is not our choice. We are trying to keep employees where they are and mitigate inflation. This will not affect all employees of the county.

Kellie said about 66 employees will be affected. Public Safety for the Tier II has already been picked up.

Commissioner Martines said to clarify this is not for lifetime benefits. Kellie said this is not for lifetime benefits. County employees do not get lifetime benefits.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the certification of the contribution rates for URS from 07/01/2024 through 06/30/2025. Commissioner Hopes seconded. Motion carried.

7) ***Carbon County Fair wrap up report – Kourtney Cox***

Kourtney asked that other members of her committee join her at the microphone. Kourtney said on Saturday, June 1st they wrapped up the Carbon County Fair. She has a lengthy list of the Fair Committee and others who assisted with the Fair.

She started off by thanking three of the sponsors: The Grand Champion Sponsor was JN Auto, the Commissioner Choice sponsor was I Got Poop.com and the Blue-Ribbon sponsor was Emery Telcom. There were other sponsors and we could not have done this without the sponsors.

They took a survey during the Fair and asked people to vote for their favorite vendor booth and their favorite concessionaire. Our two winners were Ruben's Barbecue as the concessionaire and Cosmic Candy as the vendor booth. In addition to voting, the survey also included feedback about the Fair. One of the questions asked was if they liked the early dates. Seventy-nine percent of the people who responded said they did like that we were kicking off the summer of events. Additional feedback received is people want to see carnival rides. The committee will continue to try and find a carnival/midway for next year.

We had a steady crowd all weekend to all of the events. We had vendors that were selling out of their goods each night. We had positive feedback from the crowds at all of the events. The top five attended activities were the vendor booths, the Animal Barn, the Battle of the Bands, Kids Korner and the Burnout Competition.

We want to thank the USU Extension Office, Kirk MacArthur and Jennifer Roberts for the animal barn. The barn was full of animals and activities. The Battle of the Bands was a nostalgic event for the community to see come back. People filled the grandstand in the park and we had a wide range of bands that played. The Kids Korner Activities was put together by Christine Johnson and she did a phenomenal job. The First Responder Friday was not only a hit with the kids but the First Responders had a good time. The Burnout Competition had the second largest turnout in that event's history. This was the first year that it was hosted by the Carbon County Fair.

Part of our goal this year was to keep the energy up. We had a lot of activities going on all at one time which led to the overall enjoyment of the Fair. The Car Show was sponsored by Autumn Blackmor with Party Express and Gifts. She did a great job and is so good to work with. She held a raffle and gave out several awards not just the Commissioners Choice. The First Responders, Price City Police Department, Carbon County Sheriff's Office, Helper City Police Department, Utah Highway Patrol all assisted with the Car Show Cruise.

Both concerts were wonderful as well as the Boots and Honky Tonk event, the Desert Wings and RC Air Show and the huge motocross event. We have lots of ideas for the Fair in 2025 and we are excited to get started. We were all surprised and proud at the event we brought to the community this year.

Barry said as you can see it takes a lot to put on an event like this. This year we want to give the Carbon County Fair MVP award to the one person who really stuck out and did a lot of great things to promote the Fair. This year's award goes to Alex Thayn. She went above and beyond and we want to thank her.

Alex said she is really surprised. She thanked the committee for the award.

Commissioner Jensen thanked the committee. The Fair was a huge draw for the community. In many ways getting together was healing. He thanked each of them for the effort and making it bigger than it has been.

Commissioner Martines and Hopes said it was fun to see the different events and their matching shirts allowed people to find the committee easily when they had questions. You did a phenomenal job. It was an enjoyable event.

8) Consideration and possible approval to apply for the Fiscal Incentive Grant – Aubrey Kirkwood

Aubrey said back in 2022 we were awarded a Fiscal Incentive Grant for the motocross track. We are working on closing that grant now. We were able to make some huge improvements at the motocross track. We fully fenced the entire track, which has been a game changer for security, making sure employees are safe when they are grooming the track and regulating who and what is out there. We did repairs on the sprinkling system and the Road Shop hauled a ton of sand to the track.

There has been a lot of positive feedback from the community on the improvements. The track is the best it has been in years. We have people there every single day. The Fiscal Incentive Grant requires a 25% match which can be in-kind. It is a great grant and Aubrey would like to apply for the next round of grants. There

are two rounds a year and the summer session just opened up. She would like to continue the improvements on the track. They have been talking about what they can do next and the list is long.

Commissioner Jensen asked Aubrey to explain where this grant money comes from. Aubrey said this grant comes from the State of Utah Division of Natural Resources. The money comes from OHV registration dollars. When you register your off-highway vehicles, a portion of those fees go into this fund for grants which are available to use all over Utah.

Commissioner Martines said he has received a lot of compliments from what has been done out there including remedies to keep the moisture in and the dust down. Aubrey gave a shout out to the maintenance department who have spent hundreds of hours at the motocross and have done a fantastic job. Zac Wise has been grooming the track this year and people are loving it.

Commissioner Hopes made a motion to approve the application for the Fiscal Incentive Grant. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

9) ***Review and award of bids for the Carbon County Airport Maintenance Hangar***

Commissioner Hopes said this follows along with the first item addressed today. We met with seven potential bidders that attended the pre-bid meeting. We opened the bids on May 29 at 1:00 p.m. in the County Building. Unfortunately, there was only one bidder but fortunately, it was a really good bid. We did have a second bidder but they were one minute and thirty seconds late in submitting their bid. The rules are very strict on the procurement process and that bid was not allowed because it was late.

The engineers estimate for this hangar was $2,800,000 and the bid received from Tushar Contracting was $2,278,500. This was a good bid and keeps us within the money acquired through the grant and funding.

