

COMMISSION MINUTES
September 28, 2015

Minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Sevier County Commissioners held this twenty-eighth day of September, 2015. Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m. with Commissioners Garth 'Tooter' Ogden, Gary Mason, and Gordon Topham in the Commission Chambers of the Sevier County Administration Building, 250 North Main, Richfield, Utah. Clerk/Auditor Steven C. Wall and Executive Director Malcolm Nash were also present.

Commission business:

Commissioner Ogden reported on the Commissioner's Summer Workshop that they had attended last week with the Association of Counties. He reported that both the BLM Director and the Regional Forest Service Director had been there and had given presentations, met with the Commissioners, and discussed with them the current activities and issues that they are working on. He said it was a good conference.

Commissioner Topham reported that they also had some lengthy discussions concerning the RS2477 right-of ways, and whether or not to continue that route or proceed to get Title V ownership of the roads and following that process. He said the Attorney General's office would like to continue, but they are concerned about getting all of the witnesses, etc.

Commissioner Topham then reported on the Salt to Saint bicycle run that goes from Salt Lake to St. George through this area. He indicated that they are on the roadway, and that drivers do need to recognize they are a vehicle and do have rights on the highway as well.

Commissioner Mason then reported on the School Resource Officer meeting that he had attended earlier that day. He discussed some of the concerns the Chiefs and Sheriff had expressed in reviewing their expenses, especially with the cost of vehicles, and looking for ways to ensure the program will continue. It is a new program, and will need some adjustments.

Commissioner Mason then reported to the Commissioners, for their information, that the name of the hospital in Richfield would be changing back to Sevier Valley Hospital, from Sevier Valley Medical Center. He said that Intermountain Health Care is changing a lot of the hospitals back to the hospital name, as they are not necessarily medical centers, but they are hospitals.

Minutes of September 14th Commission meeting approved:

Minutes of the September 14th Commission meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Commissioner Topham, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Additional Commission Business:

Commissioner Topham then noted that at the Commissioner Conference, the optional sales tax for transportation ballot question had been discussed; and that 17 counties will run the question on the ballot this year. He reported that the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce was presenting information, wondering if the County would help. He said there was discussion that the Commissioners cannot support the cause as representatives of the County, but they can individually if they want to. The Commissioners can say what the tax will do and provide facts and information, but they cannot campaign one way or the other.

Travel Council Recommendations approved:

Tourism Director Kevin Arrington then reviewed with the Commission the Travel Council Recommendations. He also reported that he would like to continue to spend the \$500 they have been spending annually for access to Craig Rasmussen's photos of the trail system and other activities throughout the county that will be used for advertisement, etc. even though it is not included in the

recommendations. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the recommendations as well as the additional \$500 for limited access to Mr. Rasmussen's photos for advertisement, etc., second Commissioner Topham, unanimous.

ATV Jamboree Update:

Mr. Arrington then gave a report on the ATV Jamboree that was held last week. He reported that they had more than 560 registered riders, with only 2 accidents that he was aware of during the week. He said there were no broken bones, and most of the riders were excited about having the activities at the Fairgrounds. He reported that the community was excited as well. The Commissioners thanked him for a job well done at the ATV Jamboree.

County wins Top County Booth at State Fair:

Events Director Paula Martin then presented the Commission a plaque and a check for \$200 she had been awarded for having the Top County Booth at the State Fair. This year the theme centered around the Fremont Indian State Park and that area of the County. She reported that there is good economic benefit to having a booth at the State Fair as there are over 320,000 people attending that week.

Business license approved for Ola Inc. DBA In Firewood:

The Commission then reviewed a business license for Michael Jessop for Ola Inc. DBA In Firewood, who would be moving his business to the old Aspen Mill near Sigurd. Mr. Jessop's company produced small packets of lumber and firewood similar to those found in front of several stores. A restriction was placed on the license to only operate during daylight hours to keep the noise down for residents in the area. Zoning Administrator Larry Hanson reported that they would employ approximately 15 – 20 employees. Mr. Hanson noted they are currently operating near Panguitch, but they need a larger facility and better access to the highways and freeways. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve the business license with the condition listed on the application at a fee of \$50 yearly, second Commissioner Topham, unanimous.

Board of Equalization convened:

Commissioner Mason then moved to recess Commission meeting temporarily at 2:10 p.m., and convene the Board of Equalization, second Commissioner Topham, unanimous.

Assessor Amy Garren-Clark then reviewed the Board of Equalization adjustments as recommended by the Hearing Officer, and indicated that the hearings of the Board of Equalization had gone well and they were able to do it all in one day. The total results of the adjustments was a reduction of \$542,360 in taxable value. After discussion, Commissioner Mason moved to approve equalization adjustments to value as recommended, second Commissioner Topham, unanimous.

Assessor Garren-Clark then reviewed with the Commission the Assessor Adjustments to correct items on properties that had been found. There had been several changes, mostly Primary to Non-Primary on residential properties, as well as other items. The total value change is a reduction of \$181,400 in value. After discussion, Commissioner Topham, moved to approve the adjustments as recommended, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

The regular meeting then resumed at 2:15 p.m.

Resolution 2015-9-1 adopted:

The Commission then reviewed Resolution 2015-9-1 Appointing a Sevier County Representative and an Alternate for the UCIP Annual Membership Meeting. Discussion followed to appoint Clerk/Auditor Steven Wall as the representative and Commissioner Ogden as the alternate for the meeting to be held

during the UAC Convention in St. George. It was reported that the meeting is being held at that time to allow more Commissioners and representatives to attend the UCIP meeting and hear the issues and be involved in the direction of the agency. After discussion, Commissioner Topham moved to adopt Resolution 2015-9-1 appointing Clerk/Auditor Steven C. Wall as the representative to the UCIP meeting with Commissioner Ogden as an alternate, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

Cost Reimbursement Agreement with Sigurd Solar LLC approved:

Executive Director Malcolm Nash reported that a company would like to do a solar project in Sevier County, and was asking the County to form a Community Development Agency, a new agency in order to help provide possible financial incentives. The Commission wanted to have some more analysis on the request to see what would be feasible in providing additional help before agreeing to any incentives. Commissioner Mason asked if the Company had been working with Cedar Ridge to determine how their panels would affect run-off. Mike Roberts, Cedar Ridge, said they have been working with Cedar Ridge, and they are aware of what needs to be done to maintain the flow of the water, etc. Mr. Nash then presented a Cost Reimbursement Agreement with the solar company agreeing to pay to have the analysis done at a cost up to \$10,000 with any additional being negotiated at that time to hold the County harmless. After review and discussion, Commissioner Topham moved to approve the Cost Reimbursement Agreement between Sevier County and Sigurd Solar LLC for reimbursement of costs up to \$10,000 for the analysis, second Commissioner Mason, unanimous.

No action on property gift request:

The Commission then reviewed a letter they had received from David Price stating he had some property in the Venice area that is split by a highway, and not very useful in that area, and wants to give it to the County. Mr. Price notes that it has no value, that he has tried to sell it to the neighbors, and that he would like to give the property to the County. The Commission noted that Mr. Price would need to seek legal counsel, but would most likely need to execute a quit-claim deed on the parcel as the County has no way to accept the property until ownership has been transferred by deed. No action was taken at this time.

No changes to SRS funding set in 2013:

No action was taken on the Secure Rural Schools Title III funding as that funding designation stays the same as was agreed to in 2013.

There being no further business to come before the Board, meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.