Commission Meeting

Minutes

Monday, October 5, 2026 at 10:00 am

1. **Public/County Employees Attendance**

   Minutes:

   - Commission Chair, Dennis Blackburn
   - Commissioner Brian
   - Commissioner Cook
   - Attorney, Michael Winn
   - Clerk/Auditor, Felicia Snow
   - Treasurer/Recorder, Colleen Allen
   - Assessor, Sharon Torgerson

   Other's: Barbara Tewell, Jim Duddleston, Lainey Smith, Garrick Wilden, Brock Jackson, Noreen Johnson,

2. **Approve minutes of previous meeting**

   Minutes:
   Commissioner Brian made a motion to approve the minutes of September 21, 2026. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

   Vote results:
   Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

3. **Appointments for discussion and business with the Commissioners**

   a. **10:00 AM Lainey Smith-IDC**

      Minutes:
      Lainey Smith Southern Utah Program Coordinator for Indigent Defense Commission (IDC), assisting Candace Reed. They assist 7 counties. Michael Labrum District Court, Joseph Alamilla handles Justice Court and E Jay. Overson will handle child welfare in Juvenile Court. IDC is funded through grants that Candace Reed will write the grant, the grants are then sent to IDC for approval, and then the county signs the application. The county pays into the murder aggregate fund.

   b. **10:30 AM Garrick Wilden- Jones & DeMille /Hanksville Diversion**

      Minutes:

The project foundation is complete and has been covered with a layer of grout. Temperature conditions must be optimal for the roller compactor to operate effectively. A change order must be finalized for the radial gates. The diversion is 160 feet wide, and the radial gates will require ongoing maintenance. Commissioner Brian made a motion to approve the change order. Commissioner Cook seconds the motion. The motion passed.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

c. 11:00 AM Brock Jackson- R6/Land Purchase Agreement

Minutes:

Brock is present to formalize the purchase of land for the self help program that was discussed in commission meeting on September 8, 2026. If R6 can't get participants the land will be sold back to the county for the price purchased. Commissioner Brian made a motion to approve the agreement of selling land to R6 for the self help program. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

4. County Approvals

a. Intent for Truth-in-Taxation

Minutes:

Commissioner Brian states, Wayne County intends to increase the General Fund property tax rate.

The dollar amount of the increase per year will be $60,000.

The motive of the proposed increase is due to the growing community and the need to enhance and expand essential services that support the safety, well-being, and quality of life for all residents. First, inflation has significantly impacted operational costs across the board, from personnel to equipment and insurance. Second, the purpose of gradually raising taxes each year is to avoid the risk of a sudden 120% increase in a single year.

The approximate percentage of increase on the Wayne County General Fund tax rate is estimated to be 6.18%. This is only on the county portion of property taxes.

Commissioner Brian made a motion to approve the intent for truth-in taxation. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

5. Commissioner Reports

Minutes:

No Commissioner reports.

6. Approve Vouchers

Minutes:

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the vouchers including Michael Labrum Group and David Hafen Reimbursement. Commissioner Brian seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

7. Closed Session as Commission States

Minutes:

Commissioner Brian makes a motion that we enter into a closed session pursuant to Utah Code § 52-4-205(1)(a), for the express purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual, specifically regarding individual property tax abatement applications. Commissioner Cook seconds the motion. The motion passed.

We are back in regular session. Commissioner Brian makes a motion to approve 62 applications for the property tax abatements for veterans, blind individuals, and low-income applicants. Three application will be tabled for further review, as discussed in the closed session. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Vote results:

Ayes: 3 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

8. Adjourned

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during this meeting should notify Felicia Snow at 435-836-1300.

Contact: Felicia Snow (felicia@wayne.utah.gov 435-836-1300) | Minutes published on 10/19/2026, adopted on 10/19/2026

Commissioner Blackburn

Clerk/Auditor Felicia Snow

WAYNE COUNTY
COUNTY CLERK - AUDITOR
STATE OF UTAH