

**SANPETE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING**

**April 7, 2026, 1:00 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 (joins later) 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 Commissioner Scott Bartholomew. Pledge of allegiance is recited by all.

**STACEY LYON: APPROVAL OF CLAIMS; APPROVAL OF FINANCES; APPROVAL TO PAY PUBLIC SAFETY SURVIVING SPOUSE FUND.**

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 #363989 through #364097 and EFT's 263-304. 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. No questions or concerns are voiced in regards to the finances. Motion to approve the finances as of Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, is made by Commissioner Bennett. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Ms. Lyon explains the public safety surviving spouse fund is an annual fee that is required by State statute. Sanpete County employs 46 officers and the rate to pay is \$95.00 per officer; for a total of \$4,370.00. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the payment to the public safety surviving spouse fund in the amount of \$4,370.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Commissioner Bartholomew signs the document presented by Ms. Lyon.

**APPROVAL OF RIGHT-OF-WAY EXCAVATION LICENSE APPLICATION FOR S.G.MAYNE EXCAVATION TO BORE ACROSS ROAD TO INSTALL 3" POWER CONDUIT AT THE END OF N. PEA ROAD, MORONI, WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED IN FEBRUARY 17TH, 2026 COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING.**

Road Supervisor Tom Seely has signed the application for approval. Linda Christiansen states this application is the same request as the last commission meeting but the portion of road is actually asphalt, not gravel that they will bore under. Tom Seely spoke to the Commissioners in regards to the request and everything is ok. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the right-of-way excavation license application for S.G. Mayne Excavation. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

**TALISHA JOHNSON: APPROVAL TO PAY INVOICE FROM SIXIS MAPPING FOR YEARLY MAINTENANCE FOR GIS MAP.**

Recorder Talisha Johnson presents the agenda item. Ms. Johnson explains the invoice she is presenting is for an interactive mapping system until GIS is updated in order for residents and staff to access plat maps more effectively. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the payment of SIXIS Mapping invoice in the amount of \$3,000.00. The motion is

seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

**JENNY WILLIAMS: APPROVAL OF CVE TECHNOLOGIES GROUP QUOTE FOR WIRELESS ACCESS POINTS FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE; APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A SCANNER FOR ELECTIONS.**

IT Director Jenny Williams presents the agenda item. Ms. Williams states the current access points are controlled with a controller that cannot be updated. The proposed access points will integrate with the new fire wall and create better coverage in the jail for Wi-Fi. The invoice total is for \$9,324.63, which includes access points and a three-year license for the system. Commissioner Cheney questions which budget this will come out of. Ms. Williams had planned on taking it out of the supplies budget due to the grey area of which tech items are meant to come out of that budget line. Commissioner Bartholomew questions Keith Jensen and Jeff Nielsen from the Sheriff's office to see if they know the answer; they do not. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the CVE Technologies Group quote for wireless access points for the Sheriff's office in the amount of \$9,324.63, out of either the Sheriff or supplies budget. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Ms. Williams explains the elections office is currently using a scanner that belongs to the Records office to scan elections envelopes. Ms. Williams has two different prices; but her recommendation is for the 7600 which is \$4,833.59. The scanner will significantly improve the processes that are required for election data and it will be compatible with the new system the State is implementing next year. Ms. Williams mentions Linda Christiansen can submit a reimbursement request to the State because it is for election processes. The scanner would come out of the IT supplies budget with the hopes of at least half of the money to be reimbursed by the State. Ms. Williams explains the lack of efficiency with the smaller model and with elections growing, the best option would be to purchase the 7600 model. Ms. Williams will order the scanner from Amazon. The current vendors that the County uses for copy machines do not currently provide this type of product. Ms. Williams believes the basic maintenance of replacing rollers once a year will be the only thing she will need to do for many years. Ms. Christiansen reached out to the vendors she uses for election equipment and due to the recent implementation of HB300 they do not currently have a scanner of this capacity yet. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve a scanner for elections in the amount of \$4,833.59. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

