

**SANPETE COUNTY COMMISSION WORK MEETING**

**July 1, 2009, 9:00 A.M.**

Sanpete County Courthouse, 160 North Main, Room 303, Manti, Utah

Present are: Commission Chair Claudia Jarrett, Commissioners Spencer Cox and Steve Frischknecht, County Attorney Ross Blackham, County Clerk Sandy Neill, Lee Holmstead, Tom Peterson, Fred Johnson, Tyre Holfeltz, Kent Higgins, and Tracy Christensen. Present from the media is John Hales.

Meeting is called to order by Commission Chair Claudia Jarrett.

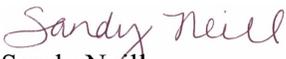
**WORK MEETING: WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE MAP**

Sanpete County Fire Marshal Tom Peterson makes his recommendations for changes to the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) map. Property that can be removed consists of cultivated agricultural land. Kent Higgins explains that there are different levels of requirements when building in the WUI area. Discussion is held as to whether the designated level can be set and displayed on a map for larger areas such as subdivisions. Tracy Christensen suggests that the entire area could be designated type 1, requiring the strictest regulations. Kent Higgins is concerned that this could be overkill in some areas. Lee Holmstead asks what we are trying to protect; the forest, the house, or the people? Fred Johnson responds that if there is defensible space, the risk is lower in protecting all three. The State's responsibility is to protect the forest. The County is responsible for the house and people. Tracy Christensen would like to review the process for the permits. Lee Holmstead is concerned because it is hard to make connections with Kent Higgins. Kent Higgins agrees that it can take a few days for him to respond because he doesn't get good reception on his cell phone, and shouldn't be taking these calls while at work. Tom Peterson asks if the cities could work together to hire a part time county-wide fire warden. The Commission ask if someone in the building inspection office could help Kent Higgins with WUI. Tracy Christensen explains that he was hoping to decrease the amount of property in the WUI area, so that fewer people would be affected. Kent Higgins states the process is really not that complicated, and the application could be completed in just a few hours. The Commission ask that the building inspection/zoning department work with Tom Peterson and Kent Higgins to create a WUI checklist, and possibly have another employee available that can help Kent Higgins so the process can be streamlined and less confusing to the public. A new map will be created and brought before the Planning Commission and the Commission for approval.

**DISCUSSION OF REQUEST FOR REFUND OF PROPERTY TAXES**

Ken Bench is present. Mr. Bench reviews the procedure for changing or correcting property assessment information. The assessors office uses the same form now that was used in 2001 to make those changes. Information gathering forms are sent when appraisals are done. One of the questions on that form is whether the home is primary or secondary. Mr. Bench states that 3 of his current employees worked in the office in 2001. They told him that they have no recollection of Mrs. Smith coming in, and would've given her the form to fill out. Mr. Bench is sure that she did not come to his office after January 1, 2003. The request for a refund of taxes is discussed. The disclosure notices are sent to the taxpayers, and the responsibility is theirs to see that they are being assessed correctly. The taxes have already been dispersed. This matter is taken under advisement.

The meeting is adjourned at 10:33 A.M.

ATTEST:   
Sandy Neill  
Sanpete County Clerk

APPROVED:   
Claudia Jarrett  
Commission Chair