

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

The regular meeting of the Juab County Commission was held September 2, 2025, 10:00 a.m. in the Mona City Office, 20 West Center, Mona, Utah.

Marty Palmer ----- Commissioner

Marvin Kenison ----- Commissioner

Clinton Painter -----Commissioner

Tanielle Callaway-----Clerk/Auditor

Others present: Myrna Trauntvein, John Crippen, Gage Bell, Brent Schvaneveldt, Lynn Ingram, David Lamb, Greg Ferre, Debbie Zirbes, Melanie Cowan, Randy Christensen, Chris Painter, Travis Kenison, Douglas Anderson, Drake Underwood

Chairman Kenison welcomed all in attendance. Commissioner Painter offered a word of prayer. Chairman Kenison led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Painter made a motion to accept the minutes from August 18, 2025.

Commissioner Palmer seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

Brent Schvaneveldt presented a bridge rehabilitation project plan involving constructing large culverts for three county roads (Tower, Lampson Canyon, and Harper) to manage traffic on I-15. His proposed approach would allow keeping two lanes open during construction and potentially complete the project by July instead of November. Lynn Ingram raised concerns about the culvert's impact on local landowners, particularly farmers and ranchers, emphasizing the need to ensure they can access their properties. Commissioner Palmer questioned the height of the proposed 12-foot culvert, asking how tall semi-trucks are and whether they could pass through. Chairman Kenison echoed these concerns, discussing the challenges of moving agricultural equipment and the potential complications of creating temporary access routes. They were both skeptical about the practicality of the proposed culvert design and its impact on local traffic and landowner access, particularly worried about the potential disruption to existing transportation and agricultural operations. Mr. Schvaneveldt suggested the contractor could build off-ramps for landowners to access their properties. Mr. Ingram suggested working directly with affected landowners to create an agreement that addresses their specific needs and ensures they can move equipment and livestock through the construction area. Everyone agreed that getting landowner agreement and creating a mutually acceptable plan was crucial before proceeding with the construction project.

Chairman Kenison acknowledged and thanked Mona City Mayor Randy Christensen for being present at today's meeting and thanked him for accommodating the Commission and allowing the meeting to be held there.

Lynn Ingram presented two bids for road striping on Old 91 from 1700 North to the county line. He explained that they advertised the project through the newspaper, county website, state website, and sent invitations to known striping companies. Two bids were received: Peck Striping at \$63,380 and Premier Striping at \$32,000. Mr. Ingram recommended Premier Striping, noting they had done good work in the past and their previous striping job had lasted well. He expressed disappointment that only two companies submitted bids, despite invitations being sent to eight or nine striping companies. The bid from Premier Striping included glass beads and met federal and state standards for road striping. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the bid from Premier Striping for \$32,000. Commissioner Painter seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

Lynn Ingram detailed the North Canyon Bridge Repair project, explaining that contractor's plan to repair two 67-foot-long beams with a minimal traffic disruption strategy. The project involves 3-4 nights of partial road closure, with one lane remaining open and emergency services guaranteed immediate passage. The road handles approximately 150 trucks daily, and the contractor aims to start September 15th and complete by November 15th. Mr. Ingram emphasized the need to balance construction requirements with local business operations, particularly the gravel company, and suggested any road slope modifications should be the contractor's responsibility.

David Lamb discussed two primary concerns: persistent water ingress in his basement and the need to purchase land behind his business. Regarding the water leak, he reported continued moisture issues despite previous attempts to address the problem, such as shutting off water to nearby landscaping. He expressed concern about potential mold growth and the need to resolve the water intrusion before finishing his basement. Commissioner Palmer stated he would look into the matter and discuss it with the buildings and grounds department. For the land purchase, Mr. Lamb explained he wants to install a 23x13 shed behind his building to store and protect business inventory, but cannot do so without owning the land. He emphasized the importance of resolving the land purchase to expand his business operations and prepare for winter, noting that the issue has been pending for 11 months. John Crippen and Debbie Zirbes explained to Mr. Lamb the problem with the survey that needed to be corrected before they would approve the land for surplus. Mr. Lamb stated he would get that corrected and work with Ms. Zirbes to get that correct and then come back to the Commission.

Greg Ferre expressed strong opposition to the Forest Service's proposed prescribed burn in the Ponderosa campground, citing past negative experiences with uncontrolled burns. He recounted a 2016 incident where a previous prescribed burn damaged fences and a 100-year-old Ponderosa pine with no ranger present. Mr. Ferre believes the Forest Service wants to eliminate private property owners in the canyon. Gage Bell provided more context, explaining that Ponderosa pines typically require burns every 5-6 years to survive. He noted the burn plan is still being developed and the fuels expert is uncertain about proceeding. Mr. Bell mentioned that fire behavior in late October or early November is minimal, and fire management techniques have improved since 2016. He committed to staying in contact with the planning team and monitoring the situation, suggesting the burn might not actually occur this year.

Commissioner Palmer made a motion for the Commission to send a letter to the Forest Service and oppose the prescribed burn. Commissioner Painter seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

Melanie Cowan presented a resolution granting the county treasurer authority to adjust taxes under special circumstances. She proposed two key modifications: first, allowing the treasurer to abate any tax of \$10 or less that is delinquent, eliminating the need to send letters or add small amounts to delinquent lists. Second, she added language allowing the treasurer, along with either the assessor, clerk/auditor, or recorder, to abate taxes erroneously charged. Ms. Cowan explained this would provide more flexibility in handling tax errors and small outstanding amounts, noting that most other counties have similar resolutions protecting their treasurers. She emphasized the importance of having a clear, consistent policy for handling minor tax discrepancies and ensuring proper documentation of any tax adjustments. Commissioner Painter made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-08 granting authority to the Juab County Treasurer to adjust taxes, penalties and interest under special circumstances. Commissioner Palmer seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. Chairman Kenison called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Palmer voted, "Yes."

