

COMMISSION WORKSESSION

August 18, 2025

Minutes of a scheduled worksession of the Sevier County Commission held this eighteenth day of July 2025. Meeting commenced at 10:00 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. Clerk/Auditor Steven Wall, Executive Director Malcolm Nash, and Road Superintendent Bob Watts were also present.

Discussion on Monroe Canyon Fire:

The Commission discussed the Monroe Canyon Fire and the damage that had been done, the work that is being done, noting the fire is approximately 75% contained. Commissioner Jensen reported that there were approximately 150 miles of dozer lines that had been established to help control the fire, and some of those lines included roadways that the Forest Service would be rehabilitating. He said there were also 35 miles of hand lines and 751 sprinkler sites to protect structures. The Forest Service will be doing most of the repair, but the County would be helping the communities and cities to protect their culinary water sources including springs and inlets, keeping the fire sludge away from those. Clerk/Auditor Wall has established a line item to track expenses, and also reminded them to track labor and use of equipment as well. The County will work with state and federal agencies to receive reimbursement through their programs.

Requirements of HB48 and Wildland Urban Interface requirements:

Assessor Terri Hartle and GIS Specialists Bailey Banks and Mike Hammon then reviewed with the Commission a new law from the last legislative session, HB48, which is the Wildland Urban Interface law that would require risk assessments and appropriate fees from owners of structures in mountain areas. The Monroe Canyon Fire will change some of the property assessments in that area. The Department of Natural Resources is currently mapping those areas, and the County will also be mapping those areas showing rankings. Assessor Hartle asked who would be handling the assessments, and it was noted assessments would be handled in her office. She indicated she would need additional help in her office for the assessments. The Commission said this would be considered in the budgeting process for the next year. Assessor Hartle noted that after discussing the Monroe Canyon Fire with other counties, she would be pro-rating and adjusting values for any of the cabins that had been burned for as well as land values in the burned areas.

Mr. & Mrs. Taggart asked about who would be responsible to replace the fences and signs in the burned area. The Commission said that would be determined after the Forest Service has made their assessment and determined what they will do, and what would be left for the property owners to do afterwards.

Draft of Agreement for use of Senior Centers for Senior Nutrition Program:

Executive Director Malcolm Nash then reviewed a possible draft agreement with the cities with the Senior Centers housing the Senior Nutrition Program. He indicated that there are currently

only verbal agreements, and felt it would be better to have something in writing to cover who is responsible for what. He will work with the County Attorney to draft an agreement.

Review of possibilities for Redmond Levy:

Commissioner Johnson then reported that they had met with the Army Corp of Engineers regarding the Redmond Levy. He said it is on their list to review and check every year. There have been no changes for a long time, and that his contact is sending him the information to possibly remove the levy from the Army Corp of Engineer list. The reason they are looking at that possibility would be to get a lower flood rating for the residents of Redmond.

Trail Development on West Mountain to be reviewed later:

Executive Director Nash noted that Carson DeMille, Jones & DeMille Engineering, was unable to come to the meeting to discuss trail development on the west mountain. He noted that the Forest Service had changed some of their plans, which could be reviewed at a later date to see what could be done.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 10:51 p.m.