

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Daggett County Commission/Redevelopment Agency Board held on **Tuesday, January 15, 2019** in the Commission Chambers at the Daggett County Courthouse. Commissioners Randy Asay, Jack Lytle and Clyde Slaugh were present. Assessor Lesa Asay, Sheriff Erik Bailey, Attorney Niel Lund, and Clerk/Treasurer Brian Raymond were also present. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Commissioner Asay.

Also present: Bret Reynolds, Jerry Steglich, Matt Tippetts, John & Debbie Weaver, John Foster, Deputy Moser,

**Issues Updates:** Commissioner Asay brought up the Firehouse in Dutch John and said we've received a few things that the Town of Dutch John wants to address. They are willing to take over the fire suppression for the eastern part of the county, but don't want to be responsible for the repair of the fire engine and the roof, which have pre-existing issues. Woody Bair said he attended the Town Council meeting last night and they said that knowing that there are issues with the roof and not being sure the extent of those issues, is their main concern. Commissioner Asay spoke of being willing to repair the roof and Commissioner Slaugh brought up the money that was budgeted last year and it was not sure how much remained. Repairs may be covered by insurance. Commissioner Lytle brought up the issues with the truck that are needing attention. Commissioner Lytle asked if there is a meeting at some point in time in the future to discuss these issues. There has not been yet. Randy Browning brought up Manila Fire Department and how they are set up to provide service to unincorporated areas of the County, which will be addressed later in the meeting. Commissioner Lytle said there were some assumptions made and no agreements were ever made with Dutch John in the past. The Town has now taken steps to develop fire service for their area.

**Citizen Comments:** Woody Bair wanted to encourage both sides to reach an agreement as people in the unincorporated areas of the County are being hurt. The truck issue was difficult to fix when there was only one in the area. Now that they have a back-up, it can be sent off to be fixed.

Jerry Steglich was here from the Republican Central Committee regarding Commissioner Clyde Slaugh's resignation. The process of replacing Commissioner Slaugh has been posted, and people are able to apply and interviews will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> of the month. Commissioner Lytle asked who this committee is and Mr. Steglich replied that he, Tina Bennington and Stan Rose are on the committee and last year they added the precinct chairs to the committee and that is JD Guymon and Martin Rose. There was discussion about organizing meetings for the committee and whether they were to be held on odd or even years. More research will be done on this.

**Approve Minutes:** The minutes for the Commission Meeting held on Thursday, January 8, 2019 were available for review. Commissioner Slaugh made the motion to approve the January 8, 2019 minutes as written. Commissioner Asay seconded the motion. Commissioner Asay and Commissioner Slaugh were in favor and Commissioner Lytle abstained, so the motion carried.

**The Open Invoice Register Was Presented For Review And Approval:** The Invoice Register of January 14, 2019 for \$41,540.06 was prepared by the Auditor/Recorder's Office. Commissioner Lytle made the motion to approve the invoice register of January 14, 2019 in the amount of \$41,540.06. Commissioner Asay seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Disbursement Listing:** The Auditor /Recorder's office provided two lists for the past two weeks. Auditor/Recorder Keri Pallesen said the Commission needs to approve all expenses and some are not on the invoice register, like payroll. The list is a compilation of all checks written since the

last Commission meeting. Some were approved already as part of the Invoice Register and have a star next to them. The items were reviewed by the Commission and explained by Keri Pallesen. It was questioned whether this was to approve all the expenditures or approve the report of expenditures. Commissioner Lytle made the motion to accept the report as is and Commissioner Slauch seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Nobody had anything at this time.

**Commission Calendar Review:** Commissioner Lytle said next Thursday we have UBAG meetings. Next Wednesday LeGrand Bitter of Utah Association of Special Districts (UASD) will be here at 11:00 am to explain special service districts. Commissioner Asay said he would have a conflict due to the meeting being on Wednesday next week. Commissioner Lytle said there is a UAC Board meeting at noon on Thursday and UBAG is on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Pallesen noted that the Budget Hearing will be next Wednesday at 10:30 am instead of the 29<sup>th</sup> as originally scheduled.

