

MINUTES of the special public meeting of the Uintah County Commission held **March 12, 2024** in the Commission Chambers of the Uintah County Building at 147 East Main, Vernal, Utah. Meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m.

PARTICIPANTS: Commissioners John Laursen, and Sonja Norton. Brad Horrocks, absent.

ATTENDANCE: Mike Wilkins, Robert Abercrombie, Trudy Wheeler, Jeremy Raymond, Ryan Goodrich, Ryan Wolfinger, Brooks Jones, Isaac Hatch, Laurie Brummond, Nate Zilles, Kevin Yack, Gennie Bird, Micheal Davis, Keith Despain, Jason Blankenagel, Steve Labrum, Willis LeFevre, and Barbara Simper. Minutes recorded by Tai Duncan.

WELCOME: Commissioner Laursen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PRAYER offered by Jeremy Raymond.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Gennie Bird.

PUBLIC HEARING PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS LIST

Commissioner Laursen noted each entity will present their one-year list and respond to any questions. They may also clarify projects. If applying for a project this year, it must be on the one-year list. Also, each entity must have completed the capital asset inventory and returned it to the Uintah Basin Association of Governments. The list provided today has been corrected per each entity's request from the mailing dated February 8, 2024. This letter was sent out to each of you to obtain public comment on the entity you represent. It was then compiled and sent back to UBAOG. UBAOG cannot add or delete projects without consent from the entity and are strictly prohibited from doing so. After this hearing, a new list will be compiled and sent for one more review prior to being submitted to the Office of Housing and Community Development. This must be done by May 1, 2024. In addition to the County Area Priority, why the projects are presented verbally and voted on after everyone has presented, each applicant is required to complete the applicant priority. As a reminder, when CIB (Community Impact Board) projects are submitted to the State of Utah, another copy must be sent to the regional planner at UBAOG for review and to be placed on the next UBAOG Board Meeting. If this deadline is missed, the application will not be sent to the State of Utah, per UBAOG instructions, until the next trimester. Please sign the attendance sheet in the back; providing a current email, address and contacts. Two contacts from each entity will receive the official packet; if you want that changed please make note on the sheet.

Kevin Yack, UBAOG, made a quick announcement. A flyer is available for the CIB tutorials being held this year. One will be in Duchesne on Thursday, April 11th at 10:00 am in the Centennial Event Center. This is mandatory; if you cannot attend send someone from your Board or staff. You will have the opportunity to talk to CIB staff and get instructions on how to apply.

Kevin presented for the Ashley Valley Sewer Management Board. Their projects include an Infiltration and Inflow Sewer Study, a total cost of \$500,000. As per requirements, a study project requires a 50% match so they are asking for \$250,000. If a study project is \$100,000 or less, it does not go before the CIB. The staff will review it and provide funding faster. Their second project is a Master Plan and Sewer Model for a total of \$250,000 asking for \$150,000. This will have to be corrected to asking for \$125,000 with a match of \$125,000.

Ryan Goodrich presented the Ashley Valley Water Sewer Improvement District one-year projects. Ashley Springs Improvement to measure the Springs, water quality, structure improvements, creek waterway crossing, and other infrastructure for a total of \$895,000, asking for \$845,000. Raw Water Line Re-Lining, phase 2; 24-inch water plant feed line, valves, air vac and meter enhancements for a total of \$1,500,000 asking for \$1,500,000. This is a 40-year-old line that needs relined. The third project is Water and Sewer Studies; a sewer hydraulic model, impact fee study, master plan update, and capital assessment study for a total of \$150,000, matching at 50%. They would like to do Sewer System Enhancements in the

Ashley area, north of Main Street and south of 500 N for a total of \$800,000 with no matching funds. They have a Fire Flow project replacing six inch and other undersized lines for a project total of \$1,250,000. The sixth project is Water Rights and Land Acquisition for a total of \$1,500,000. Their final project is a Regionalization project in the Desert Sage Subdivision area requesting \$400,000. The actual total is \$1,000,000 but they have \$600,000 from a Division of Drinking Water Grant. Commissioner Norton asked about project #6. Ryan responded Ashley Valley is out of water and are pursuing potential water rights that may include purchasing the land; they simply need additional water.

Robert Abercrombie presented for Ballard City and Ballard Water. Ballard City has two projects on the one-year list. Highway sidewalks and lighting along Highway 40 from 1500 East to 2500 East for safety and access to the charter school for a total of \$250,000. The second project is Street Maintenance, crack seal and chip seal of 20.1 miles of roads for a total of \$2,000,000. The Oil and Gas Industry, though vital to our economy, is hard on the road infrastructure and they are seeing more impacts. Ballard Water has two projects as well. Upper Zone Water System Improvements, upgrading waterline sizes and extend water lines on two miles of pipeline prior to hooking on to a new water source in the upper district area for a total of \$2,500,000. The second project is a 1-mile water pipeline along 3500 East for a total of \$2,000,000. Commissioner Norton asked about the sidewalk along Highway 40. They would be working with the existing sidewalk on the north side of the road. They have applied for other grants, including through UDOT (Utah Department of Transportation) and have not been successful.

Trudy Wheeler presented for Jensen Water Improvement District who has three projects on the one-year list. A Meter and Communication upgrade to replace meters with radio read capability for a cost of \$2,000,000, to be applied for in June. A Water System Upgrade to install three miles of eight-inch line in Redwash Road for \$5,000,000, to be applied for in October. Finally, a Water System Improvements project to replace aging lines from six inch to eight inch for fire flow for a total of \$2,000,000, to be applied for in February 2025.

