

SANPETE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

August 5, 2025, 2:00 PM

Sanpete County Courthouse, 160 North Main, Suite 101, Manti, Utah

Present are: Commission Chair Scott Bartholomew, Commissioners Mike Bennett and Jim Cheney. County Attorney Kevin Daniels and County Clerk Linda Christiansen.

Meeting is called to order by Commission Chair Scott Bartholomew.

OPENING PRAYER OR REMARKS AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Prayer is offered by Abby Ivory. Pledge of allegiance is recited by all.

STACEY LYON: APPROVAL OF CLAIMS; APPROVAL OF FINANCES; APPROVAL TO PAY KIMBALL & ROBERTS FOR 2024 COUNTY AUDIT; APPROVAL TO PAY THE DATA CENTER INVOICE FOR MAILING OF THE TAX VALUE NOTICES; APPROVAL TO PAY TODD ALDER INVOICES.

Auditor Stacey Lyon presents the agenda items. No questions or concerns are voiced in regards to the claims. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve payment of claims #362159 through #362309. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney. Vote by voice is taken: Commissioner Cheney votes aye, Commissioner Bartholomew votes yes, and Commissioner Bennett votes aye. The vote is unanimous and the motion passes. No questions or concerns are voiced in regards to the finances. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the finances as of Tuesday, August 5th. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passed. Ms. Lyon explains the bill for the County Audit is \$28,600.00 and is based on a percentage of the budget. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the payment to Kimball & Roberts invoice. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Ms. Lyon states the remaining balance to pay the Data Center for mailing of the tax value notices is \$6,289.60. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the payment to The Data Center in the amount of \$6,289.60. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Ms. Lyon states she placed the Todd Alder invoices back on to the agenda and Commissioner Cheney questions whether or not the concerns they voiced in the last meeting have been addressed. Commissioner Bartholomew explains the County will have to pay. The first invoice is for countertops. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Todd Alder invoice for the countertops in the amount of \$5,672.76. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Ms. Lyon explains the second invoice is for the sidewalks and other items. She reports that Scott Olsen and Kevin Christensen reviewed this portion of the project and they can give a better explanation of the work that was done. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Todd Alder invoice in the amount of \$28,967.00 for the sidewalks around the Event Center. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Commissioner Bartholomew emphasizes the invoice is for other items other than sidewalks; if anyone wants to know the specifics of the items they can contact Stacey Lyon. The last invoice is for the plywood installation on the walls in the table and chair storage room. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Todd Alder invoice in the amount of \$3,350.00 for the plywood in the table and chair storage area.

DOUG KIRKHAM & SHARON BULLARD REPRESENTING R6 REGIONAL COUNCIL:

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL TO SIGN FISCAL YEAR 2026 NUTRITION PROGRAM MOU; DISCUSSION IN REGARDS TO THE NUTRITION PROGRAM AND FUNDING OF THE PROGRAM.

Doug Kirkham presents the agenda items; Sharon Bullard was unable to attend due to the Sevier County Fair. Mr. Kirkham reports it has been one year since the County took over the Senior Nutrition Program. An MOU was signed last year and the updated MOU has been sent out for review. The only changes with the new MOU is the year and dollar amount. Sanpete County served 59,420 meals which was an increase of 8% from the prior year. Donations were up 6% which equates to \$100,080.00. The allocation of State and Federal funding has gone down. Governor Cox had proposed 4.5 million for Senior nutrition but after the committee met it was cut to 3.5 million. At the end, it was cut again resulting in another budget cut to 1.75 million. Mr. Kirkham explains the census report also affected distribution of monies due to more growth in other areas of the State. He explains how the funding is distributed. Mr. Kirkham states the amount allocated for fiscal year 2026 is \$168,259 which is also stated in the MOU that needs to be signed. If any money is left over at the end of the year it, is sent to the County; that check will be sent in a week or two. The amount of the check being sent to the County is \$10,306.00. Included in that amount is a \$1,500.00 donation from Rocky Mountain Power. Mr. Kirkham explains they are constantly looking for ways to raise money and help pay for the Senior Nutrition program because it is needed in the communities. Sevier County implemented a MOU with the cities to help fund their program, that may be something that Sanpete could implement as well. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the signature of the fiscal year 2026 Nutrition Program MOU for R6. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Commissioner Bartholomew signs the document.

*Commissioner Bartholomew questions whether or not the Sheriff wants to be moved up on the agenda in order to swear in his new deputy. The Sheriff is ok with the agenda proceeding as written. *

AMIE SORENSEN: APPROVAL TO HIRE JULIANNE RANKIN AS A MEAL DELIVERY DRIVER IN MORONI.

This agenda item is tabled.

