

COMMISSION WORKSESSION

June 8, 2026

Minutes of a scheduled worksession of the Sevier County Commission held this eighth day of June 2026. Meeting commenced at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioners Scott Johnson, Greg Jensen, and Ralph Brown in the Conference Room, Room 116, of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. Others attending included Deputy Clerk/Auditor Barbara Crowther, Executive Administrator Malcolm Nash, Tourism Director Amy Myers, and Dave Coe.

Dain Maher, Aaron Sanborn, and Alex from Horrocks Engineering joined the meeting via Zoom to review their findings on a rail feasibility study. Discussion followed concerning the historical background of rail in the area, the length of the proposed track, that the study was not a preliminary review of the engineering for the project, rail operations in other areas, cost of actual improvements, costs association with managing the project, needed passenger numbers, fees charged, number of runs per day, and tourism viability of this type of attraction. Further discussion followed concerning the up front cost to develop the rail, that other rail project started with rails already on the ground and large donations, the cost to purchase new rail versus old rail, maintenance costs for the rails and the locomotives, and that most railroads are receiving outside funds to cover operational costs. They noted that the debt service would be onerous with start up costs coming in between \$30 - \$35 million. Commissioner Jensen noted that this is not a County project, but the County had agreed to help with a feasibility study. He stated that it would be the responsibility of Mr. Coe to find funding for the project. Commissioner Johnson also noted that the County supports the project as it could bring tourists to the area. The Commission thanked Horrocks Engineering for the information provided, and said they would review the report in more detail when it is submitted the County later this week.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.