**SHERIFF JARED BUCHANAN: APPROVAL TO PAY FINAL BILL FROM LAYTON AUTOBODY FOR DAMAGES TO 2020 RAM 2500; APPROVAL TO PAY AARMS FOR ANNUAL FEE FOR JAIL AUDIT AND INSPECTION FEES; APPROVAL TO PAY SANPETE VALLEY HOSPITAL FOR BILL ON INMATE DEATON; APPROVAL TO PAY PRECISION COLLISON FOR REPAIRS ON 2021 RAM 1500; WAGE REVIEW FOR PATROL DEPUTY JACOB BRANDT.**

Sheriff Jared Buchanan is unable to attend the meeting. Sargent Keith Jensen and Sargent Jeff Nielsen present the agenda items. They are presenting the final bill for Deputy Allsop's auto body repair to his truck. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the payment to Layton Auto Body invoice for the Dodge 2500, Deputy Allsop's vehicle, in the amount of \$14,196.87, which will be reimbursed (paid) by insurance. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Sargent Nielsen explains the next agenda item is the annual subscription to the program they have used for the past twenty years that holds their policies and legal standards that the jail has to abide by. Motion is made by

Commissioner Bennett to approve to pay AARMS annual fee for jail audit and inspection fees in the amount of \$2,760.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Sargent Nielsen explains the agenda listed the providers name; not the inmate for privacy reasons. The invoice is for an emergency room visit. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve to pay Sanpete Valley Hospital bill in the amount of \$3,544.39. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. The next agenda item is an invoice to repair Deputy Farnum's truck after a collision outside of Moroni. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve to pay Precision Collision for repairs on 2021 RAM 1500 in the amount of \$3,592.49. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. The last agenda item is in regards to a wage review for Deputy Jacob Brandt. When Deputy Brandt was hired, they were unaware of some of his added experience. Deputy Brandt has attended FLETC; Federal Law Enforcement Training and they would like the level of his experience to be reflected in his wage. They would like to move him from \$28.61 an hour, Grade 7, Year 2 to \$35.41 an hour, Grade 11, Step 11. Commissioner Bartholomew inquires whether this request has been presented to Stacey Lyon. Ms. Lyon responds that she has not spoken to the Sheriff in regards to the request. Commissioner Bennett has discussed this with the Sheriff and he has the money to cover it in his budget. Sargent Jensen expresses the importance of his experience to the department. Commissioner Bartholomew mentions the need to address wage reviews with Stacey in the future. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve Patrol Deputy Jacob Brandt's wage increase from Grade 7, Year 2, to Grade 11, Step 11 in the amount of \$35.41 an hour, effective April 12<sup>th</sup>. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

**SCOTT OLSEN: APPROVAL OF STEP INCREASE FOR ZANE PETERSON TO A BUILDING INSPECTOR 2.**

Scott Olsen presents the agenda item. Mr. Olsen states Zane Peterson was hired a year ago, today. Mr. Peterson has obtained all of the residential and one commercial building inspector certifications. By doing so, and completing a year of experience, he qualifies for Building Inspector II wage increase which would go from Grade 8 to Grade 10, Step 2, at \$25.71 an hour. Mr. Olsen has addressed the request with Stacey. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve a step increase for Zane Peterson to Building Inspector II, from Grade 8 to Grade 10, Step 2, at an hourly rate of \$25.71 an hour, effective April 12<sup>th</sup>. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Mr. Peterson will continue to work on Commercial Certifications.

**FERRIS TAYLOR REPRESENTING SKYLINE MOUNTAIN SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPOINTMENT OF SMSSD BOARD MEMBER TO FILL OPEN AREA B UPPER MOUNTAIN VACANCY.**

Ferris Taylor presents the agenda item. Mr. Taylor states the vacancy will be replacing Don Hunter. Mr. Hunter has recently retired and needs to step away due to family and health matters. The vacancy was posted in February; only one applicant applied. Max Henrie has been a resident for over thirty years. Mr. Henrie was interested because the term is only for two years. The board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Henrie. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to appoint Max Henrie to the SMSSD Board to fill the open Area B Upper Mountain vacancy.. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion

passes.

