

**WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 15, 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 September 15, 2015, in the Washington County Commission Chambers, 197 East Tabernacle St. George, Utah. Those in attendance were Chairman Alan D. Gardner, Commissioner Victor Iverson, Commissioner Zachary Renstrom, County Administrator Dean Cox, Deputy County Attorney Jodi Borgeson, and Deputy County Clerk Nicholle Felshaw.

INVOCATION BY: Pastor Jim Hetrick, Community of Christ

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY: Bob and Carol Wood, United States Air Force Veterans

Chairman Gardner informed the citizens that the Commission spent the majority of the day in Hildale, Utah, due to the flash floods that happened yesterday afternoon, which resulted in fatalities. Bodies have been recovered and they are continuing to search for those still missing.

Chairman Gardner continued by saying that there was a party of seven (7) hiking in Zion National Park that was affected by the flash floods as well. Two (2) bodies have been recovered as of 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Gardner stated what a big loss this has been to the area and conveyed condolences to the families that have been affected by this tragic incident. Chairman Gardner stated that Lieutenant Governor Spencer Cox was in Hildale as well and expressed that this is the worst weather related disaster in the history of the State of Utah. Hearts and prayers go out to the families that have lost.

Commissioner Renstrom thanked the police officers and the agencies that responded to the tragedy and helped all through the night. He went on to mention how inspirational it was to see the amount of resources and response from all of the surrounding agencies, counties, and states that helped in the County's time of need.

Commissioner Iverson mentioned that there were over twenty five (25) state, local, and federal agencies who quickly gathered to help and expressed how tragic the event was but also observed the unity and how it restores faith in humanity.

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 September 2, 2015, through September 15, 2015
- Consideration of Administrative Adjustments: Real Property (attached)
- Consideration of Administrative Adjustments: Personal Property (attached)
- Consideration of Applications for Property Tax Abatement: Ronald & Arlene Lamp, A/N 281819; Gwendolyn G Nies, A/N 0581887; Ernell & Devora Thayne, A/N 0269517; Annette Marler, A/N 0504764; Jimmy & Debi LeFevre, A/N 0088909; Harold & Matie Hymas, A/N 0526510

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Renstrom to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Iverson and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson and Renstrom voting aye.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

PRESENTATION: WASHINGTON COUNTY YOUTH CRISIS CENTER SERVICES AND PROGRAMS: TAMI FULLERTON

Washington County Youth Crisis Center Program Administrator Tami Fullerton explained that the Youth Crisis Center is a department of Human Services, a division of the Juvenile Justice Services program. Approximately four (4) years ago the State cut the budget by \$100,000, which prevented the center from operating twenty four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. The County and some of the local cities have been generous, making yearly contributions so that the Youth Crisis Center can continue to operate twenty four seven (24/7). The Youth Crisis Center is appreciative of the support they have received.

The Center is for adolescents generally between the ages of ten (10) and seventeen (17) years old and provides crisis back-up for all of the youth serving agencies in the County. The average length of stay is approximately one (1) week since it is a “crisis” center, not a “treatment” center. The Youth Crisis Center collaborates with the division of Child and Family Services, Southwest Behavioral Health Center, and Intermountain Health Care.

In January a youth mentoring program was started wherein three (3) staff members visit the local middle and high schools to work with the most difficult to reach kids. The goal is to increase the connection to the school and community, increase prosocial involvement and activities, improve grades and decrease absences, and increase family connection and family functioning.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: SHERIFF CORY PULSIPHER

Chairman Gardner stated that due to the recent flooding and tragic events, Sheriff Cory Pulsipher was in Hildale offering emergency assistance and asked to be excused from today's meeting.

PURCHASE REQUESTS: MARK BLANCH

Convention and Tourism Office, golf pre-roll campaign (\$20,000.00)
Convention and Tourism Office, roof repair (\$55,000.00)
Sheriff's Office, body cameras (\$36,710.00)

Mr. Blanch stated that the Convention and Tourism purchase requests are a budgeted item and explained that the roof repair is fulfilling an agreement made with the Dixie Center to help repair the roof.

