

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Daggett County Commission/Redevelopment Agency Board held on **Tuesday, February 6, 2018** in the Commissioner Chambers at the Daggett County Courthouse. Commissioners Jack Lytle, Randy Asay and Clyde Slaugh were present. Attorney Neil Lund, Auditor/Recorder Keri Pallesen, Sheriff Erik Bailey and Clerk/Treasurer Brian Raymond were also present. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Commissioner Asay.

Also present: Corey Auger-Fire Warden, Chuck Bennington, Jerry Steglich, Matt Tippetts, John Hennessey, Tim Hollinger, John and Debbie Weaver, Brianne Carter, Ken Rasmussen and Travis Dupaix.

**Old Business:** Commissioner Asay asked if Commissioner Lytle had found out any further information on the vehicle leases. He replied that he had not. Commissioner Lytle said that the Economic Development meeting with the Governor is Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup> and he thinks we need to restart the Economic Development Board or a similar committee. John Hennessey said he was interested in seeing the plan and how we could get the state support.

**Citizen Comments:** Jerry Steglich updated the Commission on Joni Crane not being eligible due to falling a little short on her residency requirements. Other candidates were briefly discussed and Mr. Steglich said that the Caucus meeting is March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Approve Minutes:** No minutes were available for approval.

**The Open Invoice Register was presented for review and approval:** The open invoice register of \$21,103.17 was presented by the Auditor/Recorder's Office for review and approval. Commissioner Slaugh made the motion to approve the invoice register of February 6, 2018 in the amount of \$21,103.17 and Commissioner Asay seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Commissioner Lytle said we have switched over to the new email system and he is trying to catch up. Commissioner Lytle said he went to the Rural Day on the Hill and Woody Bair was present to represent the Daggett County Business of the Year. Tomorrow Representative Wild will be presenting our budget request to help with filling the hole created by the jail situation. Commissioner Lytle said that they had removed the funding for our 80 beds at the jail and also are looking to cut programming fees \$3.00/day to other jails, but may not need to do that since they took our beds out of the mix. Commissioner Asay said he had listened into part of the UAC legislative meeting. Commissioner Lytle said the RMPs that the counties did are creating discussion because some State agencies are fearful of their authority being usurped. Commissioner Lytle also was able to sit in on Representative Bishop's meeting. Mr. Lytle mentioned that they are trying to divide the western states into areas of similar ecological traits and break down the silos of individual departments, so they are all under the Department of Interior. Jerry Steglich asked if they had decided where the offices would be and Commissioner Lytle said that they had not, but Salt Lake and Denver were part of the discussion.

**Commission Calendar Review:** Commissioner Lytle said he will be attending the SCIC meeting on Thursday and the Rural Caucus on Friday morning. Invitation from Department of Ag for a Dinner on Thursday and there is also the County Day on the Hill that day.

**Weekly Budget Review:** The cash summary was not presented, but Commissioner Lytle asked if Cash was still coming in and Mr. Raymond said that the county will not receive any taxes

until March 31<sup>st</sup>, when December receipts will be dispersed and then in early April the Fee-in-lieu will be paid out.