KEITH LARSEN: APPROVAL TO HIRE JENNY WILLIAMS FOR IT/ GIS POSITION.

Keith Larsen presents the agenda item. Mr. Larsen explains they received approximately 20 applications for the recently opened IT / GIS position. Jenny Williams has been selected and can start in approximately two weeks. Ms. Williams is currently employed with Manti Elementary school as an IT professional. The wage will be \$22.81 an hour. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve hiring Jenny Williams for IT/GIS position starting at \$22.81 per hour. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

STACEY CARLISLE REPRESENTING THE SANPETE COUNTY FAIR: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL TO PAY 2025 FAIR WEEK EXPENSES.

Stacey Carlisle presents the agenda item. Ms. Carlisle presents the itemized list of fair budget expenses to the Commissioners. The total amount to pay is \$163,485.00, which does not exceed the budget. A few of the items are to be determined, based on need. Commissioner Bennett mentions the equipment rental has been donated and last year the bill was over

\$10,000.00. The amount of \$3,500.00 for the concert was also donated. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the payment of the 2025 Fair Week expenses in the amount of \$163,485.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bartholomew, and the motion passes. Vote by voice is taken: Commissioner Cheney votes aye, Commissioner Bartholomew votes aye and Commissioner Bennett abstains.

ABBY IVORY: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF THE RURAL COUNTY GRANT FY2026 BUDGET; DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL CANCELATION OF CONTRACT WITH SUPER 89 FILMS; DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH BEEHIVE IMAGERY.

Abby Ivory presents the agenda items. Ms. Ivory explains the County Economic Opportunity Board met and agreed upon the \$200,000.00 budget being presented today. Ms. Ivory explains the itemized budget lines. One of the budget line items in the amount of \$50,000.00 is to help existing industrial parks improve. The amount will not go to one park; it will be split up. Commissioner Bennett questions whether or not the money is distributed directly to the cities. Ms. Ivory states the money does not go directly to the city; specific bills for improvement to the industrial parks will be paid from the budget. Ms. Ivory is waiting for an approval from the State on the Grant. Ms. Ivory explains there were 30 applicants last year and she feels it was very successful. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the Rural County Grant through the Governor's Office Economic Opportunity Budget, in the amount of \$200,000.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Ms. Ivory explains she is seeking a 30-day cancellation of the contract with Super 89 Films. Kevin Daniels has reviewed the contract and it is a clear breach of contract. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the cancelation of the contract with Super 89 Films. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Ms. Ivory explains she originally received two applications for the contract; one from Super 89 Films and one from Beehive Imagery. The Board voted to hire Beehive Imagery. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the contract with Beehive Imagery in the amount of \$5,000.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

SHERIFF JARED BUCHANAN: RATIFY APPROVAL TO HIRE JOSHUA C. ALLSOP AS SANPETE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGER AND SAR LIAISON; SWEARING IN OF EMERGENCY MANAGER AND SEARCH AND RESCUE LIAISON DEPUTY JOSH ALLSOP; APPROVAL FOR CREDIT CARD FOR DEPUTY JOSH ALLSOP; APPROVAL FOR CELL PHONE STIPEND FOR DEPUTY JOSH ALLSOP; RATIFY APPROVAL TO MOVE JAIL DEPUTY MATT GATES FROM FULL TIME TO PART TIME; RATIFY APPROVAL TO RECRUIT FOR PART TIME JAIL DEPUTY; APPROVAL TO HIRE AS A PART TIME JAIL DEPUTY BEN ANDERSON; APPROVAL TO HIRE AS A CONTROL ROOM OPERATOR MELVIN KASALEK; APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR AND EXPEND \$2282 FROM BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PER CAPITA GRANT; APPROVAL TO PAY SERVCO FOR PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR JAIL BOILERS.

Sheriff Jared Buchanan presents the agenda items. Sheriff Buchanan explains Sergeant Albee is no longer serving Sanpete in his position and Joshua Allsop has officially taken over the duties. The effective start date for Deputy Allsop is July 15; Grade 14, Step 1 at \$33.04 an hour. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to ratify the approval to hire Deputy Josh Allsop as the Emergency Management Director and SAR Liaison effective 7/15/2025, Grade 14, Step 1 at \$33.04 per hour, out of 10-4211-110. The motion is seconded by Commissioner

