

**MINUTES OF COMBINED COMMISSION WORKING & REGULAR SESSION  
MEETING HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.  
IN DUCHESNE, UTAH**

***Present –***

Commissioner Greg Miles, Commissioner Jeff Chugg, Commissioner Tracy Killian, Deputy Attorney Tyler Allred, Public Works Director Mike Casper, Public Works Deputy Director Clint Curtis, Weed Control Director Braxton Spencer, Weed Control Assistant Matthew Skewes, Economic Development Director Deborah Herron, Human Resource Director Judy Stevenson, Community Development Assistant Director Mike Gottfredson, Community Development Planner Duncan Kading, Treasurer Stephen Potter, Chief Deputy Assessor Ginger Johnson, Chief Deputy Clerk-Auditor Lexie Clayburn, Heather Ivie with Kinder Morgan, Duchesne County Residents Shelby Thayne, Kevin Mitchell, Rusty Mitchell, Cody Mitchell, and Jenni Thompson, and Commission Executive Assistant Melissa Hughes is taking the meeting minutes.

***Opening Comments***

*(9:02 a.m.)*

Chairman Miles welcomed everyone to the meeting.

***Pledge of Allegiance***

*(9:03 a.m.)*

***Personal Privilege***

*(9:04 a.m.)*

Each Commissioner took a moment during Thanksgiving week to express their gratitude for the County they live in, its residents, and its staff.

***Public Works Update***

*(9:05 a.m.)*

Public Works Director Mike Casper gave an update on upcoming and existing projects. Paving is done for this year. They partnered with UDOT to pave the road toward the Justice Center. They are looking for a striper. The shoulder work on North Crescent is a project they are working on this week. The culvert in Cedarview on 3000 has too many issues to replace it; they are going a different route. They have removed many trees in the area with the landowners' permission. The contracted salt hauling will be completed this week. They hauled three loads of white salt for the County Buildings last week. The foundation of one of the auxiliary buildings at the new yard is being poured today. The new crusher is running well. I.T. installed the computers for the crusher. They are working to get the SDS sheets updated for the department. They received training on the new skid steer last week. They milled the lip off by the bridge. It turned out well.

***Discussion & Consideration of Approach Permits***

*(9:12 a.m.)*

Public Works Deputy Director Clint Curtis presented a commercial approach permit. He explained that he is still waiting for the response from the landowner. He would like to table the permit until he receives the needed information.

Deputy Director Curtis gave an update on the Vialytic road project.

***Discussion & Consideration of Right-of-Way Request***

*(9:15 a.m.)*

Heather Ivie, the Land & ROW Agent with Kinder Morgan Altamont, explained the Duchesne County – Section 8 Lateral Project. To meet the growing needs of their customers, they are constructing a sales pipeline and a residue return line. The pipeline will service the producer's future 2026 wells and tie in to their existing infrastructure. The proposed pipeline will consist of approximately a 4-mile main pipeline, plus several connecting infrastructure lines. It will start near the Duchesne County Jail, just south of the Duchesne City Airport. The endpoint is on the north bench at their Section 8 Compressor. Construction is set to begin in January 2026. The Right-of-Way would border the County Weed Department property line. Ms. Ivie presented a proposed map of the location. She is requesting permission to survey the area. *Commissioner Chugg made a motion to allow Kinder Morgan Altamont to complete the survey pursuant to further discussions. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Chugg voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

## ***Discussion & Consideration of the County Fee Schedule***

*(9:30 a.m.)*

The parties reviewed and discussed the County fee schedule. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to accept the fee schedule as presented. Commissioner Chugg seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Chugg voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

## ***Public Comment***

*(9:37 a.m.)*

Duchesne County Resident Shelby Thayne expressed his concerns. He lives on Ledge Lane, where a new oil well location is proposed. He said the well shouldn't be drilled there, and if it is, then Ledge Lane should remain closed to commercial traffic. His family walks along the road every day. He is concerned about the amount of traffic the oil well will bring; his family won't be able to walk along the road anymore. It will be hazardous with the trucks. He described how the well will affect the value of his home and his way of life. The safety of his children is his primary concern. He has had several conversations with SM Energy about his worries. He is asking the Commission to take action to prevent oil well drilling in residential areas. He said that he believes that the hydraulic fracturing sites cause neurological issues in unborn and young children.

*(9:54 a.m.)*

Nelson Burton, who also lives on Ledge Lane, wonders why the setback in Duchesne County is 600 feet, while it is 1,000 feet in Uintah County. He suggested having a multiplier if multiple residents are affected by an oil location. The current traffic he is seeing goes into the Shiner pad.

*(9:59 a.m.)*

Kevin Mitchell explained his 29 years of living there. When his daughter was learning to drive, she was run off the road several times by industrial trucks. He has had several trucks use his driveway to turn around. They shouldn't be there since the road is closed to commercial traffic. He is concerned about the oil well location and a possible compressor being 300 feet from the homes. He said that the well is being drilled 4 miles straight west. There is nothing 4 miles straight west. Why can't they drill it there? Why does it have to be drilled in a residential area?

*(10:04 a.m.)*

Jenni Thompson of Roosevelt said she doesn't live in the neighborhood, and she doesn't represent SM Energy. She said that it is not known whether hydraulic fracturing causes intellectual issues in children. She spoke about where she grew up, and the road near her home was an oil well location road. She was taught not to play in the road; roads are for vehicles, not for children to play. She doesn't believe everyone would have the same issues with an oil location near their home as she is hearing today.