### **Policy and Legislation Items from the Posted Agenda:**

**Discussion And Consideration Of Surplus Of White Truck Vin #1FTOX1868VKC61867 To Mosquito Abatement District:** Commissioner Lytle brought this up and there was some confusion as several commissioners thought this vehicle had already been surplused, but it was only the black truck that has been surplused so far. Tim Hollinger the Mosquito Board chair was here and explained that the Commission had let the Board use the truck in the past, but now we would like to take over the truck. Commissioner Lytle said they had planned on turning over both and Mr. Hollinger gave his thanks!! Commissioner Asay made a motion to surpluse the White Ford pickup **Vin #1FTDX1868VKC61867** to the Mosquito Abatement District. Commissioner Slauch seconded the motion and Mr. Raymond clarified a change in the VIN # as the O is really a D. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Forestry Fire And State Lands's (FFSL) Wildland Fire Program Commitment For 2018-Corey Auger:** Corey Auger the new Fire Warden for our Area was here requesting the Commission Signature on the 2018 agreement. The fee being assessed is to be used for time or money put into Wildfire prevention, mitigation and preparedness for any of the entities within the County. Mr. Auger thought that Incident Command Training could also be a use for this funding. It's a match that has to be spent or the County will be put on probation. Mr. Auger will be working with us to help us meet the requirement. Mr. Auger is trying to get the ball rolling in Uintah and Daggett County. The Fire Departments have asked for training, so it will eat up that \$900 quickly, but there are caps in each area that can't be exceeded. Mitigation is anything that reduces risks for persons, property or natural resources and includes landscaping and is limited to 50% and Preparedness is 25% and this area leads to safe, and sufficient wildfire suppression response, so that is where training will fit in. Prevention is any activity done to reduce human caused fires. Commissioner Lytle suggested attending the homeowner meetings in the Pines and Acres for wildland fire assistance. Sgt. Dupaix said there had been some work done in the WUI areas previously. Commissioner Slauch motioned to participate with the Forestry Fire and State Lands and Commissioner Asay seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. Mr. Auger said there is a meeting tonight in Vernal about consolidating and moving of the Fire Centers from Vernal and Moab to Richfield. Commissioner Asay asked if it's a done deal and it's not, although some wish it was. Commissioner Lytle said he is against it and most everyone local thinks it's a bad idea.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Insurance Coverage with Utah Counties Indemnity Pool (UCIP):** Commissioner Lytle moved this up as it was not yet 10 am. Commissioner Slauch moved to go in and out of RDA and Commissioner Asay seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried. Attorney Niel Lund said the RDA does not have its own insurance at the moment and this is one option to providing insurance. Mrs. Pallesen did not know the costs and Commissioner Asay asked who else could provide this insurance and said we need to find out what the costs are before we sign anything. Mrs. Pallesen said the Municipal Building Authority (MBA) is probably in the same situation. Commissioner Lytle asked if there was any money in the MBA and Mrs. Pallesen did not know and Mr. Raymond did not know of any funds either. Mrs. Pallesen was tasked with finding out what the coverage options are for both ULGT and UCIP.

**Public Hearing To Receive Comments About Opening & Amending OF 2018 Daggett County Budget:** Commissioner Asay made a motion to go into Public Hearing and Commissioner Slaugh seconded the motion to go into the Public Hearing. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Lytle said the primary reason for the hearing was for the Auditor/Recorder and Clerk/Treasurer to be able to share an employee. Keri Pallesen said that each budget needs an increase of \$7,000 to pay for the benefits. Jerry Steglich asked about why this is needed and Mr. Raymond replied that we recently had a part-time position advertised and only two people applied. Full-time positions tend to increase the number and quality of applications. The new position gives some flexibility between the offices.

The Sheriff had some additional items to be considered. He handed out some information on the current vehicle leases and how to work the scenario he is proposing to lower the lease payments required, by investing some money to pay off the current leases. Sheriff Bailey said he is still waiting for the final numbers from the Dodge dealer, but should have that info by the end of the week. No comments were made from the public. No other items were brought forward. Commissioner Slaugh motioned to go back into regular session and Commissioner Slaugh seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Resolution 18-01 A Resolution Opening & Amending Of 2018 Daggett County Budget:** Commissioner Lytle asked the Sheriff if we could turn the vehicles back in and not have to pay anything off. Mrs. Pallesen said that when Garff gets the vehicles back they will sell and payoff the loan and wasn't sure which way the benefits would go without seeing the numbers. Travis Dupaix said that the proposal is the new preferred method with Zionsbank. This info is still preliminary. Commissioner Lytle asked about exploring Rock Springs dealers and it was replied that if we don't use the State bid there would need to be 3 bids.

Mrs. Pallesen was asked how she wanted to handle this and she said we need to get the new position advertised as soon as possible, so she would like to see the position approved today and advertise for another budget opening in a month to finalize the vehicle leases. Mr. Dupaix thought that would work. We would be trading four vehicles in getting three and getting rid of two payments and gaining three payments. There would be six vehicles under lease. Still lots of questions and things to consider, as many of the current vehicles are about to go out of warranty, so it was suggested to look into purchasing additional warranties and hold off another year on the lease.

Discussion reverted to the shared position and there wasn't a resolution, so Mrs. Pallesen printed it off for the Commission to review before voicing a motion, so Commissioner Lytle read the resolution out loud and it included an increase to the Auditor/Recorder expenditure budget by \$7,000 from \$100,680 to \$107,680, and an increase to the Clerk/Treasurer expenditure budget by \$7,000 from \$102,350 to \$109,350, and a decrease in the transfers out budget of \$14,000 from \$84,868 to 70,868. The General Fund Revenues and Expenses will remain at \$2,814,386. Commissioner Asay moved to approve the resolution as read and Commissioner Slaugh seconded the motion. Commissioner Asay asked about the wages and Mrs. Pallesen said there will be about 11 hours per week less under this combined position, which is why the increase is not the full benefit amount. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Attorney Niel Lund asked about the Voucher email that just came through and it is the same as what was approved earlier.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Economic Development Board With Potential New Hire:** Commissioner Lytle asked about the wording on this and Brianne Carter had talked with two of the Commission and wanted to bring this up and thought it would be good to get the economic development board going again with or without the new hire. If there are interested people in the