**KEVIN CRITCHLEY: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL IN REGARDS TO TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO TRUST IN ASPEN HILLS (LOT 1223).**

Kevin Critchley presents the agenda item. Mr. Critchley explains that his dad purchased the property in Aspen Hills many years ago. Mr. Critchley's dad passed away in 2008 and he left the property to him. When Mr. Critchley started to work on his trust and will, it was discovered that the County had never transferred ownership, even though they had been paying taxes since 1992. Mr. Critchley wants to know how to get this issue resolved. Talisha Johnson, County Recorder explains the County acquired the property through tax sale in 1992. Ms. Johnson states Mr. Critchley paid the taxes in 1992 and has paid them ever since. In 2000, Thomas Critchley filed a deed to his trust but it was not discovered at that time that ownership had not been transferred. Commissioner Bartholomew requests that the County Attorney is in attendance for this item. Linda Christiansen spoke to him and once he is done with a call, he will come to the meeting. The Commissioners move ahead to the next agenda item. After Joan Powell's agenda item, the Commissioners return to this agenda item. Commissioner Bartholomew explains the situation to Kevin Daniels. Kevin Daniels is ok with the County signing a quitclaim deed to officially transfer the property into Mr. Critchley's name since he has been paying taxes for so many years. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve to sign a quitclaim deed for lot 1223 in Aspen Hills for Kevin Critchley to transfer the ownership of property from the County to him. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

**JOAN POWELL REPRESENTING OHV USER GROUP: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL TO SIGN A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO CONNECT FOREST SERVICE ROAD #002 TO FOREST SERVICE ROAD #041 OR CONNECT FOREST SERVICE ROAD #002 TO FORREST SERVICE ROAD #311.**

Joan Powell presents the agenda item. Ms. Powell states she is 70 years old and has been involved with public lands for thirty years. She has been part of protests against road closures and has participated in OHV groups since the origination of the clubs. During her participation in the groups, they started the Arapeen Trail System and Ms. Powell still has the original maps. Ms. Powell explains the processes that they went through to get the system implemented. Ms. Powell and her husband have received many grants to work on the systems in the mountains by donating many hours of in-kind service. Other than the Arapeen Trail System, they have also worked on the Badlands system in Duchesne County and with the BLM. Ms. Powell has been working with Kevin Christensen for years and she feels he is doing a super job. Ms. Powell displays a Trail Cat schedule. Ms. Powell speaks of the Good Will Rider program. Ms. Powell gives a handout to the Commissioners and County Clerk. Ms. Powell displays a map with Wagon Road Ridge being the focal point; she believes the trail she is speaking of is approximately 17 miles out. Ms. Powell explains the trail ends and doesn't connect; forcing people to turn around at some point. Ms. Powell wants to connect trails to make it a loop system in order to save people from back tracking. She believes this is a missing link in the system and is asking the Commissioners for support. Many years ago, she and a group of people proposed the "Broken Spoke" project to improve this trail. She is requesting 72" by a mile. She points out the section on the map. Ms. Powell points out a section that denied them access across privately owned property in the Badlands project but

they were able to negotiate and complete the project. Ms. Powell is not requesting money; she is asking for their signature of approval on a letter of support. Commissioner Bartholomew questions whether or not this goes through any livestock trails. Ms. Powell believes livestock are not the only ones that use the mountain and that the livestock will use the trail they build. She is not aware of any livestock trails and can not verify whether there is or not. Ms. Powell has spoken to Rod Magnusson, a property owner in that area of the mountain, and he was very receptive but he wants a 50" trail. Clyde Magnusson would not talk to her. Commissioner Bennett asks how many people are supporting this. Ms. Powell states there are a few Sanpete residents in the room and she believes there are some State people that can help pressure Darren Olsen. Kevin Daniels arrives to the meeting. Commissioner Bennett knows of many residents that use Wagon Road that like the dead end. She requests the support of the Commissioners and she will follow up with the County Clerk Linda Christiansen.

