MINUTES
Emery County
Public Lands Council
May 4, 2021

PLC: Rod Player, Les Wilberg, Ben Grimes, Laren Huntsman, Sherrel Ward, Ray Petersen, Ed Geary
PL STAFF: Commissioner Kent Wilson, Jim Jennings, Commissioner Gil Conover, Commissioner Lynn Sitterud, Jan Olsen
Visitors: Larry Johansen (State Parks), Clay Crozier, Carolyn Phippen, Jay Humphrey, Julie Johansen, Chris Nichols, Ed Geary, Matthew Way, Trisha Jensen, Mark Stilson (DWRi), Chris Wood
Electronically: Chris Conrad (BLM), Steve Christensen, J.R. Nelson, Kim McFarlane, Jack Johnston, Dana Truman

1. **Welcome**

2. **Approval of Minutes**
   Les Wilberg made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Loren Huntsman. Motion passed.

3. **Chairman Comments**
   Ray Peterson has been approved to the Public Lands Council

4. **Commission Report on Emery Land Bill**

5. **Agency Reports and Council Member Comments**
   - **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**
     Chris Conrad reports that visitation is up and the San Rafael and is getting a lot of publicity. BLM is having issues keeping people on the trails, vegetation in the desert does not grow back.
     Updates, Dana Truman has helped to add tactile learning equipment, feedback is great. Kyle Beagley has joined the BLM as assistant manager. Why is the sign on Highway 10 called Cleveland Dinosaur Quarry, instead of Jurassic National Monument?
     Beavers are building damns and are causing major problems, through North Salt Wash making access for equestrians difficult. Cane Wash, having people going outside the bounds, needing signs to education to

keep people out of those areas. Discussed how camping is going to be done out on the Wedge area, also the San Rafael Swell.
Sherrel Ward reports on permits going out late, people are having to sell their cattle to help with grazing.

- **Division of Water Rights (DWRi)**
  Marc Stilson reports a stream alteration permit has been filed for Muddy Creek aeration company for a water pipeline crossing on Christiansen Wash, in Emery

- **Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (DOGM)**
  Steve Christensen reports, Coal permit transfers, waiting on them.
  Deer Creek mine reclamation, culvert has been caped.

- **Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR)**
  Beaver's in North Salt Wash is blocking off the trails for equestrian use and also permittee that have grazing rights. The Trails on Sid's mountain are being blocked also because of Beavers. The discussion was made on how to handle the beaver problem.
  Hunting fees reduction permits in 2021 for deer and elk.

- **School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA).**
  Commission Sitterud asked for Bryan Torgerson to call the commission office at 2:00 for the land issue.

- **Manti-LaSal National Forest (MLNF)**
  Roads are being opened on dates that are scheduled on recreation maps.
  Evaluation of forest roads is being evaluated to determine when roads will be opened. Trisha Jensen reported on a letter that was sent to Jay Humphrey for a special permit on lake permits, awaiting water conservancy response.

- **Utah State Parks and Recreation**
  Larry Johansen reported on Goblin valley expansion in the park, business is good, the campground is at capacity.

- **Utah State Department of Agriculture**
  No representation

- **Washington Delegation Staff**

Carolyn Phippen and Clay Crozier from senator Lee's and Romney's office reported on the Department of Interior, reported on Biden's Infrastructure bill. Discussed frustration on federal overreach into states' rights.

6. **Additional Issues From Council Member**

   Laren Huntsman stated that booing our leaders is not appropriate in his opinion. Our Leaders have put in hard work to do their jobs. We, as a group, are better people than that.

7. **Jack Johnston comments on road access.**

   Jack Johnston's comment was that rockhounding and OHV are not accessible to those who are handicapped.

8. **Concerned citizens with Emery County-related issues.**

9. **Adjourn**

* Audio did not get recorded for this meeting.