

SANPETE COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

May 5th, 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 the meeting at a later time) 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 Jeff Tanner. Pledge of allegiance is recited by all.

DISCUSSION AND ACCEPTANCE OF SEALED BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF WOODEN BLEACHERS THAT WERE REMOVED FROM THE FAIRPARK; APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE WOODEN BLEACHERS THAT WERE REMOVED FROM THE FAIRPARK.

Commissioner Cheney states there was only one bid for the wooden bleachers. Robby Layton submitted a bid in the amount of \$250.00 for each set of bleachers and there is eleven (11) sets of bleachers. The minimum bid was \$250.00. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve of the sale of the used Fair bleachers to Robby Layton, in the amount of \$250.00 each. (11 bleachers @ \$250.00 each, for a total of \$2,750.00) 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. County Clerk Linda Christiansen will contact Robby Layton and let him know that he can pick up the bleachers.

STACEY LYON: APPROVAL OF CLAIMS; APPROVAL OF FINANCES; APPROVAL TO PAY BARLOW LAW FOR AN IDC COUNTY CONFLICT CASE.

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 #364172 through #364243 and EFT's 343-374. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Ms. Lyon states she is having issues with her software so she is unable to present the financials today. She will forward them to the Commissioners as soon as the issue is resolved. Ms. Lyon explains the last agenda item is a conflict case that gets paid through the County's IDC Grant and the money will be reimbursed. The invoice amount is for \$2,025.00. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve to pay the Barlow Law invoice for the IDC County conflict case in the amount of \$2,025.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF THE SIGNING OF THE ANNUAL GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE IDC (INDIGENT DEFENSE COMMISSION).

Commissioner Bartholomew addresses the agenda item. Commissioner Bartholomew spoke with Kevin Daniels in regards to the grant and he has approved it. No questions or concerns are voiced. Stacey Lyon states she worked on writing the document with Candace Reid. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve of the signing of the Annual Grant

Application for the IDC (Indigent Defense Commission). The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. The application is signed by Commissioner Scott Bartholomew.

JEFF TANNER REPRESENTING R6 REGIONAL COUNCIL: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL TO RENEW ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP WITH EDCUTAH THROUGH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET.

Jeff Tanner presents the agenda item. Mr. Tanner explains Abby Ivory, his predecessor, had started a membership with EDCUtah a couple of years ago. One major benefit they provide is a community profile for RFI's and businesses for reach out. Mr. Tanner distributes documents that highlight the benefits and explain some items that will be updated. Mr. Tanner has enough in his budget to cover the expense. Our membership ensures that businesses that come to Utah will have information in regards to Sanpete. Collaboration with businesses has improved with the implementation of GOEO and GOED Now to not be redundant in their efforts with the new portal. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve of the annual membership with EDCUtah and use the Economic Development Budget, in the amount of \$3,213.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

BECKY DUKE: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF PAYMENT PLAN IN REGARDS TO DELINQUENT TAXES OR OPTIONS THAT CAN BE GIVEN TO STOP THE SALE OF HER PROPERTY ON THE TAX SALE.