**STEVEN R. HUNTER: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL THAT A GATE PERMIT BE GRANTED TO ALLOW ACCESS ONLY TO RESIDENTS AND GUESTS OF WEST RAIL SUBDIVISION.**

Steven R. Hunter presents the agenda item. Mr. Hunter explains the plat shows 830 North is a 40' access utility. Mr. Hunter inquires, is it legally considered a public right-of-way or private easement? Mr. Hunter states Mr. Cheney has been to his property twice. Mr. Hunter moved in about a year ago; he has a driveway, that he believes is a private driveway but in reality is an easement. He put a gate across the driveway and he has been told he can't put a gate there. The gate is open and people have been going through. Mr. Hunter inquires, is it a public road or is it not? Mr. Hunter believes he can install a gate on his property. Mr. Hunter lives in a three parcel subdivision; he owns one parcel with a house on it, another person owns two parcels that are vacant and the owner lives in Colorado. Mr. Hunter states residents that live in other subdivisions that drive across that land onto the easement and out the driveway. Kevin Daniels responds that the road is a Class D Road. Under current County Code and State Law, a gate can be granted by the Commissioners. Regardless of whether or not homes are located on the property, there are three lots, therefore it is not a private drive. Mr. Hunter requests approval of the gate from the County Commission. Commissioner Bartholomew states they generally grant a gate approval to keep livestock in; and it appears Mr. Hunter is requesting to keep people out. Mr. Hunter said no, he doesn't want people going in there. Commissioner Cheney and Commissioner Bartholomew state it is a public road. Mr. Hunter inquires as to who maintains the road. Kevin Daniels states, no one does because it is a Class D road. Mr. Hunter wants to know what good a gate is if people don't shut the gate. Commissioner Bartholomew goes back to his previous statement that gate approvals are generally granted when livestock is the issue. A fix for an open gate is to install a cattle guard but that does not solve his problem of keeping people out. Mr. Hunter states Commissioner Bartholomew does not understand his problem and he can't explain it to him. Commissioner Bartholomew affirms the request for a gate is no. Heidi Sorensen Zoning Administrator mentions the Hunters have a sign up that says "private drive" that needs to be removed as well. Kevin Daniels states a sign that says private property can be posted on his lot but a sign can't be posted on the road that says private drive because it is a public road. Kevin Daniels restates, even with a Class D road, people can egress and ingress on the Class D Road, but they cannot step off of the D road on to the property. Mr. Daniels states he can put a private property/ no trespassing sign on his property.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE SIGNING OF A 9-LOT MAJOR SUBDIVISION (ROCKWOOD HOLLOW SUBDIVISION) APPLICATION BY MICHELLE MILES. THE PROPOSED SUBDIVISION IS LOCATED WEST OF MOUNT PLEASANT IN THE AGRICULTURE ZONE. LOT - 1 OF 11.85 ACRES, LOT - 2 OF 6.05 ACRES, LOT - 3 OF 6.38 ACRES, LOT - 4 OF 6.84 ACRES, LOT - 5 OF 6.34 ACRES, LOT - 6 OF 6.53 ACRES, LOT - 7 OF 6.23 ACRES, LOT - 8 OF 6.09 ACRES, LOT - 9 OF 6.39 ACRES AND COMMON AREA OF 13.67 ACRES. PARCEL #S-22284 AND S-22284X.**

Heidi Sorensen presents the agenda item. Ms. Sorensen explains the applicant has complied with all of the requirements and the application has been approved by the Planning Commission, County Recorder and by the Address Coordinator. All site improvements have been made; water and power are on site. Commissioner Bartholomew inquires as to whether a water system is needed for a major subdivision. Ms. Sorensen states there is a well on each lot. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the signing of a 9-lot major subdivision (Rockwood Hollow Subdivision) application by Michelle Miles, parcel #'s S-22284 & 22284x, lots as previously stated. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Commissioner Bartholomew, Linda Christiansen and Kevin Daniels sign the Mylar.