**Weekly Budget Review:** There was a Cash Summary provided by the Auditor/Recorder's Office for the Commission's review. Commissioner Lytle motioned to accept the Cash Summary report and Commissioner Slauch seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

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

**Discussion And Consideration Of Forming A County-wide Trails Committee-Gretchen Northcott and Randy Browning:** Gretchen Northcott said that last week at the Town of Manila Council meeting they were brought up to speed on the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition's (SCIC) Trails Plan Draft and as part of that meeting there was a desire to form a Trails Committee with all entities including the federal agencies. Randy Browning said there were a lot of people at their meeting that were willing to get involved. Randy Browning said they are planning to move forward and they want the County's support. The Town sees it as a chance to improve the economic base of the area. Bret Reynolds echoed Gretchen and Randy's sentiments, desires and the opportunities to move this forward as a user group for the entire area. Mr. Browning said that this will require the Town to review their legislation to allow people to use their OHVs on Town and other roads. Commissioner Lytle encouraged them to get with UDOT asap since they have plans to work on the roads around here in the near future. Woody Bair encouraged everyone to get involved with the Chamber as they are already moving forward on this. Gretchen said it's to be an open group and there is a great interest in trails. Commissioner Lytle said there will need to be some involvement with Planning and Zoning to get the plan recognized and tied in with federal planning. Jerry Steglich said in the past this has been part of the Economic Development, but there isn't a problem with another committee taking it and running with it. Niel Lund brought up that the Flaming Gorge Community Foundation has received its 501 (c) (3) designation and can provide grant assistance. The current Board members of Non-profit are Brian Raymond, Niel Lund and Layne Ferrin. There are others including Sharon Cook of Mountain America who have been involved. John Foster asked about the role of the SCIC and Commissioner Lytle and Bret Reynolds explained the formation and goals of the SCIC are for the Counties to work together on projects that cross government boundaries. Another benefit of the SCIC is that there is strength in numbers. John Foster recognized it creates synergy. Jerry Steglich said the SCIC are rural counties with primarily energy based economies with Daggett being the exception. Commissioner Lytle said that with our new legislators and the 501 c 3 here and at UBAG for multi county projects the time is right. The Town would like to see the County appoint someone or several people to the committee. Commissioner Lytle asked Bret about the Uintah County Committee and they have a group set up

and have by-laws, so maybe we could duplicate what they have. Mr. Raymond brought up the beginning of the previous committee and shared potential bylaws that never got approved. Matt Tippetts said there needs to be redundancy of leadership to keep it running and also asked if there was a problem of it being a county organization and there wasn't a problem, but sometimes if it's considered "County" it is considered to be less inclusive. Matt said the Plan is a county plan through the SCIC, so it seems like it could have more clout if it had the county backing. Mr. Reynolds said there was a desire to have it be an open committee, but what's going to happen to make it successful. Mr. Foster asked if the other counties in the SCIC were doing the same thing and Mr. Reynolds said mostly it was just Uintah and Daggett were involved in this at the moment, but it doesn't mean there couldn't be SCIC Trails committee and involve counties outside Utah. Commissioner Lytle said any entity including the SCIC could provide funding and backing depending on what was proposed and needed. Gretchen said that Town is ready to get going and invites everyone to get involved. Matt thought the County backing it would make it easier to get funding, but not everyone agreed with that. The Municipal Building Authority is another entity that could be used. CIB is going to be looking for cost shares until mineral lease money starts climbing again. The projects may involve different parts of the group for each project. This was all good discussion.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Biking Path Along Highway 43:** Debbie Weaver addressed the Commission and said she has been helping with Economic Development. Chris Wiltsie of Bike Utah was at the Economic Development Board meeting last week and is working with UDOT to help this project to get it off the ground. It's 15 miles from border to border. And is part of the Governor's 1000 miles of trails to be built. Obviously we can't do anything in Wyoming. There are three main options for right-of ways: UDOT, the canal company and city water lines. A fourth is to create all new rights-of-way. John Weaver asked if this trail had been considered to be motorized for ATV access to the Forest. Bret Reynolds said the Contract for the Road improvements should be finalized this Thursday. The Economic Development Board would like approval to move forward. Even though it's late in the UDOT project it's never too late to work with them. Commissioner Lytle said you need to get with Chris Memet right away. It has been discussed with UDOT to some degree. Commissioner Lytle motioned to support a biking path along Hwy 43 in collaboration or coordination with the Town of Manila. Commissioner Slauch seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Manila Fire Department Agreement with Daggett County:** Manila Fire Chief Randy Browning said that the Fire Department has a new 5 ton truck. There is a county truck in Dutch John that is not being used and he asked if the county would consider giving it to the Town of Manila to refurbish it. Commissioner Asay said there was supposedly a tank in Logan that could be used for the truck and Mr. Browning said that there are some old steel tanks and it is not designed specifically for that vehicle. Commissioner Lytle said that with things up in the air with Dutch John he is not really sure if it would be more useful in Manila or Dutch John. The Town of Manila has money available to fix it up now and would encourage the county to not to let the truck rot away. Chief Browning said that the typical fire truck is not very useful in our area and having the ability to go places a normal fire truck couldn't.