Becky Duke presents the agenda item. Amy Willden has arrived to the meeting but Kevin Daniels has not. Mr. Daniels sent a text stating he will be late. Ms. Duke states she received a certified letter from the County, stating they were going to put the home up for auction. Ms. Duke explains the home belonged to her dad up to his passing; he left it to her sister and she has since passed away. After her passing, the home went to Ms. Duke but she has not put the house in her name yet. Ms. Duke is willing to pay monthly; she had no idea the back taxes were owed until she received the letter. Ms. Duke currently owes \$7,168.00 in back taxes. Commissioner Bartholomew explains the process and states, as long as payments are made, the County won't sell her property. Stacey Lyon states Ms. Duke needs to prove ownership of the property first. Amy Willden explains the property is currently in a Trust; with two Trustee names. And apparently they have both passed away. Ms. Willden spoke to Kevin Daniels and he stated, Ms. Duke will need to prove that she has ownership. Ms. Duke explains all of the documentation that she needs is in Montana. Ms. Lyon does not think arrangements to make payments can be made until ownership is verified. Commissioner Bartholomew does not want to sell the house if she is willing to make payments and the tax sale is quickly approaching. Ms. Lyon inquires as to whether or not her daughter can email the documents to the County. Ms. Duke does not have an email. Linda Christiansen suggests that Ms. Duke have her daughter send the documents to her and she can pass them on to the Commissioners, Amy and Stacey. Amy Willden gives the Commissioners a few scenarios of payment amounts to Ms. Duke depending on how much she is willing to pay and for how many months. Commissioner Bartholomew explains they generally try to get the back taxes paid in six months because the next year's taxes are due by then. Ms. Duke brings in approximately \$1,700 a month, so a \$1,200 a month payment would be very difficult for her to make. Commissioner Bartholomew explains she should get a hold of R6 for some assistance; he believes there is a program that could help her with her situation. Ms. Lyon states she can also apply for an abatement program in the Auditor's Office, once the property is in her name, for

the taxes due this November. Commissioner Bartholomew suggests setting Ms. Duke up for payments over 18 months in order to lighten the financial strain. Ms. Duke will send the documents to the County Clerk. She will arrange for payments to be made to the County Treasurer. She also needs to go to the County Auditor to complete the abatement applications; once the property is in her name. Becky Duke will make payments to the County (County Treasurer) in the amount of \$443.84 for 18 months, regarding parcel #15914. Ms. Duke needs to send documentation in regards to ownership to the County Clerk by May 14th. No motion is made.

SHERIFF JARED BUCHANAN: APPROVAL TO PAY MURDOCK FORD FOR A 2026 FORD F-150; APPROVAL TO PAY MOUNTAINLAND OUTFITTERS FOR POLICE EQUIPMENT FOR 2026 FORD F-150; APPROVAL TO PAY THE RADAR SHOP FOR RADAR RECERTIFICATION'S; APPROVAL TO PAY BOTACH FOR BALLISTIC SHIELDS; APPROVAL TO OPEN RECRUITMENT FOR JAIL DEPUTY.

Sheriff Jared Buchanan presents the agenda items. Sheriff Buchanan has a different amount for the first agenda item than the documents that were sent to the Clerk for the meeting packet. Sheriff Buchanan has the invoice that includes the registration cost. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve of the invoice to Murdock Ford for the 2026 F-150, in the amount up to \$61,236.47. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Discussion ensues regarding some work that had been done on some of the Sheriff's vehicles in the past that the Sheriff was disappointed with the quality of work. Sheriff Buchanan is pleased with the service that Mountainland Truck Outfitters has provided. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve the invoice from Mountainland Truck Outfitters, to outfit the 2026 F-150, in the amount of \$7,959.81. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Sheriff Buchanan explains the next agenda item is a traveling group that came to the department and re-certified all of the radars. The Sheriff's office receives GRAMA requests all of the time regarding radars. This company will come every three years to re-certify the equipment. The officers get certified on how to use them every three years as well. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve of The Radar Shop invoice in the amount of \$ 2,002.00. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. The next agenda item will be paid for out of the task force. The request is for three shields, for a total of \$3,371.90. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve to pay Botach invoice for ballistic shields in the amount of \$3,371.90. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes. Sheriff Buchanan clarifies that he does not need to open recruitment; he has a current roster. He is under the impression that Sergeant Christensen retired. Stacy Lyon verifies that his wife sent an email on May 1st, stating as such but she is waiting for his resignation. Sheriff Buchanan wants verification that he can fill that pin. Commissioner Bennett verifies that he does not need to open recruitment. Sheriff Buchanan has a current roster. It is verified that Mike Christensen has retired and he is good to go.

SANPETE COMMUNICATIONS, NEIL JOHNSON: REQUEST APPROVAL TO PURCHASE FLEX SUITE POLICE & DISPATCH REPORTING SYSTEM.

