COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES – DAVIS COUNTY

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 20, 2024

The Board of Davis County Commissioners met for a Work Session at 8:45 AM on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, in room 306 of the Davis County Administration Building, 61 South Main Street, Farmington, Utah. Required legal notice of this meeting was given.

All documents from this meeting are on file in the Davis County Clerk's Office. The agenda for this meeting is incorporated into the minutes as item headers.

DISCLAIMER
The meeting was an open dialogue. Critical points in the discussion have only been briefly summarized. The reader may refer to the audio recording and the publicly distributed materials for further clarification of the content. Timestamps have been noted in the minutes to aid in locating points of discussion in the audio record. The audio recording for this meeting is available based upon the County's current retention schedule.

ROLL CALL
Chair Bob J Stevenson
Vice Chair Randy B. Elliott
Commissioner Lorene Miner Kamalu
County Clerk Brian McKenzie
County Auditor Curtis Koch
Auditor's Office Blake Woodall
Senior Civil Counsel Attorney Mike Kendall (arrived at 8:50 AM)
County Sheriff Kelly Sparks
Chief Deputy Sheriff Andy Oblad (arrived at 8:52 AM)
Commission Office Cynda Melville
Community and Economic Development (CED) Director Kent Andersen
CED Office Jeff Oyler
Human Resources and Risk Director Chris Bone
Clerk's Office Jessy Turner

OPENING
The meeting convened at 8:45 AM.

AGENDA ITEMS
1. #707/2024**. Discussion related to the shooting range, the Wahsatch Shooters Association Audit and future operations** — *presented by Commissioner Stevenson*

[Minute 00:48] Commissioner Elliott began by saying the contract with Wahsatch Shooters expires at the end of August. The organization did reply to the audit and while they want to continue, but concerns were brought up during the audit that would need to be addressed.

Sheriff Sparks added that his primary concern is to have range access for local law enforcement officers' training but there is also a benefit to having a public shooting range. He recommended there needs to be clear guidelines to help avoid conflicts.

[Minute 02:51] There was extensive discussion on the range's recent audit, current considerations, future considerations, and other related topics. The following are highlights of the discussion:

- The audit focused on if Wahsatch Shooters was adhering to the contract
- The Wahsatch Shooters response to the audit has not changed the audit results
- No one has managed the contract throughout itself lifetime which may have caused or aggravated some of the issues identified in the audit
- The current range has been maintained but does need physical improvements
- There are long-term benefits to moving the range to a different location
- Law enforcement does have a need to do night training sessions
- As long as the rules and/or times are clear, it is not anticipated for there to be issues sharing the range with law enforcement and the public
- An indoor range can be used for most law enforcement training but an outdoor range is needed for long range guns
- An outdoor range allows members of the public to shoot in a designated safe area, rather than shooting

anywhere in the canyons

- The County does have a responsibility to provide a training space for Sheriff's Office deputies
- The Sheriff's Office has an interest in cooperating with the other policing agencies to provide them shooting range access as well
- If the County decides to enter into a service provider contract, it may be possible to follow the Financial Policy rather than the Purchasing Policy, negating the need for a request for proposals (RFP)
- The Wahsatch Shooters have provided evidence of having adequate insurance to keep the range open during the RFP process
- Long-term questions like location, access, management, improvements, reclamation, etc. should be considered when looking at the long-term solution, not the short-term solution
- It was recommended the Commission do a pros and cons analysis on if the range should be managed by the County or an outside entity with both a short-term and long-term perspective
- It was requested the current contract be modified to provide greater structure to running the range like naming a property manager, defining when or where the range is open to the public and law enforcement officers, and require usage tracking to gather data that can be used for future decision making
- Any alternate locations would have to be considered carefully as there is limited land in Davis County and conservation concerns
- Clerk McKenzie gave the following background on the shooting range:
    - The current range was built on an old rifle range site in 1972
    - It was built by Davis County with help from Job Corp
    - Over the years the site has been expanded and the County has worked with other organizations to manage the property

[Minute 51:30] The Commission invited comments from the members of the public in attendance. Ray Montalbano, a member of a shooting club who utilizes the range, said the range is managed by volunteers who are unpaid but do it so they can have easier access to shoot. Many volunteers are competitive shooters who need the ability to practice during the week for weekend competitions or hunts. He suggested rather than having specific days or times reserved for law enforcement training, specific areas be designated. The facility's standard operating procedure says night shooting is only allowed with prior permission by the County; all the volunteers know this and follow the procedure. He believes that limiting the public hours to weekends only will make many of the volunteers leave.

The plan moving forward is that Commissioner Elliott, Chief Deputy Oblad from the Sheriff's Office, Jeff Oyler from CED, and an individual from the Auditor's Office will work with Wahsatch Shooters, if they are willing, to create an extension of the current contract that includes some modifications and clarifications. The updated contract will allow the range to remain open while the County does an RFP. The contract is to focus on immediate management and oversight concerns while the RFP will address more long-term concerns.

MEETING ADJOURNED
The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 AM.

Minutes Prepared by:

Jessy Turner
Deputy Clerk

Brian McKenzie
Davis County Clerk

Minutes Approved on:

09/03/2024

Bob J Stevenson
Commission Chair