

**WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of the Washington County Commission was called to order by Chairman Alan D. Gardner at 4:00 p.m. on January 6, 2015, in the Commission Chambers, Washington County Administration Building, St. George, Utah. Those in attendance were Chairman Alan D. Gardner, Commissioner Victor Iverson, Commissioner Zachary Renstrom, County Administrator Dean Cox, Deputy County Attorney Eric Clarke, and Deputy County Clerk Nicholle M. Felshaw.

Commissioner Iverson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Swearing in of Elected Officials: Zachary D. Renstrom (Commission), Victor Iverson (Commission), Tom Durrant (Assessor), Brock Belnap (Attorney), Russell Shirts (Recorder), Kim Hafen (Clerk-Auditor), David Whitehead (Treasurer), Cory Pulsipher (Sheriff)

At the commencement of the Commission Meeting Agenda, eight (8) newly-elected officials were sworn into office by Commission Chairman Alan D. Gardner. They were: Commissioners Victor Iverson and Zachary Renstrom; Assessor Tom Durrant; County Attorney Brock R. Belnap; Recorder Russell Shirts; Clerk-Auditor Kim M. Hafen; Treasurer David Whitehead; and Sheriff Cory Pulsipher.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda is a means of expediting routine matters which come before the Commission for approval. The Consent Portion of the agenda is approved by one (1) non-debatable motion. If any Commissioner wishes to remove an item from the Consent Portion of the agenda, then that item becomes the first order of business on the Regular Agenda.

- Consideration of Auditor-Approved Claims for Payment for December 17, 2014, through January 6, 2015
- Consideration of Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2014
- Consideration of Administrative Adjustments: Real Property (attached)
- Consideration of Administrative Adjustments: Personal Property (attached)
- Consideration of Applications for Property Tax Abatement: Stanley and Peggy Spray, A/N 0721111; Brandon and Roxanne Welch, A/N 0707359; Robert and Jill Burt, S/N T-MTC-1-4; Michael and Moira Breck, A/N 0126691; William and Linda Martin, A/N 0605561; Kenneth and Stephanie Schultz, S/N H-DSP-B-5; Eddie and Jeri Staton, A/N 0399207; James and Elizabeth Rogers, A/N 0263601; Marlene Brown, A/N B012553
- Consideration of Renewal of Transport Agreements Between the Washington County Library System and Bret Bowler, Robert Groke, Sheralyn Madsen
- Consideration of Updates to Washington County Emergency Operations Plan

- Acknowledgment of Publishing: Notice of Adoption of Ordinance No. 2014-1045-O on Saturday, December 20, 2014

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Iverson to Approve the Consent Agenda with the Exception of Replacing Robert Groke for Chet Loveland in the Transport Agreement Renewal with the Washington County Library. Motion seconded by Commissioner Renstrom and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson, and Renstrom voting aye.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH: BONNIE HALLMAN

Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Coordinator for Five County Association of Governments, Bonnie Hallman recognized Shirley Nygard who has been serving as a volunteer with the RSVP since 2001. Through the years her volunteer efforts have benefited many individuals and organizations. Among other places, Shirley is currently serving at the Five County Association of Governments.

Chairman Gardner expressed appreciation to Shirley for the great service that she has provided to the County.

USU EXTENSION PRESENTATIONS BY: RICK HEFLEBOWER AND CAROLYN WASHBURN

Chairman Gardner explained that Rick Heflebower and Carolyn Washburn are with the Utah State University (USU) Extension Office and were recently promoted to "Full Professor."

Utah State University Professor Rick Heflebower and Professor Carolyn Washburn shared the same presentations with the Commission that they delivered at a reception in November, where both were presented with their Professorship rank.

The slide presentations are attached to these minutes.

PRESENTATION: UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES: KEVIN BUNNELL-PILT PAYMENT FOR 2014

Mr. Kevin Bunnell, Regional Supervisor of the Division of Wildlife Resources, presented a check in the amount of one hundred twelve dollars and twenty cents (\$112.20) representing Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for the year 2014 on land that the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources owns in Washington County.

An endangered fish species and efforts to increase its population in the Virgin River were also briefly discussed.