In July of 2017 The Town of Manila and Daggett County reached an agreement, but did not officially reach an agreement in 2018. The Town of Manila has responded to many fires in the Dutch John area and would like to have had a chance to be involved in the agreement so the money would stay in Daggett County. Over 98% of the Manila Fire Department calls are in the County and only \$5,000 of the \$45,000 annual budget comes from the county and the rest comes from the Town's General Fund. When we see money being spent elsewhere why aren't we receiving the funding we need. Gretchen Northcott said the Manila residents are being double taxed as they pay insurance to

both entities. Some things can be billed and others can't. We have had 5 or 6 calls from insurance people and the Town of Manila would like to be more involved in the discussions. When Dutch John is up and running Manila will need to have discussions and enter agreements with them. We are surviving but not thriving. Please sit down with us and have an open discussion because there is an inequity of funding. This is not an ultimatum, but just a request for consideration. The Manila Fire Department is heading in a good direction. Commissioner Asay asked when they wanted to get together and it could be at anytime. Randy mentioned that he and Commissioner Asay would find a time to get together. Commissioner Lytle said that Sgt. Dupaix should be involved and probably a Dutch John representative. It should be a collaboration. Mr. Lund invited Randy to attend next Wednesday for the discussion with LeGrand Bitter of Utah Association of Special Districts (UASD). Randy mentioned that there is a 100% grant right now for SCBAs that run about \$4100 a piece, so let Dutch John know about that opportunity.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Three Party Snow-Cat Agreement between Uintah county, The U.S. Forest Service and Daggett County:** Commissioner Asay asked Commissioner Lytle if he had worked with this in the past. It was noted that Commissioner Slaugh had had a turn in the past. Mr. Lund discussed some history of the agreement as it has changed a little and has gotten some better language in the agreement. Woody Bair gave a little history of snow cat use and thinks it would be good to do it this year. Commissioner Lytle motioned to approve the agreement between the Forest Service, Uintah County and Daggett County with Daggett County being spelled correctly. Commissioner Slaugh seconded the motion. Woody asked how the agreement allows to engage the equipment. John Weaver asked who is qualified to run the equipment. Woody wasn't sure he is "qualified", but he has been doing it for 10 years, plus Craig Collett and Richard Hazel have also been trained. The training and certification requirements will be set by the Winter Recreation Committee, but it was unsure if we even have anyone on that committee. John Weaver brought up future trails and they are not part of the current work plan but could be incorporated in future plans. Woody said that the trails committee needs to be out doing maintenance not just sitting in meetings, because there is so much blowdown that there needs to be at least 6 feet of snow to cover it enough to not damage the groomer. The needed width for the groomer has to be taken into the planning and construction of new trails. How do we schedule the use of it to make sure we are using it at least once a year so we continue to have access to the snowcat in the future? After the discussion all were in favor and the motion carried.

