MINUTES
OF THE KANE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
October 13, 2026 at 10:00 AM
IN THE KANE COUNTY COMMISSION CHAMBERS,
76 NORTH MAIN, KANAB, UTAH

Commissioner Attendance: Chair Gwen Brown, Commissioner Patty Kubeja, and Commissioner Celeste Meyeres

Other County Officials in Attendance: Attorney Jeff Stott, Clerk/Auditor Chameill Lamb, Shannon McBride, Keiren Chatterley, Taylor Glover, and Ryan Maddux

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:	Commissioner Brown
WELCOME:	Commissioner Brown
INVOCATION:	Commissioner Meyeres
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:	Commissioner Brown

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Natalie Brannen gave an update on the Stellar Vista Observatory nonprofit organization. She reported that there were over 3,000 public and private star party attendees last year.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Check Edit Report: September 23, 2026-$67,545.87, September 30, 2026-$1,180,327.38, and October 7, 2026-$508,439.53

Approval of: Commission Meeting Minutes for September 22, 2026

Motion to approve the Check Edit Report for September 23, 2026-$67,545.87, September 30, 2026-$1,180,327.38, and October 7, 2026-$508,439.53 and the Commission Meeting Minutes for September 22, 2026 and October 1, 2026 made by Commissioner Brown and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

REGULAR SESSION:

1. **Update from the Kane County Conservation District / Commissioner Brown**

   Danny Little, Tyse Palmer, and Dusty Reese gave their annual update on the Kane County Conservation District highlighting some of the projects that they have done throughout the last year.

2. **Discuss/Vote on the Award Bid for Kane County Remodel Projects / Full Commission**

   Kris stated that they had a bid opening on Friday for the assessor's office remodel and the upstairs administrative center remodel. There were six bids that they opened and reviewed with the prices ranging from $800,000 to $1.1 million for the combined projects. Bid #3 is the one that the committee selected.

   Commissioner Brown stated that because the remodel projects came in higher than they originally anticipated that it would be best to just do the assessor's office at this time.

   Motion to award the bid for the Kane County remodel projects to bid #3 being Maxwell Construction and then staff will work to get the value engineered and figure out what portions of the project we are ready to proceed with at this time made by Commissioner Meyeres and motion carried with Commissioner Meyeres and Commissioner Kubeja voting aye and Commissioner Brown voting nay.

   Commissioner Brown-nay
   Commissioner Kubeja-aye
   Commissioner Meyeres-aye

3. **Discuss/Vote on Kane County Resolution No R 2026-19 A Resolution Appointing Rocel Bettencourt to the Kane County Planning Commission / Commissioner Brown**

   Motion to approve Kane County Resolution No. R 2026-19 appointing Rocel Bettencourt to the Kane County Planning Commission made by Commissioner Brown and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

   Commissioner Brown-aye
   Commissioner Kubeja-aye
   Commissioner Meyeres-aye

4. **Discuss/Vote for the Renewal of the 2027 Insurance / Full Commission**

Tricia presented the 2027 insurance renewals stating that life, accidental death, and disability coverages remain unchanged, and self-funded dental and vision administrative fees managed by EMI are flat. However, the dental plan requires a 15% funding increase (equating to $31,396) to properly fund claims and ensure COBRA participants pay a fair rate. For medical insurance, following the transition to PEHP last year, a locked-in 7.2% rate increase applies for 2027 ($218,000 more), which remains lower than the 2025 CIGNA plan costs and well below the 20 to 34% group plan increases reported across the industry.

Motion to approve the renewal of insurance for 2027 as presented by the insurance committee made by Commissioner Kubeja and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

Commissioner Brown-aye
Commissioner Kubeja-aye
Commissioner Meyeres-aye

5. **Discuss/Vote on Approving Contract to Accept $200,000 in Grant Funding from State of Utah's Governor's Office of Economic Development / Commissioner Meyeres**

Kelly Stowell presented a contract to accept $200,000 in rural county grant funding from the State of Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development. He explained that the funds support ongoing multi-year programs including business training, workforce development, economic planning, infrastructure, small business incentives, child care, and technical services.

Motion to approve the contract to accept $200,000 in grant funding from the State of Utah's Governor's Office of Economic Development as presented in the contract made by Commissioner Meyeres and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

Commissioner Brown-aye
Commissioner Kubeja-aye
Commissioner Meyeres-aye

6. **Discuss/Vote on Acceptance of MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with BLM (Bureau of Land Management) as Kane County Being Designated as a Cooperating Agency for Grand Staircase Escalante Planning Area / Commissioner Meyeres**

Commissioner Meyeres presented a memorandum of understanding with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to designate Kane County as a cooperating agency for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument resource management plan (RMP) and environmental impact statement (EIS). Having a cooperating agency status will give us a little bit of standing and allow us to have eyes on plans first.