Cheney, and the motion passes. Sheriff Jared Buchanan swears in Joshua C. Allsop as the Emergency Manager and Search and Rescue Liaison Deputy. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the credit card for Deputy Allsop with the credit limit of \$2,000.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the cell phone stipend for Deputy Allsop, effective 7/15/2025, in the amount of \$38.00 per month. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Sheriff Buchanan addresses a change to the next agenda item; Deputy Gates asked to come back and would like to be reinstated as a full-time jail deputy. Deputy Gates has only been gone a week or two. A discussion ensues in regards to correctional officer hours at the prison. Ben Anderson is currently working at the prison and he is certified. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve to hire part-time Jail Deputy Ben Anderson at a grade 5, step 1, at \$25.72 an hour, effective 8/5/25. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Sheriff Buchanan explains a Control Room Officer (Jackson) left and this will replace that position. Melvin Kasalek completed all the testing and has been selected to fill the position. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve hiring full-time Control Room Operator, Melvin Kasalek at a Grade 3, Step 1, \$20.33 per hour, effective on the 4th of August, 2025. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to apply for and expend \$2282.00 from Bureau of Emergency Medical Services per capita Grant. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Sheriff Buchanan presents the service contract for the boilers that needs to be paid. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the Servco preventative maintenance agreement for the jail boilers in the amount of \$3,845.00 out of budget 10-4230-250. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

TED MEIKLE, JOE SCHOPPE & ERIC STEVENS: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL THAT THE ACTION OF FEBRUARY 20, 2024, WHICH PURPORTED TO VACATE/ ABANDON ALL OR PORTIONS OF PUBLIC ROADS 1104, 1105, 240, 248, 249, 465, AND 468, IS NULL AND VOID, AND THAT THE ROADS THEREBY REMAIN PUBLIC.

Ted Meikle, and Joe Schoppe address the Commission; Eric Stevens was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Meikle states this agenda item raised a lot of public concern approximately a year and a half ago and they would like to discuss the pros and cons of the decisions that were made. Mr. Meikle believes some of the procedures followed do not comply with Utah Statutes and therefore are not effective. Mr. Meikle refers to the packet that he submitted for the agenda request that details his concerns. Mr. Meikle first states that Class D roads are under the jurisdiction of the State and Counties. And with that, the County Commissioners are empowered to vacate roads. Mr. Meikle states with that power there are requirements that need to be met in order to be in compliance and he does not feel compliance was met. Mr. Meikle refers to four Utah Supreme Court cases from 1974, 1982, 1987 and 2002. Mr. Meikle explains some of the arguments and points made in the Court cases in regards to procedural compliance. Mr. Meikle refers to the compliance concerns that he has stated in the packet. The first point Mr. Meikle makes is that a notice needs to be posted where the road to be vacated starts, he believes for twenty days, and that notice was never posted. The second point is that notice was never given to the State of Utah; specifically, a notice mailed to the Department of Transportation. Mr. Meikle does not believe the State of Utah, as an owner of the Wildlife Management Area, received notice as an abutting property owner. Mr. Meikle does not believe the County posted the notice on their website. Mr. Meikle states the notice

must be posted on the Public Notice Website and he does not believe that was done. The final issue that Mr. Meikle addresses is a statute that states roads shall continue to be roads until formally abandoned by written ordinance or resolution. And the written resolution or ordinance needs to be duly recorded in the office of the Recorder which they do not believe happened. Mr. Meikle also refers to the motion made by Commissioner Collard and whether or not it was a formal motion due to an amendment of the motion added by Commissioner Bartholomew. Mr. Meikle believes the amendment creates a new motion which is not seconded, therefore no motion was made causing a procedural irregularity. Mr. Meikle thinks the Commission was not given power to vacate the road because it did not comply with all of the statutory requirements. Mr. Meikle is asking the Commission to acknowledge the Resolution adopted in February of 2024 is null and void. Kevin Daniels addresses Mr. Meikle and states he does not necessarily agree with all of the points he made. Kevin Daniels and other colleagues have reviewed the documents that Mr. Meikle presented. There are some factual questions that Mr. Daniels has in regards to Mr. Meikle's points that he made and Mr. Daniels does not have answers to. Kevin Christensen may have some of the answers he is seeking but he is out of town. Mr. Daniels needs more information before he can determine whether there are issues with the processes followed in this particular case. Mr. Daniels states there are other issues stated by Mr. Meikle that Mr. Daniels does not have concerns with and he knows they were complied with. Mr. Daniels will need to verify some things with Kevin Christensen and also dig deeper into one point that Mr. Meikle mentioned in regards to Class D Road case law. Mr. Daniels states from a legal perspective, if there were procedural irregularities that would nullify the action, it would not force the Commission to change the decision that was made before. It would be up to the Commission as to whether they abandon the roads or not; essentially the process would start over. Commissioner Bartholomew states many meetings and hours were spent on this particular agenda item; with a lot of public input. Kevin Christensen will return on August 13th. If they table the agenda item until the first meeting in September it would give Kevin Daniels time to ask Kevin Christensen some of the questions he has. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to table the matter for the vacate / abandon of the portions of the public roads as stated on the agenda, as per legal counsel, until the first meeting in September which is September 2, 2025. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Mr. Meikle verifies that they will not need to submit another agenda request; the County Clerk will put the agenda item on the first meeting in September.

