

Minutes of the Electronic Meeting of the Daggett County Commission/Redevelopment Agency Board held on **Tuesday, April 7, 2020** in the Commission Chambers at the Daggett County Courthouse and through electronic means. Commissioner Randy Asay was present and Commissioners Jack Lytle and Matt Tippetts were present electronically. Attorney Niel Lund was present and Auditor/Recorder Keri Pallesen, Sheriff Erik Bailey and Clerk/Treasurer Brian Raymond were present electronically. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Commissioner Asay.

Also present: IT Director Kym Slagowski, Shiloh Dupaix, Amy McDonald, Butch Johns, John Rauch, Woody Bair, and Rob McClain. Curtis Booher, District Ranger for Ashley National Forest and LEO Logan Linnan, Miles Hanberg of DWR, Lance Porter of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) also participated electronically.

**Approve Minutes:** Minutes for February 25, 2020 and March 31, 2020 were available for review. Commissioner Asay noted that the audio did not work for part of the meeting. Commissioner Tippetts motioned to approve the minutes for the March 31, 2020 Meeting. Commissioner Lytle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Lytle asked about the Board of Adjustment (BOA) minutes and if they needed to be approved separately. Attorney Niel Lund explained that he had spoken with Mr. Raymond and it is just a note that the event occurred and not the actual minutes. Mr. Raymond was unable to get his computer off mute and respond, so he sent a message that the BOA minutes are not included. Commissioner Lytle motioned to approve the February 25, 2020 Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Tippetts seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Issue Updates:** Commissioner Tippetts said that Shiloh Dupaix had talked with the new owners of the Spirit Lake Lodge and they are working on a letter of support from them. They will send the letter to Summit County and a copy to us. Mr. Raymond said they had misunderstood his previous reply and turned off his phone due to an echo.

Commissioner Lytle mentioned that he had not done much on the utility issues, but there may be a need to discuss some challenges with the guides that are not working yet. Butch Johns was asked if he had gotten the information from UDOT about the callout bill and he had. Amy McDonald brought up that there were people that had talked to her about the late fees and Mr. Raymond explained that he waives the late fees if the payment is received by the time the bills go out. We are still waiting for the meter reader for March billing. Keri Pallesen said that she thought Amy was saying that people who were not working could be helped by not having late fees pile up. It was administratively determined by all three Commissioners to take off the late fees and to put that on the agenda next week to ratify if needed.

**Citizen Comments:** Commissioner Asay opened it up for comments from those that have concerns. We have received some written comments from Cedar Springs Marina and John Rauch was asked if he wanted to comment further. Commissioner Asay said the Commission had talked with the Forest Service and they were going to have a meeting about this yesterday afternoon, but it was postponed until tomorrow. Mr. Rauch was able to get unmuted and read the letter prepared by Stacy Rauch stating their thoughts that the current pandemic is a serious threat to the people of Daggett County. They have decided to close their business and encouraged the County to close the County to out of area visitors and get them to go home as there is no financial benefit if the disease spreads to our area and people get sick. Curt Bower of the Ashley National Forest joined the meeting and Miles Hanberg of DWR is also listening in.

It was noted that comments should be different or state that they are in agreement with a previous comment and not just keep making the same comment. All comments will be heard and considered. Rob McLain of Trout Creek agreed with John Rauch and stated that Trout Creek had shut down their services for the time being: the guides are not guiding or doing shuttles for non-county residents. Housekeeping staff are not comfortable cleaning rooms and the cabins have been shut down. They have had people in the shop from six different states in the past week. Mr. McLain questioned what efforts are being made to stop the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

Curtis Booher, Manila District Ranger commented next and said the Forest Service is working to address people's concerns and still allow access to public lands. We are opposing DWRs request to use their one law enforcement officer to do AIS inspections. Wyoming is working on having someone out next week for AIS inspections and there is a need to talk about some limited closures that would be enforceable, because the Forest Service and County don't have enough manpower to close down the entire lake.

Woody Bair of Flaming Gorge Resort commented that he would like to know where the interaction with the locals is as we are not asking them to sit on the couch with us, but to distance themselves from others. Lots of ambiguous messages are going on. He polled 30 employees and all but one wanted to keep working. He supports everyone having the right to choose whether to stay open or to close. Closing the county would take even more resources than what we have.

Mr. Booher said he doesn't want to restrict people's ability to run their business. Right now it's up to the individual businesses to decide if they can meet the CDC protocols to keep their employees and visitors safe. Woody Bair said he supports each business's ability to make their own decisions and not mandatory closures. Commissioner Asay said that he has had citizens that are in the high risk category contact him that have concerns with the influx of people. He thought there might be ways we could help them out and bring supplies to them to minimize any risks. The contact of people coming and going out of the area is the riskiest.

Miles Hanberg commented on the AIS issue. Yesterday Lake Powell was closed and boats could possibly come from that area, but it's not too likely. We have an app that tracks where boats have been recently, but the biggest problem is that we are struggling to get the needed employees hired and here. DWR will work with the Forest Service and Wyoming as they have the boat check in service at Evanston Port of Entry which should check most of the boats coming from the Wasatch Front. Commissioner Asay said that we are still good with freezing temperatures at night which will help until the AIS program gets fully staffed. Logan Linnan of Forest Service Law Enforcement spoke up and said he is willing to help with closures or whatever is needed to help during this time. Wyoming will be staffing Anvil Draw check station starting on Thursday. Mayor Coombs was on and said that he hadn't heard the whole conversation and wasn't sure of the County's position. Commissioner Asay said the discussion has not been finalized, it has just started.