county it would be great to have a functioning board. Commissioner Lytle asked why it was in and out over the years and Mr. Raymond said that burn out occurs and lack of funding was another factor, plus people just got busy. Jerry Steglich said that another factor was that people in the community did not want change and fought the idea of economic development. In the current situation people are seeing that there is a need to do something. The land ownership is a huge stumbling block for our county, but the State is looking for the County to come up with the ideas of how they can help, instead of them trying to shove their ideas down the locals throats. Brienne Carter said she thought there are business owners and other locals that are interested in refreshing the board and getting it going again. Chuck Bennington said that there needs to be a lot of work done to educate people as we have a reputation of not wanting development or growth. Commissioner Lytle agreed that this would be important and says he supports the reformation of the Committee. John Weaver commented that we need to get the new Mayors in the Towns on board and work proactively together. It was suggested to keep the project list small and coordinate to get things done, like the first priority should be to see what we could do with the Jail. A Community Garden up near the cemetery is one idea being thrown out at the moment. Mr. Weaver said there needs to be a seat for each area of the county and then select an idea and focus on it while you develop the next idea. Matt Tippetts said that the local population is decreasing and we are in a death spiral, so we need to do something about this and we need to fund that committee so they can proactively go out and market the county. Each entity has Planning and Zoning Boards, but they mostly talk about zoning and not planning. Change happens whether we want it or not, so we need to be proactive in the change that we want. Mr. Tippetts is absolutely in favor of hiring someone to push this forward and follow the direction of the Commissioners vision. Commissioner Lytle said the Chamber needs to be involved and Mr. Tippetts agreed. John Weaver said there needs to be a plan put together that can help with the decisions to make something happen. We need to have a goal to work towards and not hear all the reasons something won't work. Chuck Bennington said the political climate is right for success at this point in time. Mr. Steglich said that their group has talked with the Lt. Governor, but hasn't met with the Governor yet, so wondered if the upcoming meeting would be a good time to present the energy development proposal to him, and the Commission said they will think about this. Commissioner Slaugh said there was enough we could talk to the Governor about, so there is not a need to reschedule. We can meet at 3pm to discuss this after today's training. Commissioner Asay said he wants to be involved, but doesn't feel like he can be the driver. All the Commissioners will work on this. Commissioner Slaugh motioned to have Commissioner Asay take over this and Commissioner Lytle seconded the motion. No discussion and there were two ayes and an acceptance only by Commissioner Asay. The motion carried.

**Discussion And Consideration of USDA Forest Service Holder Initiated Revocation Of Existing Authorization Request For A Special-Use Permit Or Term Special-Use Permit:**

Commissioner Asay said that this paperwork for T-mobile has gotten people involved to take over the site and so this is just to see if the commission is in agreement with the direction we are headed. The agreement is in effect that the Sheriff's office can use the site in the future if needed. Mr. Raymond said he had talked with the Forest Service and they just cautioned that just because the paper is signed does not mean that the tower company will automatically get a permit. Turning it over to T-mobile keeps us from being responsible for clean up and Commissioner Slaugh motioned to go forward with revoking this lease and Commissioner Asay seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Manila Airport Project:** Commissioner Lytle asked if there was anything from Bret Reynolds and Mr. Raymond said he had not received anything new and this item was a place holder in case there was something needing to be discussed.

**Discussion And Consideration Of UDOT Hwy 191 Road Project In Dutch John – Related Easements And Sewer Line:** Commissioner Lytle said there is a need to discuss this next week in the RDA. We need a short term easement and once it's done the easement will go away. There is a possibility to receive a small payment for the easement, but it's not for sure.

**Discussion And Consideration of Natural Gas Billing For House in Dutch John:** Commissioner Lytle said the vacancy of the house leads to this discussion. Should the county or Dutch John pay for the gas and water bills in between now and future rental? We can leave it on and let the water drip.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Dutch John Issues And Agreements:** Commissioner Lytle asked if the equipment list is ready for the discussion. The water and sewer items and the hanger need better legal descriptions before we can transfer these items. Commissioner Asay said the backhoe is still a question and we have a need and it's in our name, so why should we give it to them and then have to purchase another one. The School District supposedly has a pretty cheap lease on a backhoe that Dutch John could check into. Commissioner Lytle asked that the Equipment List be on the agenda next week and provide the list to Dutch John to make sure we are all on the same wavelength before approving it.

The minutes talked about in the Municipal Building Authority were previously approved as part of the regular minutes. Commissioner Slaugh motioned to recess until 3 pm at 11:45 am and Commissioner Asay seconded and all were in favor. Motion carried.