Motion to accept the MOU with the BLM as Kane County being designated as a cooperating agency for Grand Staircase Escalante planning area made by Commissioner Meyeres and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

Commissioner Brown-aye
Commissioner Kubeja-aye
Commissioner Meyeres-aye

7. **Discuss/Vote on Whether to File a Proposed Amicus Brief in Case #26070008 which Challenges the Constitutionality of the Recent Preliminary Municipality Law in Utah / Full Commission**

Attorney Stott stated that the case referenced is a lawsuit between some local citizens near Moab and the developer/lieutenant governor's office challenging the constitutionality of the preliminary municipality law under the state constitution's ripper clause. He said that because the plaintiffs are local citizens, they thought that it would add some weight if a county filed a brief showing and explaining why it is important to counties.

Motion to vote in favor or filing an amicus brief in case #26070008 which challenges the constitutionality of the recent preliminary municipality law in Utah made by Commissioner Brown and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

Commissioner Brown-aye
Commissioner Kubeja-aye
Commissioner Meyeres-aye

8. **Discuss/Vote on Kane County Resolution No. R 2026-20 A Resolution Appointing a Kane County Representative and Alternate Representative for the UCIP Annual Membership Meeting / Commissioner Kubeja**

Motion to approve Kane County Resolution No. R 2026-20 a Resolution appointing a Kane County representative and alternate representative for the UCIP annual membership meeting having Patty Kubeja as the official Kane County representative and Gwen Brown as the alternate representative made by Commissioner Brown and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

Commissioner Brown-aye
Commissioner Kubeja-aye
Commissioner Meyeres-aye

9. **Discuss/Vote on Sand Caves Parking Lot-Double Vault Restroom Facility Cooperative Maintenance Agreement Between UDOT and Kane County / Full Commission**

Taylor stated that the Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) approached the county about five years ago to build a parking lot to resolve pedestrian hazards from hikers crossing the highway, and an initial memorandum of understanding (MOU) was established. Due to human waste concerns raised by business owners and the BLM, Kane County placed porta-potties at the trail head, but it was financially unsustainable so grant funding was secured to place vault toilets at the trail head. This amended memorandum of understanding absolves the Utah Department of Transportation of financial and maintenance responsibilities regarding the toilet located within their right-of-way.

Motion to approve the Cooperative Maintenance Agreement between UDOT and Kane County regarding the Sand Caves parking lot double vault restroom facility made by Commissioner Kubeja and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

Commissioner Brown-aye
Commissioner Kubeja-aye
Commissioner Meyeres-aye

10. Discuss/Vote on Abatements and Credits / Full Commission

Chameill presented the property tax relief abatement summary for Kane County, which covers six abatement types. She reported that a total of 349 abatements were processed countywide, consisting of 6 blind abatements, 98 circuit breakers, 44 county abatements, 68 market circuit breakers (taking an additional 20 percent off value), and 133 veteran circuit breakers. The total abated value is $44,889,796, equating to $359,608.75 in monetary value, of which $71,328.05 is eligible for state reimbursement through the circuit breaker program that she will apply for next month.

Motion to approve the abatements and credits as presented by Kane County Clerk Chameill Lamb made by Commissioner Kubeja and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

Commissioner Brown-aye
Commissioner Kubeja-aye
Commissioner Meyeres-aye

11. Financial Update-Chameill Lamb / Full Commission

Chameill gave a financial update detailing revenues and expenditures for each fund.

12. Review of Legislative Issues / Full Commission

Chameill mentioned that mail-in ballots have been mailed and should arrive in mailboxes this week.

13. Commissioner Report on Assignments / Full Commission

Commissioner Kubeja

- Attended the Cove Reservoir Public Hearing
- The Zion Discovery Center is coming along, they are looking to have a spring opening
- Went to the Redmond Salt Mine and Gwen was able to shoot the 4 sticks of dynamite that were all at different ranges

Commissioner Brown

- P&Z meeting tomorrow at 6pm
- Attended the Kane Education Foundation meeting
- Took a tour of the pharmacy tech program at the high school

Commissioner Meyeres

- There will soon be some County Economic Board openings
- On October 19th at the Kanab Center there will be a public meeting regarding the North Rim and what the rebuild should look like
- Today at 1pm she will be meeting with the Constitutional Defense Council regarding RS2477 roads access funding
- Zion is now open to thru traffic

Motion to adjourn at 12:03 PM made by Commissioner Meyeres and motion carried with all commissioners present voting in favor.

WHERE UPON MEETING WAS ADJOURNED

Gwen Brown
Gwen Brown Chair

Chameill Lamb
Chameill Lamb Clerk/Auditor