SCOTT OLSEN: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL TO HIRE CLAUDE HAMILTON AS PART-TIME BUILDING INSPECTOR (AS NEEDED) TO MEET STATE REQUIREMENTS.

Scott Olsen presents the agenda item. Scott Olsen explains legislation passed a bill two years ago requiring an entity to have an inspector on staff that can contract inspector services if the Building Department is unable to do an inspection within three days. Tracy Christensen had been approved for the position after he retired and Landan Hansen is currently the inspector the office has to be in compliance because Tracy moved. Claude Hamilton just retired but he is willing to fill the position if there is a need for his services. Landan Hansen does not live in Sanpete and it has been difficult to get him to help out in Sanpete. The wage previously approved for Tracy and Landan was \$50.00 an hour. Claude is familiar with the online inspection program which is beneficial. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve to hire Claude Hamilton as a part-time Building Inspector at the rate of \$50.00 an hour as needed, and he will use the County vehicle and I-Pad. The motion is seconded by

Commissioner Bartholomew, and the motion passes. Vote by voice is taken: Commissioner Cheney votes aye, Commissioner Bartholomew votes aye and Commissioner Bennett abstains.

BRYAN BIES: RATIFY APPROVAL TO PAY CUSTOM ELECTRIC FOR ELECTRICAL WORK IN THE COURTHOUSE; APPROVAL TO PAY BIG RIG CONSTRUCTION INVOICE FOR WORK DONE IN THE JUDGE'S CHAMBERS.

Bryan Bies presents the agenda items. Bryan Bies explains he has reached out to other electrical companies for work that needed to be done but Custom Electric is the only one that responded. The work was completed yesterday. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the payment to Custom Electric for electrical work done in the Assessor's office in the amount of \$2,584.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Mr. Bies presents a Big Rig Construction invoice for July. This is not the last invoice; there will be one more. Hunter Judkins reports everything is done except for the entry; which consists of cabinets, counter tops and glass. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the invoice to Big Rig Construction for the Judge's Chambers in the amount of \$16,846.14. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

APPROVAL TO PAY JED BARTHOLOMEW INVOICE FOR SECURITY CAMERA INSTALLATION.

Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the invoice for Jed Bartholomew for security systems in the amount of \$3,393.74 (out of Kevin Daniels budget). The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Vote by voice is taken: Commissioner Cheney votes aye, Commissioner Bennett votes aye and Commissioner Bartholomew abstains.

UPDATE OF FORESTRY, FIRE AND STATE LANDS IMPLEMENTING STAGE 2 FIRE RESTRICTIONS.

Max Lewis presents the agenda item. Mr. Lewis provides a copy of the update to the Fire Restrictions in the State of Utah. Mr. Lewis explains the difference between Stage 1 and Stage 2 is the restriction of no open fires of any kind. Stage one restrictions such as smoking, welding, fireworks, cutting and grinding remain in place with the added open fire restriction. The Forest Service has posted signs at all of the main canyon entrances and he feels they have done a good job to get the word out. The restriction of no open fires includes; charcoal grills, pellet grills or ash producing fuels. Kevin Daniels questions how long a fire restriction order generally lasts. Mr. Lewis explains the process of fuel moisture testing that the Forest Service performs. The fuels are testing very low; indicating very dry conditions. The sage and juniper are extremely low. Discussion ensues in regards to the Monroe fire that has been burning for a couple of weeks. Mr. Lewis will be leaving next week to assist in the firefighting efforts.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No corrections or concerns are voiced in regards to the minutes. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the minutes from the Board of Appeals meeting on July 15th, 2025. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the minutes from the County Commission meeting on July 15th, 2025. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to go into closed session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney. Vote by voice is taken:

Commissioner Cheney votes aye, Commissioner Bartholomew votes aye, and Commissioner Bennett votes aye. The vote is unanimous and the motion passes.


CLOSED SESSION

Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to go out of closed session. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

Due to the closed session Kevin Daniels, County Attorney states the County recently received another round of opiate settlement money. Mr. Daniels will meet with Stacey Lyon and determine the amount the County will receive and when funds will be available. Once they have determined the answers to those questions, a determination of how the funds will be dispersed will be made.

Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to adjourn. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

The meeting is adjourned at 3:05 P.M.

ATTEST: 
Linda Christiansen
Sanpete County Clerk

APPROVED: 
Scott Bartholomew
Commission Chair