*(10:04 a.m.)*

Commissioner Miles spoke about the Ordinance and its passage. The well locations aren't the same as they were then. Commissioner Killian spoke about Ledge Lane, the reason it is closed to commercial traffic, and the effects of industry traffic on the roads. The corners are too tight for the trucks to turn or pass. Commissioner Chugg stated for the record that they have discouraged the industry from using agricultural land, a limited asset.

Commissioner Miles introduced Community Development Planner Duncan Kading to the public and explained that he works with companies applying for conditional use permits.

## ***Recess 10:16 a.m. to 10:34 a.m.***

*Commissioner Chugg made a motion to saunter. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Chugg voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

## ***Discussion & Consideration of the Letter of Support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act***

*(10:34 a.m.)*

Commissioner Miles explained the request from Congressman Kennedy's office for support of the SPEED Act. The letter concludes with: We strongly urge the Committee on Natural Resources to advance the SPEED Act swiftly. This legislation offers a balance and effective solution that modernizes outdated environmental review laws, promotes responsible development, and ensures that Duchesne County and all of America can build the infrastructure necessary for a prosperous future. The parties discussed the letter that

was sent, and thanked Clay Crozier with PLPCO for the assistance with the letter. *Commissioner Chugg made a motion to ratify the letter of support for the Standardizing Permitting and Expediting Economic Development (SPEED) Act. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Chugg voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

#### ***Auditor's Office – Tax Adjustments***

*(10:36 a.m.)*

Treasurer Stephen Potter presented a tax adjustment for two parcels that were previously presented for the Uintah Basin Medical Center. Parcels 00-0000-3602 and 00-0000-3610 were purchased by the hospital and were exempt for half the year, resulting in a \$1,701.44 credit. The parties discussed the tax adjustments. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the tax adjustments for Uintah Basin Medical Center as presented. Commissioner Miles seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. Commissioner Chugg abstained from the vote. The motion passed.*

Treasurer Stephen Potter presented a tax adjustment for parcel 00-0008-6532. The new home was not built, but was taxed as if it were completed. Taxes added for an escaped building, resulting in a credit of \$2,453.66. The parties discussed the tax adjustment. *Commissioner Chugg made a motion to approve the tax adjustment for Mr. Bravo as presented. Commissioner Killian seconded the motion. Commissioner Chugg voted aye, Commissioner Killian voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

*(10:50 a.m.)*

Chief Deputy Assessor Ginger Johnson explained the tax adjustment for Mr. Brovo and the difference in the home's value and the escaped building's value.

#### ***Auditor's Office – Tax Abatements***

*(10:42 a.m.)*

Treasurer Stephen Potter presented the tax abatements for November 21, 2025. The totals are as follows: Circuit Breaker – 5 for \$3,926.24, Indigent – 2 for \$1,434.70, 20% Circuit Breaker – 2 for \$674.01, for a total of 9 for \$6,034.95. The parties discussed the abatements. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the tax abatements as presented. Commissioner Chugg seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Chugg voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

#### ***Auditor's Office – Vouchers***

*(10:43 a.m.)*

Chief Deputy Clerk-Auditor Lexie Clayburn presented the vouchers for check numbers 171206 through 171276, dated November 24, 2025, totaling \$989,322.70. The parties reviewed the vouchers submitted. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the vouchers for November 24, 2025, as presented. Commissioner Chugg seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Chugg voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

#### ***Consideration of Minutes of the Combined Commission Meeting held November 17, 2025***

*(10:51 a.m.)*

The parties reviewed the combined minutes of the Commission meeting held on November 17, 2025. *Commissioner Killian made a motion to approve the minutes of November 17, 2025, as amended. Commissioner Chugg seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Chugg voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

#### ***Discussion of Possible Subjects for the Next Meeting***

*(10:57 a.m.)*

#### ***Calendaring & Weekly Update on Events***

*(10:59 a.m.)*

#### ***Human Resource Update***

*(11:12 a.m.)*

Human Resource Director Judy Stevenson gave an update on her department. Open enrollment closes today. She has been reaching out to the employees who haven't completed it. The privacy policy was sent to all employees for their acknowledgment. She has been working with Attorney Foote to cancel the Lexipol subscription. This is what the County currently uses for its policies. They are transitioning to Applicant Pro for drug

testing and background checks of new employees. They are adding this service to the existing contract. The new employees are receiving the required training.

***Closed Session – Strategy Session to Discuss: The Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual***

*(11:17 a.m.)*

*Commissioner Killian made a motion to go in and out of a closed session to discuss: The Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual. Commissioner Chugg seconded the motion. Commissioner Killian voted aye, Commissioner Chugg voted aye, and Commissioner Miles voted aye. The motion passed.*

***Consideration to take action during the closed session***

*(12:26 p.m.)*

No action to be taken.

***Adjournment***

*(12:26 p.m.)*

*Commissioner Killian made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:26 p.m. Commissioner Miles stated that the end of the agenda had been reached, and the meeting was adjourned.*

*Read and approved this on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 2025.*



Tracy Killian

Interim Commission Chairman



Chelise Curtis

Clerk-Auditor

*Minutes of the meeting prepared by Commission Executive Assistant Melissa Hughes*