



**KANE COUNTY
PUBLIC LANDS DEPARTMENT**

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JUNE 15, 2022

9:00 AM

Kane County
Commission Chambers

Kane County Interagency Meeting MINUTES

Attending: Clayton Cutler, Kelly Stowell, Bart Battista, Byard Kershaw, Tony Wright, Lance Jackson, Whit Bunting, Heath Hansen, Colten Johnson, Hayden Ballard, Kevin Wright, Spencer Rollo, Kyle Wilson, Jeff Stott.
Committee members absent: Andy Gant, Mike Noel,

Call to order: Bart Battista. (Chair)

Invocation: Lance Jackson.

Pledge of Allegiance: Kelly Stowell.

Kelly Stowell made a motion to approve the minutes of 04-20-2022 interagency meeting, and the minutes of 03-16-2022 Resource Development Committee meeting. Motion was seconded by Lance. Minutes were passed unanimously.

Heath Hansen: Brought up the uranium mining on the Arizona strip. The house passed a bill that will make the moratorium permanent for the mining operations. Senator Lee and other republican members did fight back hard on the issue because of the jobs it takes away from Southern Utah. It is also a national security issue because we are getting most of our uranium from Russia. Because we have such a high density here in the US it makes sense to mine that uranium here.

He talked about the 2 operational ramps in use at Lake Powell, and they are keeping an eye on the water level issues. He mentioned that Billy Schott will be going to Washington DC to meet with Senator Lee for his annual meeting to address issues and projects.

Tony asked Heath what the reasoning was for actually locking up the uranium mining on the AZ strip. Heath said that they wanted to keep the pristine nature of the Grand Canyon intact. Although there have been environmental assessment studies stating there would be no negative impacts to the Grand Canyon.

Kyle Wilson: He has been working on some big infrastructure bills. They signed a bill requesting full PILT funding. They would like to see some funds go to some water infrastructure projects, and fuel reduction. He wanted to let the committee know that he was available if there were any projects that pertained to those issues.

Whit Bunting: Talked about the skutempah road. The BLM has contracted with Jones & Demille through the county to help do the NEPA work. They are working on a disclosure statement and he will keep Taylor Glover up to date as new information becomes available. It will help with the designation of the responsibilities of the chip seal project on that road. Judge Whaddops met with the county and that the judge intends to make a decision on the 3 roads in litigation by the end of September. Whit is heavily involved with helping it move forward. He discussed the Tilted Mesa mountain bike trail, although it has been a long process, it is still moving forward. There have been a few cultural issues that the BLM is continuing to work on to keep that project moving. He and Mayor Johnson have been in contact with the Toms Canyon trail and trail head. They want to keep it out of the development of homes. He will be working with the county and the city and plans to get with a few representatives to help. The dinosaur tracks trail head has had a few problems with people parking on

private property and they are working on better signage to avoid that issue. He gave an update on some of the employee positions at the BLM and they are trying to fill them as soon as they can.

Kevin Wright: Gave an update on the fire conditions and because of the major drought, they moved to Stage 1 fire restrictions. There is no current restrictions on fires in campgrounds on the forest. He gave an update on the Left Fork Fire, it will have the potential to smolder all year but they are monitoring it daily. It is 100% contained but it is burning within the containment lines. He gave an update on the Powell Ranger District and that they are not accepting road use permits for outfitters and guides at the moment. They want to do an analysis of how many they can handle first. He gave an update on the Robinson Canyon and that they are on a hold for now, meaning they are waiting to hear back from the County and they can continue to move forward with that. They have completed the Spruces Campground project and encouraged all to go take a look. They want to start the North portion of the Campground this fall. He gave an update on the timber sales right now. There has been a few problems with the operations and contractors starting a few small fires, so they are on hold with those because of the fire danger in the area. Because of the fire danger there is a 90 day moratorium on any prescribed fires right now.

Colten Johnson:

Mayor Johnson let everyone know that the new city manager has been hired and will start July 5th. He gave an update on some projects and other happenings in Kanab City. The Heatstroker youth baseball tournament brought about 40 teams to Kanab. He talked about a few fires that have happened in the city and in the county out in Johnson but the Kanab fire department was on that. Lance wanted to know if the baseball tournament has the capability to have even more teams come to Kanab. Mayor Johnson said he was in communication with a company that wants to take over the tournament and they will run it for the city. Because of the potential better opportunity if they contract the tournament out, they are entertaining the idea. It is a great funnel for revenue and will free up some time with the City Rec. Department. He said in order for the company to take over they do require lights on the baseball fields and currently the little league fields do not have lights.

Spencer Rollo:

He talked about the stage 1 fire restrictions. They are exhausting a lot of their resources right now because staffing is still difficult. They have been really busy putting out small fires throughout the county. They also help with some of the fires on the forest service. Mostly up on Cedar Mountain and work with the Cedar Mountain Fire Department. Because monsoon season is near, and because of the dry ground they will soon be focusing on flood control. They did get their clearance for the deer springs project. They have got the contract to Norris Church. He will get working on that soon and they will let the committee know when more starts happening with that.

Clayton Cutler: Gave an update on the County Resource plan and that he will get with the committee for some input that the state wants to implement into each county plan.

Tony made a motion to adjourn, Lance seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.



Bart Battista- Resource Committee -Chair



Clayton Cutler- KOPLD