Neil Johnson presents the agenda item. Mr. Johnson is requesting the approval to move forward with signing the contract with Flex. Flex will assist in complying with Senate Bill 237; which requires a CAD to CAD by 2029. Mr. Johnson would like to get approval before

prices go up at the end of the month. The subscription will cost \$175,000.00 per year and covers the entire county, including municipalities; the first payment will not be due until the program is activated. The earliest date that the program will activate would be November but they are willing to wait until the first of the year for the new budget season. One-time charges in addition to the subscription cost are; \$74,824.27 will cover moving the information from the current CAD in a digital form and \$222,076.00 for two servers. The \$175,000 a year cost will be locked in for ten years if the contract is signed by the end of the month. Mr. Johnson is exploring other options for the two servers that may be cheaper that still meets the security requirements. One of the options is used by the Department of Public Safety. They will need to pay the additional fees in July and the money will come out of the 911 account that is not in the budget. Which means it will need to be moved after the new budget is established, next year or open the budget, and move the money. DPS is paying \$800.00 a month for their servers and they have also offered to help the County get everything moved over. Mr. Johnson is not asking for a signature today for approval, he just needs to get approval to lock in the price. He still needs Kevin Daniels to review the contract. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve of the signature to purchase Flex Suite Police & Dispatch Reporting System, once Kevin Daniels looks at it, and gives approval. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

SUSAN MANNING & JAMES G. MALONE REPRESENTING FREEDOM THROUGH CHRIST, THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM PAGEANT: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF POSSIBLE CONTRACT TERMS FOR RENTAL OF FAIRPARK RODEO GROUNDS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20-25.

Susan Manning presents the agenda item. Ms. Manning states a few of the board members are present. Ms. Manning gives an explanation of the event. They hope to welcome 10,000 attendees in the first year; over four nights. She gives a projected impact on tourism and sales tax that will benefit the County. They have a \$15,000 budget for marketing. Ms. Manning explains some of the ways that they intend to advertise the event. Ms. Manning shares the ticket prices and proposes an alternative cost to rent the Fairpark; they are not proposing a subsidy. They are requesting a strategic partnership. They will have dress rehearsal on June 20-21. On the 22nd, they will hold a costume dress rehearsal and tickets will be sold for that night. The 23-25th of June will be the actual pageant nights. They have hired a marketing director out of Monroe. Kevin Christensen verifies the Fairpark is available for the dates they have requested. They will provide their own stage, lighting and sound. If the organization paid the regular cost to rent the arena, it would cost \$10,000.00. Ms. Manning is requesting a fifty-percent discount for the first year. Ms. Manning agrees to the terms of cleaning the restrooms and garbage removal. Ms. Manning names some of the board members and gives a description of their backgrounds. They want to continue this event for years to come. Commissioner Bennett clarifies that any profit made this year will roll over to cover costs for the next year. Ms. Manning states they have received advice from other non-profit organizations to do as such. She gives explanation of the costs they will have yearly. Commissioner Bennett suggests \$1,500.00 a night for the rental, with a \$1.00 per ticket up to \$6,000.00. He has concern that the costs of the Fairpark need to be met. He does not think the dress rehearsal night needs to be charged; just the 4 nights of ticketed events. This would be an agreement for this year only and renegotiated for future events. Discussion ensues as to whether or not the Sheriff's Department provides services at the event. Ms. Manning will reach out to the Sheriff's office. She can propose the terms to her board and report back to the

County Clerk. They will provide an event insurance policy with an amount up to one-million dollars. Commissioner Bennett clarifies the Event Center is not included in the rental cost. Ned Armstrong verifies that vendors can occupy the area to the north of the arena, including the parking area. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to approve of the Spirit of Freedom Pageant to use the rodeo arena, July 20th-25th, 2026. They will pay for four (4) nights, at a rate of \$1,500.00 each, due by August 1st. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

KEVIN CHRISTENSEN: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL CONSTRUCTION AND CULTURAL SURVEY IN SPRING CITY AND EPHRAIM CANYONS.