This building will be the maintenance aviation campus hangar. It will store one plane inside that can be torn apart and put back together multiple times. It will have work stations on one side for airframe repair and the other side will house engine blocks that can be taken apart, rebuilt and tested.

Commissioner Hopes said Utah State knows the companies in this field that could potentially locate here. The workforce will be trained here and they could pick their employees.

Commissioner Jensen said one comment by the University is that these students have a 100% guarantee of a job as they finish. There is enough of a void in this field that the jobs are there.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the bid for the Carbon County Airport Maintenance Hangar. Commissioner Hopes seconded. Motion carried.

10) ***Consideration and possible approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for Fire/Emergency Services between Carbon County and Price City***

Commissioner Jensen said during the last meeting we approved an MOU between Carbon County and Helper City. Each of the cities, Helper, Price, Wellington and East Carbon, take care of the emergency and fire response outside of their city limits. The County pays the cities to take care of these services for the folks who live outside of the city limits in the unincorporated parts of the county.

This one is with Price City. The agreement states that we will pay Price City $85,622 that will go into their fire department budget as well as a check for $27,819 that will go into a Fire Chief Fund to allow for the purchase of larger types of equipment and gear. Commissioner Martines said this is an ongoing agreement and it is not new.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Fire/Emergency Services between Carbon County and Price City. Commissioner Hopes seconded. Motion carried.

11) ***Possible review and approval of Seventh District Court Security Contract for 2024***

Commissioner Hopes said agenda items 11 and 14 are duplicated. Item 14 has the better language because it was written by our attorney.

The County has an agreement/obligation to provide security for the Seventh District Court. They pay us for this service. This is the normal contract with a slight increase from last year.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the Seventh District Court Security Contract for 2024. Commissioner Hopes seconded. Motion carried.

12) ***Ratification of an extension to the August 6, 2021 agreement between Jones and DeMille Engineering for water and sewer design work for the Carbon County Airport.***

Commissioner Jensen said in our effort to build the new training facility at the airport, the water requirement to install the sprinkling system inside the building for fire protection has been deemed inadequate. We needed additional engineering work completed. In 2021 we hired Jones and DeMille to do engineering on the Airport area as well as on Ridge Road. Partway through the work at the Airport, it was decided to shift the focus to the sewer line on Ridge Road which was designed and installed. Now, we have the need for work done at the Airport. Rather than entering into a new agreement we decided to extend this same contract with Jones and DeMille to perform the engineering need at the airport.

We anticipate that we will need to do more than just this one building. This water system will have to take care of future needs as well. They will give us various options to solve that problem. This has already been signed so it is a ratification. We need the work done quickly so the University can occupy it. The Association of Local Governments offered $20,000 to go towards the engineering work. We will use that $20,000 and add what is needed to complete it. He thanked them for the additional money.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to ratify the extension of the August 6, 2021 agreement between Jones and DeMille Engineering for water and sewer design work for the Carbon County Airport. Commissioner Hopes seconded. Motion carried.

13) ***Ratification of the non-funded participating agreement between Skyline Cooperative Weed Management Area and the U.S. Forest Service***

Commissioner Jensen said this is an additional agreement between Carbon County, Emery County, the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service District, Department of Agriculture, Division of Wildlife Resources, Division of State Parks, Department of Transportation, and the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining plus others. These agencies participate and come together to ensure that we eliminate the noxious weeds in the county as well as on BLM ground and in the Forest. Every Wednesday, during the summer, this large group gathers and goes out to tackle very large areas of noxious weeds.

There is no funding coming from the Forest Service. This is just an agreement with them that we will both participate in the program. Commissioner Hopes said this is a good thing because they eliminate noxious weeds before they can get into our agricultural fields.

Commissioner Hopes made a motion to ratify the non-funding participation agreement between Skyline Cooperative Weed Management Area and the U.S. Forest Service. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

14) ***Consideration and possible approval of contract #152273 Amendment #9 between the State of Utah Administrative Office of the Courts and Carbon County Sheriff***

Commissioner Hopes made a motion to vacate this duplicate agenda item. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried. This item was addressed in Agenda Item # 11.

15) ***Consideration and possible approval of appointment to the Sheriff Merit Board***

Commissioner Jensen said we have received one application for possible approval for the Sheriff Merit Board. It is from Zac A. Konakis. Zac is a professor at the Utah State University Eastern and is involved with the Board of Directors for the Health Department as well as the Carbon County Economic Development Board.

Sheriff Wood said he has also helped with the testing in the absence of other members before. He is familiar with this board and the responsibility.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to nominate Dr. Zac A. Konakis to the Sheriff Merit Board. Commissioner Hope seconded. Motion carried.

16) ***Consideration and possible approval of a Carbon County credit card for the Treasury Department – Tara Madsen***

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve a Carbon County credit card for Tara Madsen, County Treasurer. Commissioner Hopes seconded. Motion carried.

17) ***Consideration and possible approval of the 2024 Tax Sale***

Seth said every year we hold a May Tax Sale to resolve parcels that have five-year delinquencies in taxes due. We started with sixteen parcels but resolved most of them this year. We only had four that went to tax sale. We do everything we can to contact, help or resolve any delinquencies.

There is a minimum bid required which consists of what is owed in taxes plus administrative fees. Anything collected above this minimum is sent to unclaimed property with the State of Utah and those who have interest in the parcel have the opportunity to collect the excess proceeds from the State. The tax sale went well. Attached are the results of that sale.

Commissioner Hopes made a motion to approve the 2024 Tax Sale. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

18) ***Review and approval of departmental reports***

Commissioner Martines made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Larry Jensen, Chairman

ATTEST:

Chief Deputy

Seth Marsing, County Clerk/Auditor

STATE OF UTAH
County Clerk
COUNTY OF CARBON