**Discussion And Consideration Of County Compensation Policy:** Mr. Raymond apologized for not taking this off the agenda since last week it was decided to table until after a meeting with the Elected Officials, which is scheduled for this afternoon. This was tabled for now as the elected officials meeting will be at 3 pm this afternoon.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Future Hearing Date For Water And Sewer Rate Adjustment:** Commissioner Asay said we had been putting this off until Commissioner Lytle recovered. It's just a matter of rescheduling the meeting that had to be cancelled. After reviewing the notice requirements it would need to be held on either the 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> of February. Commissioner Lytle motioned to approve the meeting to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February. Commissioner Asay seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

A short recess was taken and the Commission came back into session at 11:24 am.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Resolution 19-01: A Resolution Creating the Daggett County Budget Advisory Committee:** Commissioner Asay opened the discussion and asked if there was anything anyone wanted to say. Attorney Niel Lund said that he left number 5 blank and

noticed that it said Council in one place, which should probably help. The purpose could be developed further or different, but it is totally up to the Commission. Commissioner Slaugh said he didn't see any need for any changes. Commissioner Lytle reviewed the document and said anybody could make recommendations to the commission, without being a part of the committee. Commissioner Asay said that's true, but said he thought it was good to get people to try and help constructively on a regular basis. Jerry Steglich said that the budget may be too narrow and maybe needs to be broadened, but Mr. Lund said it needs to have a specific purpose without being too broad. Commissioner Lytle said the Commission is responsible for Health, Safety and Welfare of the residents. Commissioner Lytle said that there are at least 4 previous commissioners that could be of assistance through their experience. He also asked if it needs to be a formal committee or could it be ad-hoc. There seemed to be a need for it to be more formal. Woody Bair asked how it would appear if the Commission always rubber stamped the recommendations of the Committee then it might give them too much power when they are not elected. Mr. Lund said that if the advisory committee provides a recommendation that they should also provide the data or research that led them to that conclusion. John Weaver and Matt Tippets both said this should not and could not take the legislative power from the Commission, but to gather resources that can assist the Commission in making good decisions. Commissioner Lytle saw some of these issues being more Economic Development Board related. Matt said Commissioner's Lytle question is a good one and so the real question is do the existing committees meet your needs or would this committee meet a need that is not being met presently. Commissioner Lytle said that we would have to be very careful about declaring our conflicts as elected officials and committee members as we deal with these big ticket items like the budget, water and land sales, etc. Have the elected officials been approached about this and Mr. Lund explained that their budgets are theirs and the Commission can only set the final amount unless the elected officials are willing to work with the Commission. Commissioner Lytle said he felt if the goal was to help put the budget together earlier it's a good thing. Keri Pallesen said that many county employees would be interested in being on the committee and it is going to be harder to select this committee's members than for all the other committees. Commissioner Slaugh motioned to move it forward and said he didn't know of any changes needed. Niel Lund said he had changed "council" to "committee" and took out paragraph 5. Commissioner Slaugh motioned to approve Resolution 19-01 creating a Daggett County Budget Advisory Committee as amended by the attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Asay. There was no further discussion. Commissioners Slaugh and Asay were in favor and Commissioner Lytle abstained from the vote. The motion carried. The Commission can go forward.

**CLOSED SESSION: Discussion Of Sale Of Daggett County Jail Property With Realtor Nate Worthen:** Commissioner Lytle motioned to go into closed session for the purpose of collective bargaining with a roll call vote. Commissioner Slaugh seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Lytle voted "Aye" and Commissioner Slaugh Voted "Aye" and Commissioner Asay voted "Aye", so the motion carried to go into a closed session.

**CLOSED SESSION: Discussion Of Ongoing Litigation (Dutch John):** Commissioner Lytle motioned to go back into open session and Commissioner Slaugh seconded the motion at 1:14 pm.

**Discussion And Consideration Of Sale Of Daggett County Jail Property With Realtor Nate Worthen:** No additional discussion was held after the closed session.

Commissioner Lytle made the motion to adjourn at 1:16 pm.

s/ Brian Raymond  
Clerk/Treasurer\_Brian Raymond

/s/ Jack Lytle  
Commissioner Jack Lytle

/s/ Clyde Slaugh  
Commissioner Clyde Slaugh

/s/ Randy Asay  
Commissioner Randy Asay