Commissioner Lytle said that he supported Woody Bair's recommendation that there be a weekly press conference to let people know where we are each week and he saw the wisdom in that. Commissioner Lytle said he has had conversations with Mayor Kunkel, GROGA and others and the big thing is to treat every surface we touch as if it is infected. We all need to be personally responsible for keeping our distance and treating each other like we have it and they have in order to slow the spread. What's reasonable, what's legal and are we doing the right thing at the right time for the right reason are points to consider? We are just getting into the details now. Other items to consider or explore are day use vs. camping and locals vs. visitors. AIS is a big deal as once it is here it is here forever and not seasonal.

Commissioner Tippetts asked about the issues that have brought about the consideration of closing down swim beach. Logan said that there was a formalized order from launching boats from the beach to avoid the ramps and that is still being processed. Potential traffic for this weekend and

into the future could overwhelm the area and we want to avoid that. There are plenty of dispersed camping areas that people could use. It's a short term fix. The room is there for people to stay and keep their distance. The Sheriff asked if the restrooms were open and who would clean them. Logan and Mr. Booher said that there is staff committed to clean and keep the bathrooms open, so they don't get vandalized and sanitation of the area is maintained. Commissioner Tippetts said that he was looking at unintended consequences of closing one area and keeping others open and he was not sure what those would be at this time.

Commissioner Lytle asked if other campgrounds can be opened to help disperse people and keep them from camping in parking areas. Logan replied that when campgrounds do open around Memorial Day they could keep occupancy limited to 50% and spread people out to meet CDC guidelines so they will work with American Land and Leisure (AL&L) to get that set up. The next few weeks will give us better information and direction. Lance Porter from BLM was on, but not sure if he still is on. There was discussion of different options for Antelope Flats and other areas on the east side of the lake, plus Mann's and Willows near Manila. We just need to make sure that people stay dispersed when the campgrounds are opened. Commissioner Asay said this is good discussion to show what is being considered and then asked for any additional comments before moving on. No additional comments were given.

**The Open Invoice Register Was Presented For Review And Approval:** The Open Invoice Register of April 6, 2020 for \$76,278.91 was prepared by the Auditor/Recorder's Office. Commissioner Lytle motioned to approve the Open Invoice Register dated April 6, 2020 in the amount of \$76,278.91. Commissioner Tippetts seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Disbursement Listing:** The Disbursement Listing for April 6, 2020 was prepared by the Auditor/Recorder's Office. Commissioner Lytle motioned to accept the Disbursement Listing of March 31-April 6, 2020 for \$10,904.20. Commissioner Tippetts seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Cash Summary:** The Cash Summary dated April 7, 2020 was available for review. Commissioner Tippetts asked if Mr. Raymond had any concerns and he was unable to get off mute. Commissioner Tippetts motioned to acknowledge receipt of the Cash Summary of April 6, 2020. Commissioner Lytle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried. Commissioner Lytle brought up that we will need to pay attention to Fund 23 and Fund 75 as those revenues will be down due to the COVID-19 issue. We are okay now, but will just need to watch them.

**Purchase Orders:** There were no purchase orders to review this week.

**Correspondence:** Commissioner Asay asked if there was any correspondence that had not been mentioned earlier and Commissioner Lytle said that there were letters from several different businesses regarding the COVID issue including one from Dutch John Resort that did not get mentioned earlier. Commissioner Tippetts read the letter from Thompson Davis of Dutch John Resort stating that he is fine with anyone voluntarily closing their doors, but is against any business being forced to close. The letter addressed Tri-County Health guidelines do not indicate that shutting down the river or reservoir is necessary. He requested that the County not shut down those resources.

**Calendar Review:** Commissioner Asay said there are many conference calls. Commissioner Lytle said there was one at 10:00 am with UAC regarding a special session. The status of the Federal

partners meeting in Uintah County tomorrow was unknown. There are several meetings scheduled in the Courthouse, are they actually scheduled and doing it digitally? Commissioner Tippets said they were cancelled. There was notification that there was another COVID-19 case in Uintah County and Sweetwater County has five now. Moffat County still only has three cases but every Colorado County has at least one case.

**Policy and Legislation Items:**

**Discussion And Consideration Of Business Licenses for Flaming Gorge Resort; Smart Home Pros; Vivint, Inc; Jones Paint and Glass; Beehive Fishing Company:** Commissioner Asay read the listed Businesses who had applied for licenses and noted there was one that hasn't completed the paperwork so it will be held for next week. Commissioner Tippets motioned to approve the business licenses for Flaming Gorge Resort; Smart Home Pros; Vivint, Inc; and Jones Paint and Glass. Commissioner Lytle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Closed Session was scheduled at 10 am:** Commissioner Lytle motioned to go in and out of the Redevelopment Agency meeting. Commissioner Tippets seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Commissioner Tippets motioned to go into a closed session for the purpose of negotiation of the Purchase, Exchange, or Lease of Real Property at 10:51 am. Commissioner Lytle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken on the Closed Session motion, Matt Tippets voted "Aye" and Randy Asay voted "Aye" and Jack Lytle voted "Aye". The motion carried and there was brief discussion with the Mayors on how to facilitate the Closed Sessions. It was decided the County would hold a closed session first and then get a hold of the Mayors by email when they were ready to include them in the discussion.

Commissioner Tippets motioned to come back into Open Session out of Closed Session. Commissioner Lytle seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The Commission came back into regular session at 2:40 pm. Commissioner Lytle mentioned that the Sheriff is involved with looking for a missing person in Brown's Park. No other items were discussed. With no further business Commissioner Tippets motioned to adjourn at 2:42 pm.

/s/ Randy Asay  
Commissioner Randy Asay

s/ Brian Raymond  
Clerk/Treasurer\_Brian Raymond

/s/ Jack Lytle  
Commissioner Jack Lytle

/s/ Matt Tippets  
Commissioner Matt Tippets