Chairman Kenison voted, "Yes."

Commissioner Painter voted, "Yes."

Melanie Cowan addressed delinquent tax accounts by discussing the need for a structured approach to payment plans and tax abatement. She presented an application for payment plans and emphasized the importance of clear consequences for those who do not maintain their agreed payments. Ms. Cowan explained that the county can potentially abate taxes for residents who demonstrate financial hardship, noting that while the state's income tax collection program is limited, the county can develop its own policy. She highlighted the importance of having a consistent, transparent process for handling small tax errors and providing options for taxpayers struggling to pay their taxes.

Commissioner Painter discussed the potential elimination of the tax abatement program by Senator Dan McKay, who believes people are taking advantage of the system. Commissioner Painter strongly opposed the proposed bill, emphasizing that those using the abatement program are typically senior citizens who have consistently paid their taxes. He noted that Juab County had only \$56,000 in abatements last year, which was fully reimbursed by the state. Commissioner Painter argued that in small communities like theirs, they know who genuinely needs assistance. He urged people to contact their senators and representatives to oppose the bill, which would replace the current abatement program with a deferral system that would require children or property sellers to pay accumulated taxes upon property transfer. Ms. Cowan stated most of the County Treasurers for the state also oppose the deferral program.

Melanie Cowan discussed a recent incident involving a dog in the DMV lobby that prompted her to research animal policies in public buildings. She discovered that Utah state law generally

prohibits animals in public buildings, with only true service animals being protected by state and federal law. Ms. Cowan explained that while posting signs about animal restrictions is a courtesy, the state law allows officials to ask an owner to remove a non-service animal. She noted that for service animals, they can only ask two specific questions: whether the animal is required due to a disability and what task the animal is trained to perform. Ms. Cowan recommended training county employees on these guidelines and suggested that if a disruptive animal is present, the owner must comply with removal requests or risk trespassing charges.

Sheriff Doug Anderson clarified the legal requirements for service animals, explaining that service dogs must meet specific conditions: they must be non-aggressive, registered, vaccinated, and controllable. He emphasized that if a dog is not leashed, is growling, barking, or intimidating people, it can be considered a "vicious dog at large" - a criminal violation. Anderson recommended that if a problematic animal is present, county employees should call the Sheriff's Office to screen the circumstances. He noted that while people claim service animal status, not all claims are legitimate, and the responsible party is ultimately the dog's owner. The Commissioners asked John Crippen to follow up with Perry on language to put signs on the doors regarding service animals and not to bring animals in the building.

Sheriff Anderson discussed the ongoing updates the jail has been making in order to house more state inmates. Currently, the jail can house 20 state inmates and has been given the option to house 11 more. To accommodate the additional inmates, they need medical oversight in the form of an LPN or RN providing 15 hours of medical coverage per week. Sheriff Anderson explained that this medical professional would help evaluate and screen inmate medical conditions, reducing the burden on officers to determine medical needs. The cost would range from \$19,500 to \$27,300 annually, depending on whether they hire an LPN or RN. He emphasized that this medical oversight is crucial for managing inmate health and will be increasingly important for the future new jail facility.

John Crippen noted that hiring a contract employee would save about \$2,000 in social security and Medicare costs. He suggested that a part-time contract position might be easier to manage and more flexible. Commissioner Painter inquired about whether the position should be a county employee or a contract employee. They both agreed that a part-time contract employee would provide more flexibility, with Mr. Crippen pointing out that the additional inmate head count would more than offset the costs. They also discussed the importance of having the right qualifications, preferring a registered nurse (RN) over a licensed practical nurse (LPN), and ensuring the salary range fits within the existing budget.

Commissioner Palmer asked about the Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOTP) and the Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT) program. He sought clarification on whether the county could implement these programs and whether they could receive additional funding for them. Under Sheriff Travis Kenison confirmed that the SOTP requires a minimum of six inmates to start the program, and that MRT is a separate program. They noted that the county cannot double bill for these programs and that they are currently working on meeting the requirements to implement the SOTP. Commissioner Painter made a motion to approve the hiring of a part

time nurse for the jail. Commissioner Palmer seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

Other Business:

Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the Juab County bills as presented. Commissioner Painter seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

John Crippen had no personnel action forms.

The County has received the annual Predator Control Contract for approval. It is a 50% match contract. The farmers pay if they want to participate in the program. Commissioner Painter made a motion to approve the contract and authorize the Commission Chair to sign. Commissioner Palmer seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Painter discussed the fee waiver request for the mobile dentist. He stated the UVU does a free program for dental services based on the need. In prior years they used the school district's basement, but that was unavailable this year. They were looking for a location with water and big enough to put their chairs overnight. They had requested the multi-purpose building. Commissioner Painter made a motion to authorize the fee wavier for the mobile dentist clinic. Commissioner Palmer seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

John Crippen discussed the AP&P contract for leasing office space in the county building. It is a three-year contract. The contract is for a little better rate. Commissioner Palmer made a motion to approve the AP&P contract and authorize the Commission Chair to sign. Commissioner Painter seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Painter made a motion to adjourn the open meeting and move to the Closed Session for personnel. Commissioner Palmer seconds the motion, no opposition, motion carries. Chairman Kenison called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Palmer voted, "Yes."

Chairman Kenison voted, "Yes."

Commissioner Painter voted, "Yes."

Commissioner Painter made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST: 

Tanielle Callaway
Juab County Clerk/Auditor

APPROVED: 

Marvin Kenison
Commission Chair