Kevin Christensen presents the agenda item. Mr. Christensen states the approval he is requesting would be for 4.5 miles of trail; which would be open to anything non-motorized. Which would include; horse, people, bikes, dogs, etc. Commissioner Cheney inquires whether or not this should be presented to the public for their opinion before making a decision. Mr. Christensen states this has been approved by the forest service. One of the trails included in the proposal leads to a waterfall. Mr. Christensen has \$15,000.00 from a grant to pay for trails from the heritage area. Mr. Christensen believes other trails that have been built have been utilized and people enjoy trails. Commissioner Bennett contacted a few livestock owners that run cattle and sheep in the areas and they are against the trail systems. They receive complaints from people in regards to their livestock dogs chasing people on bikes or the sheep and cattle are on the trails. Commissioner Bennett inquires as to why the bikers can't use the existing trails and who is requesting the trails? Is this request coming from the Forest Service? Mr. Christensen states different groups have approached the Forest Service with this request. Commissioner Bartholomew would rather see this type of trail versus a motorized trail. Mr. Christensen agrees that there will always be some conflict between the individuals who like the motorized versus non-motorized trail systems. He believes this is a way to benefit the residents and get kids outside, off of their phones. Commissioner Bennett is not in favor of it. Commissioner Cheney wants to know how others feel about the proposal. The trail system is on Forest land. Kevin Christensen explains the history of this request. In approximately 2021, the individuals that are now part of the Manti Trail Builders Club met with the Forest Service to get more trails developed. Commissioner Cheney inquires as to whether or not a survey could be presented to the community members to see if it is something people want. Commissioner Bartholomew suggests someone address the Spring City Council. Mr. Christensen could put a survey on social media. Commissioner Cheney is willing to address the council. Commissioner Bennett is willing to hear the feedback from the council and residents and may change his mind. But he also has concerns as he voiced earlier in the discussion based on the majority's opinions. They ask if Kevin Christensen is in a time crunch. Mr. Christensen states it is more of a seasonal time crunch based on getting the trails built before winter time. Commissioner Cheney will get a hold of Spring City. Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to table this agenda item until the first meeting in June; once more information and feedback has been collected. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes. Commissioner Cheney would like Mr. Christensen to hold off on posting the survey until after he speaks with Spring City Council.

STACEY CARLISLE REPRESENTING SANPETE COUNTY FAIRBOARD: APPROVAL TO PURCHASE SCALE WITH 2025 FAIR LIVESTOCK DONATION FUNDS.

Stacey Carlisle presents the agenda item. Ms. Carlisle explains she has a quote for the

purchase of a new scale for the Fairpark. Ms. Carlisle states they have donation funds to pay for the purchase. The invoice reflects charges for taxes, so she will get an updated invoice to reflect the correct amount of \$10,395.80. Commissioner Bennett explains the scale that has been used in the past is not legal for trading and cannot be certified. This scale is the only one that Commissioner Bennett could find that is NTEP certifiable and fits the County's needs. Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the purchase of the scale for the Junior Livestock, by using donation money, in the amount of \$10,395.80. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bartholomew. Vote by voice is taken: Commissioner Cheney votes aye, Commissioner Bartholomew votes yes, and Commissioner Bennett, abstains. The motion passes. Commissioner Bartholomew questions whether or not the old scale has been removed from the Fairpark. Commissioner Bennett states the tin has been cleaned up but not the scale. Commissioner Bennett will call the contractor again after the meeting and give him another week to complete the task.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to approve the minutes from the last meeting, with no corrections. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett, and the motion passes.

HD Sanderson, representing Senator Curtis as the liaison for the County, is in the room, he wanted to introduce himself to the Commissioners and shared his contact information.

Motion is made by Commissioner Cheney to go into closed session to discuss personnel competency and character of an individual. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Vote by voice is taken: Commissioner Cheney votes aye, Commissioner Bennett votes aye, and Commissioner Bartholomew 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

Motion is made by Commissioner Bennett to adjourn. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Cheney, and the motion passes.

The meeting is adjourned at 3:03 P.M.

ATTEST: 

Linda Christiansen
Sanpete County Clerk

APPROVED: 

Scott Bartholomew
Commission Chair