

**MINUTES FOR DUCHESNE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MEETING
HELD JANUARY 31, 2022, AT 3:00 p.m. AT THE
DUCHESNE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING
IN DUCHESNE, UTAH**

Present

Chairman, Duchesne City Mayor Rodney Rowley, Altamont City Mayor Clyde Watkins, Commissioner Greg Miles, Commissioner Greg Todd, Commissioner Irene Hansen, Tabiona Mayor John Breakfield, Laurie Brummond, Kevin Yack, Will Wright, and David Rust with Uintah Basin Association of Governments, Sheriff Travis Tucker, Cody Ivie and Jenny Adams with Duchesne City Council, Duchesne County Chamber Director Ryan Lundstrom, Duchesne County Deputy Attorney Tyler Allred, and Commission Assistant Melissa Hughes is taking minutes of the meeting and I.T. Director Matt Yergensen managing satellite broadcast.

Absent

Myton Mayor Kathleen Cooper and Roosevelt City Mayor JR Bird

Opening

(3:00 p.m.)

Chairman Rodney Rowley welcomes those present.

Discussion of Annual Activities

There will be a Monster Truck show in Duchesne on March 12th at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Duchesne City will have their 4th of July celebration on Monday, July 4, Tabby Valley's 4th of July celebration is on Friday, July 1, and Saturday, July 2, with the parade on Saturday, July 2, Neola will have their celebration on Monday, July 4, Altamont will have their 24th of July celebration, UBIC is August 4, 5, & 6, and the County Fair begins August 8, 2022.

Discussion of the Priorities for the 2021/22 Utah Rural Economic Development Grant Application with Governor's Office of Opportunity

Commissioner Irene Hansen gives an update on the Utah Rural grant application process for Duchesne County. The grant assists business throughout the entire county. The final grant was approved in November of 2021. One of the components of the grant was a matching grant for \$60,000 that business could match to do facade improvements and or equipment or infrastructure updates. The economic development office received about 15 applications. To assist in the process and deliberations a team of 5 business professionals was brought in from outside the county to help with the vetting process. Interviews and evaluations allowed the team to select six businesses whose projects had the greatest impacts on the community. The Grant will also provide for customer service training on March 19 and continued advertising assistance for county businesses trying to rebound from the pandemic and related impacts. The Duchesne County Magazine will also be reprinted in 2022 as the grant program will assist some businesses to have an increased presence.

Duchesne County Economic Development will apply for the Utah Rural Grant Program again this year in the summer of 2022.

Discussion of Covid-19 Update

Parties discuss the Covid-19, there is 20 new hospitalizations and 1 new death. Uintah County 7-day average percent positivity was 38% with 1186 cases in the past 14 days, they are in High transmission. Duchesne County 7-day average percent positivity was 28% with 474 cases in the past 14 days, and is in high transmission. Daggett County was 38% with 10 cases in the past 14 days, they are in low transmission. Statewide total ICU utilization is 90%. The seven-day COVID-19 ICU utilization is 40%.

Discussion of Alcohol and Liquor License Ordinance

Duchesne County Deputy Attorney Tyler Allred stated Duchesne County adopted an Ordinance in 1983, to limit beer sales between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Those present discuss what they follow in each city or town. A suggestion was made to have the same times throughout all cities and county.

Discussion of Meeting Schedule for 2022

Parties discuss the meeting schedule and suggest to have a meeting ever other month on the fourth Monday starting in March. *Commissioner Greg Todd makes a motion to set the meeting schedule for every other month on the fourth Monday starting in March. Altamont City Mayor Clyde Watkins seconds the motion. Motion passes with no opposed votes.*

Discussion of Duchesne County Rail Project

The Uinta Rail Project continues to move forward as the Surface Transportation Board gave their final approval. Stakeholders spoke at a meeting at the Roosevelt Business Alliance on January 11, 2022 with a formal announcement. They also shared updates and answered questions at the meeting attended by over 100 at the Crossroads Senior Center in Roosevelt. The only permit they are still waiting on is U.S. Forest Service Record of Decision. The Forest Service is accepting comments. They expect the public comments will wrap up in February. The Uinta Rail Private Partner is looking at a year of engineering before they can start on construction. The project has received hundreds of comments from a broad spectrum of citizens locally and throughout the United States. While negative comments did come from environmental groups, many other positive comments did come from local residents and other groups.

Discussion of Capital Asset Self Inventory (CASI)

Will Wright with Uintah Basin Association of Governments stated all cities and special service districts have to complete the self-inventory in order to receive CIB funding. They are trying to complete all CASI's by March.

Consideration of Minutes from June 28, 2021 Meeting

Commissioner Greg Miles makes a motion to approve the minutes from June 28, 2021. Altamont City Mayor Clyde Watkins seconds the motion. The motion passes with no opposed votes.

Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair

Altamont City Mayor Clyde Watkins nominates Duchesne City Mayor Rodney Rowley as Chairman, and Tabiona Mayor John Breakfield as Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Irene Hansen seconds the motion. The motion passes with no opposed votes.

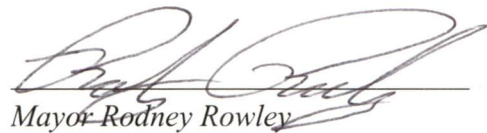
Other Business

Commissioner Irene Hansen describes the plan to update the old county building. It will be updated to meet code and be functional for its new purpose. It is now named the Gateway Building, and will be used for the senior center.

Adjournment

(4:02 p.m.)

Commissioner Irene Hansen makes a motion to adjourn at 4:02 p.m. The Forum Adjourns.



Mayor Rodney Rowley
Chairman



Commissioner Irene Hansen
Secretary

Minutes of meeting taken by Commission Executive Assistant Melissa Hughes