Commission meeting called back to order at 3:03 pm following the Open & Public Meetings Training and the Civility Training that was attended by: Woody Bair (PNZ), Clyde Slaugh, Travis Dupaix, Tim Hollinger (MAD), John Weaver (PNZ), Brianne Carter (MAD), Brian Raymond, Deb Bergmeier, Jack Lytle, Randy Asay, and Niel Lund. The Overview of State Ethics Rules For Elected Officials and Conflict of Interest Trainings were attended by: Woody Bair (PNZ), Clyde Slaugh, Travis Dupaix, Keri Pallesen John Weaver (PNZ), Brian Raymond, Jack Lytle, Randy Asay, and Niel Lund. Commissioner Lytle pointed out that the Justice Court Report was included in the packet.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Economic Development Board With Potential New Hire:** Commissioner Lytle asked Randy if he had any idea of how he wanted to move forward. Randy Parker offered his new staff to help with the State Department of Ag and Rural Development to provide information and maybe even infrastructure and said they would help with the dispersion of the Broadband once it gets here. Hopefully Strata will get it going this summer, so there was discussion of how it will get dispersed once it gets into town. Getting Broadband could entice businesses that can't do business here now, to move to our area, while also helping the existing businesses. Mr. Steglich said that their small business is struggling with their internet connection. Mr. Weaver asked Commissioner Lytle to expound what on the purpose of the meeting with the Governor. We don't want to just bring problems to the Governor; we want to have solutions also. Commissioner Lytle said we have a plan that Mr. Raymond had helped put together and can we get that to people by email. Mr. Raymond said it is available digitally. This is all part of the 25,000 jobs, but also just economic development in general. Mr. Weaver said his business is planning on hiring two people this summer. What is our low hanging fruit that we can do to maximize the returns to the county and the businesses. Is there something we can do in Manila on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend that doesn't take away from Dutch John but working together? Lots of other ideas were discussed, including bringing the symphony out. We are sitting on a treasure so how do we take advantage of the

opportunity. We need to involve the Forest Service as they are critical to our success. The trail planning project is just starting out, so we need to take advantage of that. Uintah County is focusing more on Tourism now and that includes ATV usage. Matt Tippetts shared that we need a critical mass to get things going and we need to educate the public about the problems with staying on the path we are on. According to Kem C. Gardner Institute at University of Utah Daggett County has lost over 9% of its population over the last 5 years and 4.7% just in the past year, which affects our property values, which affects property taxes and sales taxes. School budgets are affected by the number of students, so their revenues are also shrinking. The local businesses are struggling to keep the doors open and if any close it will negatively affect the whole community. There is a climate in the state to help the rural areas and provide assistance if we do our part. Commissioner Asay asked if the kids leaving the area impacts the number of people leaving and Mr. Tippetts said the stats aren't broken out, but the consensus was it is affecting things. The kids leave and don't come back because there are no jobs, so how do we create those jobs? Chuck Bennington said that this needs to be a long term multilayered approach that brings in capital, which is much needed. Everything is seasonal, so we need to look at businesses that are year round. The broadband would help with that. Matt Tippetts said that economic development should consider anything that increases revenues to the area. There was discussion about a windmill company that is looking at coming into the area. There was some positive and negatives discussed, so we ought to look at the options and see if it will benefit us. Look at the jail to bring in families-maybe a family reunion location. Brianne Carter asked if you can you list the property with a commercial real estate agent as they will market it for you and find a solution for it, so we can analyze options while it's listed. The repurposed Jail facility could be used to piecemeal the jobs that people are looking for. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the use of the jail as anything other than a jail will be very expensive to retrofit. Tourism is our bread and butter, so how do we do a better job of marketing the area. There are a variety of festivals and activities that could use the facilities that we have in a better way. The upcoming meeting with the Governor was by his invitation to the 24 rural counties and each meeting is one county at a time. Infrastructure development is still something we need to invest in to help economic development. Mr. Steglich asked if the feasibility study was under consideration for sharing with the governor and it was thought it was worth mentioning. Matt Tippetts quoted Winston Churchill who said a good plan now is better than a better plan in the future. We need to get the Towns involved as a rising tide raises all ships. We'll put together a meeting next week and maybe even meet on Thursday. Mr. Raymond said that he could email a copy of the plan to everyone. Brianne Carter suggested working on and marketing the airport to enhance those assets. Lots of other ideas were generated and discussed that we can build on including ATV trails, mountain bikes, high lake fishing, etc.

The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Slaugh at 4:59 pm.

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/s/ Brian Raymond

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/s/ Jack Lytle

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/s/ Clyde Slaugh

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/s/ Randy Asay