Mr. Blanch continued by saying that the Sheriff's Office purchase request for body cameras is not a budgeted item for 2015 but will be paid through the cost savings from other budgeted items.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Iverson to Approve the Purchase Requests. Motion seconded by Commissioner Renstrom and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF EARLY PAYOFF OF SERIES 2004B LIBRARY GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS: KIM HAFEN

Washington County Clerk Auditor Kim Hafen stated that Washington County has Library General Obligation Bonds that are due to be paid off in 2017. A regular payment will be made on those bonds in October 2015, leaving two (2) payments remaining. Mr. Hafen went on to say that money has accumulated in the Debt Service Fund that would allow those bonds to be paid off early, resulting in just over fifty-six thousand dollars (\$56,000) in interest savings and recommended that the Commission approve the early payoff.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Renstrom to Approve the Early Payoff of Series 2004B Library General Obligation Bonds. Motion seconded by Commissioner Iverson and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-1054, AN ORDINANCE CREATING A TRUST FUND TO BE KNOWN AS THE PUBLIC LAND CORNER

PRESERVATION FUND TO PAY EXPENSES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, REESTABLISHMENT, AND MAINTENANCE OF CORNERS OF GOVERNMENT SURVEYS

Washington County Deputy Attorney Natalie Nelson explained that under statute, by ordinance a fund can be created that exclusively restores, establishes or reestablishes corner survey markers. Ms. Nelson went on to clarify that this Ordinance does not change the rate of the fee already being charged but allows the creation of the Public Land Corner Preservation Fund and designates that the money collected for this specific purpose be deposited into this Fund. By creating this Fund, the County then becomes eligible to receive money allocated from the State.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Iverson to Adopt Ordinance No. 2015-1054-O, an Ordinance Creating a Trust Fund to be Known as the Public Land Corner Preservation Fund to Pay Expenses for the Establishment, Reestablishment, and Maintenance of Corners of Government Surveys. Motion seconded by Commissioner Renstrom and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2015-1935, A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ZACHARY RENSTROM TO THE WASHINGTON COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY BOARD

Commissioner Renstrom currently serves on the Flood Control Authority Board and this resolution clarifies that he will continue acting as the County's official appointee.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Iverson to Adopt Resolution No. R-2015-1935, a Resolution Appointing Zachary Renstrom to the Washington County Flood Control Authority Board. Motion seconded by Chairman Gardner and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson and Renstrom voting aye.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. R-2015-1936, A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AGREEMENT MODIFICATIONS BETWEEN WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH AND USDA FOREST SERVICE TO INCREASE FUNDING AND ADD ROADS TO AGREEMENT SCHEDULE

Public Works Director Ron Whitehead stated that currently Washington County has a contract to assist the Forest Service with road maintenance. The Forest Service determined that additional money was available at the end of their fiscal year and requested the County do some additional road maintenance work. This resolution and

contract allows an amendment to the previous agreement with Washington County and the Forest Service to add roads to the agreement schedule.

MOTION: Motion by Commissioner Renstrom to Adopt Resolution No. R-2015-1936, a Resolution Ratifying Agreement Modifications Between Washington County, Utah and USDA Forest Service to Increase Funding and Add Roads to Agreement Schedule. Motion seconded by Commissioner Iverson and carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioners Gardner, Iverson and Renstrom voting aye.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Commissioner Iverson stated that Wendy Sandberg brought in the final report regarding the 2015 fair. The County has always asked the Fair Board to earn back half of the expenses of the fair and they were successful in completing that goal. Commissioner Iverson continued by thanking the Fair Board and Ms. Sandberg for their efforts.

PUBLIC WORKS OR ROAD BUSINESS

Mr. Whitehead reiterated that Washington County is working with the Forest Service to improve forest roads to allow the public easier travel.

The road crews have completed the chip seal projects for the year with the exception of a small project in the town of Virgin, currently being worked on.

Mr. Whitehead finished by saying that there is a flash flood warning in the Hildale area until 7:45 p.m. tonight.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING BUSINESS

Washington County Community Development Director Scott Messel mentioned the Planning Commission met on September 8, 2015 and granted a Conditional Use Permit for the Washington County Water Conservancy District to build a pump house at Kolob located on Lot 16 of the Whispering Pines Subdivision. Also, the Ava Jean Subdivision final plat, consisting of 2 lots, was reviewed and approved.

The Planning Commission will have a work meeting on September 22, 2015 to discuss possible changes to the subdivision ordinance.

HCP BUSINESS

Habitat Conservation Plan Administrator Robert Sandberg mentioned that on September 4, 2015 a Special Commission Meeting was held where an agreement to initiate a land exchange between Washington County, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and Robert Brennan was signed. Optimistically the land exchange process potentially will be completed within another year.

There being nothing further to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

NICHOLLE M. FELSHAW
DEPUTY CLERK

ALAN D. GARDNER
CHAIRMAN