**BRYAN BIES: APPROVAL TO PAY BIG RIG CONSTRUCTION INVOICE FOR COMMISSION CHAMBERS REMODEL PROJECT; APPROVAL OF BID FOR COUNTERTOP IN THE AUDITOR'S NEW OFFICE; APPROVAL TO PURCHASE LAWN MOWER WITH BAGGER FROM ACE HARDWARE.**

Bryan Bies presents the agenda item. Mr. Bies wanted Hunter from Big Rig Construction to be in attendance for the first agenda item but he hasn't made it yet. They skip to the next agenda item, which is the lawn mower. Mr. Bies has located a lawn mower in Ephraim that he would like to purchase in order to stop using his personal mower to mow the courthouse grounds. The total invoice includes the bagger with the lawn mower. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the purchase of a TORO lawn mower from Ephraim Ace Hardware in the amount of \$4,948.00, out of Bryan's budget. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. The next agenda item is for the countertop in the auditor's office. Mr. Bies received two bids; one from Bedrock Quartz and one from Cody's Custom Creations. The price difference is significant but Mr. Bies reassures them that they bid the exact same thing. This will not complete the project; glass and painting are still needed but they are no longer doing the closet. Stacey Lyon mentions that Mr. Bies sold the two lawn mowers the County previously owned to pay for the new one. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the invoice from Cody's Custom Creations for the Auditor's office countertop in the amount of \$3,932.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Hunter from Big Rig has not arrived at this point so they go back to the Big Rig Construction agenda item. Commissioner Cheney inquires as to whether the project is still in line with the budget, not including the changes to the walls. Mr. Bies is unsure; the paint in that room was a challenge and a bigger expense than expected. The other change order was prompted by the Commissioners to extend the countertop. Scott Olsen mentions the addition of emergency lighting was also added. The invoice includes the cost of the change orders. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the invoice to Big Rig Construction for the Commission Chambers in the amount of \$58,589.25. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Mr. Bies has one additional item

that did not arrive in time to be noticed on the agenda but he would like the Commissioners to consider approval. The request for approval is the invoice to paint the Auditor's office. Discussion ensues in regards to whether Mr. Bies would paint the office but it is a fairly complex job. Hunter from Big Rig Construction arrives. The invoice to paint the Auditor's office is from Big Rig Construction because it is a painter he uses that likes to go through the contractor. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the estimate from Big Rig Construction to paint the Auditor's office in the amount of \$2,800.00, and it will be ratified in the next meeting. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

**KEVIN CHRISTENSEN: APPROVAL OF EPHRAIM CANYON FLAP GRANT MOA AND MATCHING FUNDS TRANSFER AGREEMENT.**

Kevin Christensen presents the agenda item. Mr. Christensen explains the Commissioners signed the agreement for scoping last May and the project has gone through. The County match is \$200,000.00 which comes out of Kevin's budget. The project is a 9.6 million dollar project that will take care of settling problems in a 3.1 mile stretch. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve of Ephraim Canyon FLAP Grant MOA and matching funds transfer agreement between Travel Council Funding and Federal Highway. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No issues were found with the minutes. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

Angie Taukeiaho requests a moment to speak with the Commissioners. They need to go into Closed Session so they request she waits for them to make a motion.

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

**CLOSED SESSION**

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

No action was necessary due to this closed session.

Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to adjourn at 2:38 PM. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

The meeting is adjourned at 2:38 P.M.

ATTEST:   
Linda Christiansen  
Sanpete County Clerk

APPROVED:   
Scott Bartholomew  
Commission Chair