CONSIDERATION OF RATIFICATION OF ABATEMENT SUMMARY FOR 2014: KIM M HAFEN

Clerk Auditor Kim Hafen explained that in previous years this item was handled under the Consent Agenda. Due to there being two (2) new Commissioners, Mr. Hafen felt it beneficial to address this on the Regular Agenda, so the process could be explained.

Mr. Hafen stated that Tax Abatement programs are available for low income individuals and veterans. If the Tax Abatements fall within specific criteria, the Clerk's Office has the authority to approve them. These Tax Abatements get addressed once a year at the Commission Meeting for approval. Tax Abatements that fall outside of the specific criteria are approved or denied at regular Commission Meetings under the Consent Agenda.

Mr. Hafen presented the summary of the 2014 Tax Abatements that fell under the specific criteria for yearly approval and are attached to these minutes.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Renstrom to Approve Ratification of Abatement Summary for 2014. Motion seconded by Commissioner Iverson and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson, and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2015-1875, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING NATE WELLS TO THE ST. GEORGE CONVENTION AND TOURISM OFFICE MARKETING ADVISORY BOARD

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Iverson to Approve Resolution No. R-2015-1875, a Resolution Appointing Nate Wells to the St. George Convention and Tourism Office Marketing Advisory Board. Motion seconded by Commissioner Renstrom and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson, and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2015-1876, A RESOLUTION APPROVING GRANT AGREEMENT FOR WHITE DOME PROPERTY

Habitat Conservation Plan Administrator Robert Sandberg explained that Resolution No. 2014-1865, which passed on December 2, 2014, approved allocation of other species funds under the Habitat Conservation Plan for an endowment to help conserve White

Dome Property acquired by Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) for mitigation for the Southern Parkway.

Mr. Sandberg stated that this Agreement follows through with Resolution No. R-2014-1865 which will protect the County and give guidance to the Nature Conservancy, by outlining and providing specific ways in which the Nature Conservancy may utilize funds previously approved.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Renstrom to Approve Resolution No. R-2015-1876, a Resolution Approving Grant Agreement for White Dome Property. Motion seconded by Commissioner Iverson and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson, and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2015-1877, A RESOLUTION APPROVING INSTALLATION CONTRACT BETWEEN WASHINGTON COUNTY AND CACHE VALLEY ELECTRIC CO. FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PURGATORY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY SECURITY SYSTEM

Washington County Sheriff Cory Pulsipher explained that the Purgatory Correctional Facility opened in 1998 and at that time state-of-the-art security equipment was installed. The company that developed that equipment is no longer in business, therefore it has been difficult to repair equipment for the last four (4) to five (5) years. After the recent escape incident, it was determined that an upgrade needed to occur.

This contract will upgrade the facility and allow better control and security for the employees as well as the inmates within the facility.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Iverson to Approve Resolution No. R-2015-1877, a Resolution Approving Installation Contract between Washington County and Cache Valley Electric Co. for Washington County Sheriff's Office Purgatory Correctional Facility Security System. Motion seconded by Commissioner Renstrom and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson, and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF REVISION TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL, SECTION IV (E)

Deputy County Attorney Eric Clarke explained that one of the newly-elected officials would like to restructure the leadership within the department he oversees.

Current policy allows, when restructuring an office within the County, for employees to be reassigned laterally or pulled from higher positions. But does not clearly permit promotions without advertising the position. The revision of the policy allows reorganization within an office by reassigning current employees up, down or laterally.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Renstrom to Approve the Revision to the Washington County Policies and Procedures Manual, Section IV (E). Motion seconded by Commissioner Iverson and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson, and Renstrom voting aye.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

County Administrator Dean Cox mentioned that it was Chairman Gardner's birthday today.

Commissioner Iverson expressed his appreciation for the last six (6) months working with Chairman Gardner and looks forward to continuing to serve together.

PUBLIC WORKS OR ROAD BUSINESS

No items were presented today.

Request a Closed Session

None.

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

NICHOLLE M. FELSHAW
DEPUTY CLERK

ALAN D. GARDNER
CHAIRMAN