

## **COMMISSION MINUTES**

**August 25, 2025**

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this twenty-fifth day of August 2025. Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioners Scott Johnson, Ralph Brown, and Greg Jensen in the Commission Chambers of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. County Attorney Casey Jewkes, Executive Director Malcolm Nash, and Clerk/Auditor Steven C. Wall were also present.

### **Commission business:**

Commissioner Jensen gave an update on the Monroe Mountain Fire, reporting that they are doing the BAER assessment to determine what needs to be done for restoration of the area. Team 1 that came originally is here again and working on restoring things and trying to get things put back together to allow the private and public back on the mountain as soon as possible. The fire is 90% contained now. There is still some fire, but with the rains and the cooler weather, it is helping substantially to get everything completely done. The fire covered approximately 74,000 acres. The BLM properties and SITLA properties are open again to the public, but the Forest Service properties are still undergoing restoration work and not open yet.

Commissioner Brown reported on the Rooster Ride which was held last weekend. He reported there were approximately 100 more riders than last year, so it is bringing people to the area and filling up hotel rooms.

Commissioner Johnson reported that Senator John Curtis had visited the area and the County last week, meeting with R6 Regional Council, as well as the County. He reported the Senator also toured the SUFCO mine while here, and discussed the future of energy for Utah and the nation.

County Attorney Casey Jewkes reported that the new representative from Representative Maloy's Office had met with the Sheriff to learn more about the County and the work that is being done by them in the area.

### **Minutes approved:**

Minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> Worksession and Commission meeting, and the August 18<sup>th</sup> Worksession were then reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Jensen, unanimous.

### **Resolution 2026-8-1 approved:**

The Commission then reviewed Resolution 2025-8-1 authorizing the filing of cross-appeals for the 2025 centrally assessed properties. The two that have filed so far are Diamond K Gypsum and Pacificorp. The resolution authorizes the County to move forward with legal counsel for the cross appeals to maintain the County's position in the state appeals for centrally assessed properties. After discussion, Commissioner Jensen moved to adopt Resolution 2025-8-1 authorizing the filing of cross-appeals for the 2025 centrally assessed properties, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Recommended Assessor Adjustments approved:**

Assessor Terri Hartle then reviewed with the Commission recommended assessor adjustments due to additional information she had received on properties, as well as a building permit that had not been received. After review and discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the adjustments as recommended, second Commissioner Jensen, unanimous.

**Recommended new hires approved:**

Human Resource Director Craig Blake then recommended Kristen Bullard as a part-time Nutrition Cook 1, Grade 7 at \$18.02 per hour, beginning August 18, 2025 to fill a vacant position. After discussion, Commissioner Jensen moved to approve the new hire as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Job Description changes approved:**

He then reviewed with the Commission minor adjustments to a job description for the Road Department Specialist to reflect the current duties in the job. After discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the changes as recommended, second Commissioner Jensen, unanimous.

**Emergency Facilities and Land Use Agreement with Forest Service approved:**

The Commission then reviewed an Emergency Facilities and Land Use Agreement for use of the Search & Rescue Building by the Forest Service. It was noted that the agreement had been signed previously to allow use of the building during the Monroe Canyon Fire. After discussion, Commissioner Jensen moved to ratify the agreement between the Forest Service and the County, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Circuit Breaker applications with income over the limit denied:**

The Commission then reviewed a list of individuals that had applied for the circuit breaker or indigent tax abatement program, but their income was over the limit. After discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to deny the abatement because they did not meet the qualifications, second Commissioner Jensen, unanimous.

**Refunds for overpayments approved:**

Treasurer Lindsey Hansen met with the Commission recommending refunds for overpayment on property tax and one on overpayment of vehicle fee payments. After discussion, Commissioner Jensen moved to approve the refunds as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Commission signs Public Entity Affidavit, accepts property:**

The Commission then reviewed a Public Entity Affidavit deeding property to the County. There was a new law this year stating that if someone is deeding property to the County, the County can accept or reject the property. Apparently, there have been several properties with issues that individuals want to give to the government for the government to take care of, such as underground storage tanks, radioactive property, etc. It was noted that this property was part of a roadway in a subdivision, and the subdivision is being vacated and they are deeding the road to

the county. After discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the Public Entity Affidavit and accept the property, second Commissioner Jensen, unanimous.

**Item declared surplus, authorized for disposal:**

The Commission then reviewed a list of personal property items recommended for surplus. After review, Commissioner Jensen moved to declare the item as surplus and authorize its disposal as recommended, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

**Cooperative Road Agreement with Forest Service approved:**

The Commission then reviewed a Cooperative Forest Road Agreement with the Forest Service. Road Supervisor Bob Watts updated the Commissioners on this annual agreement with the Forest Service and the County indicating which roads each entity would maintain. He said it is showing more roads this year that the County will maintain. After discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to approve the Cooperative Forest Road Agreement, second Commissioner Jensen, unanimous.

**Utah Department of Agriculture and Food Predator Control Contract approved:**

The Commission then reviewed the predator contract with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, which is an agreement covering predator control in Sevier County. The contract provides funding for bounties, and is an annual extension on the agreement. After discussion, Commissioner Jensen moved to approve the contract with the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, second Commissioner Brown, unanimous.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.