Nate Zilles presented for Maeser Water Improvement District as they had an emergency to deal with. Their first project is Water System Improvements to replace three creek crossings on Ashley Creek at 2500 W, Thornburg, and Wilkins as well as replace lines at 2500 W for a total of \$1,000,000. Their second project is Sewer System Improvements to replace creek crossings on Ashley Creek at 2500 W from 1500 N to Painted Hills for a total of \$450,000.

Mike Davis presented for Naples City, they have five projects on the one-year list. The first is 2500 S Storm Water / Street Improvements for a total of \$3,000,000; this will complete this project with the canal improvements. A project to do 2000 E street improvements for \$1,500,000. The third project will be to do improvements to the 1500 S dugway, widening and elevating the right-of-way for \$2,000,000. Any additional work on the dugway would require land acquisition. They would like to maintain and upgrade streets citywide by applying crack seal to identified street sections for a total of \$1,000,000. Their fifth project is High County Subdivision improvements which include street surfaces and curb and gutter for a total of \$4,000,000.

Isaac Hatch presented the one project for Ouray Park Water Improvement District. They would like to acquire water rights to diversify water sources for stability of services for a total of \$4,500,000. They are asking for \$2,500,000. They are currently getting water from the Tribe but if they have any line issues the water is shut off; they are not reliable.

Isaac also presented for the Tridell-Lapoint Water Improvement District. They would like to update the Master Plan to include the recently installed main line to the south and increased rate of connections for a total of \$130,000 with the 50% match, asking for \$65,000. They also need to do some main line improvements replacing undersized line to provide fire flow in the East Lapoint and Tridell area for a total of \$2,000,000.

Gennie Bird presented the Uintah County Municipal Building Authority (MBA) one-year projects. The first would be to purchase and install a building to house the Cemetery equipment for a total of \$1,000,000 asking for \$500,000 in June. The second project would be to purchase and install a building for Search

and Rescue for storage, bathrooms, training etc. for a total of \$1,000,000, asking for \$500,000 in October. They would also like to remodel the north entrance of the County Building to be ADA compliant for a total of \$1,000,000 asking for \$500,000 in February 2025. The final project is to build a new building for the Road Department for a total of \$10,000,000 asking for \$5,000,000 in February 2025.

Jeremy Raymond presented the two projects for the Uintah Fire Suppression Special Service District. They need to replace the Rescue Truck for Jensen Fire for a total of \$500,000 in February 2025. This truck has medical supplies and is used for extractions from Jensen to the Colorado line. They also need to replace the Brush Trucks in each of the five stations. The oldest is a 1985 GMC and are now outdated. This project totals \$2,100,000 and will be applied for in February 2025.

Commissioner Norton presented the projects for Uintah Special Service District 1 (USSD1) noting that the Transportation Special Service District is being reorganized and the trails and road projects will be moved to Transportation SSD once it is restored. There are eight projects related to trails and roads. Independence Road needs widened with reconstruction in areas for alignment corrections for a total of \$27,000,000 to be applied for in February 2025. Pedestrian Trails throughout the County as well as improving the Ashley Central Canal trail for a total of \$2,500,000 to be applied for in June. Five miles of Glen Bench Road needs reconstruction for a total of \$6,000,000 and will be applied for in June. Fiddler Road needs improvements: six miles of pavement and 12 miles of gravel for a total of \$7,000,000 to be applied for in June. 11 miles of Statten Road needs improved for a total of \$15,000,000 to be applied for in June as well. They would like to establish and improve the Steinaker Service Canal trail for a total of \$3,000,000 to be applied for in June. The Sadler Bridge on Ashley Creek needs improved for a total of \$2,000,000 to be applied for in June. They would also like to improve the 2500 W Bridge on Ashley Creek for \$2,000,000 in June. There are four projects that are related to Recreation and will stay under USSD1. The first project is to construct and operate an indoor sports facility as well as an outdoor pool/splash pad for a total of \$15,000,000 to be applied for in October. The Golf Course irrigation replacement project for a total of \$1,500,000 in October. They would like to install a Softball Complex on the Kay property at the Recreation Center for a total of \$17,000,000 to be applied for in June. The County Parks need infrastructure upgrades for a total of \$1,000,000 to be applied for in October.

No one was present to present the Uintah Water Conservancy District.

Keith Despain presented the seven projects on Vernal City's one-year list. Inadvertently, only two were listed on the handout. Downtown Revitalization includes public infrastructure improvements on the Sage and 7-11 Ranch blocks north of Main Street for a total of \$2,000,000 to be applied for in February 2025. Street Improvements include 100 S, 100 N, 500 S, 500 N, Vernal Avenue, 500 E, 500 W, 100 W, 100 E, 200 E, 200 W and some subdivisions for a total of \$2,000,000 asking for \$1,750,000 in June. Water System Improvements to replace old and undersized lines for a total of \$5,000,000 in October. Sewer Improvements on the 100 N line from 1000 W to 500 E for a total of \$2.5 million in October. Storm Water Improvements Master Plan for a total of \$100,000 with a \$50,000 match in October. Sewer Hydraulic Model and Master Plan update in coordination with other districts for a total of \$150,000. This will have to be corrected to show a 50% match of \$75,000 and will be applied for in February 2025. They would also like to purchase water rights for municipal needs for a total of \$1,500,000, asking for \$1,000,000 in February 2025.

Keith Despain moved to approve the lists as presented. Commissioner Norton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Nate took a moment to announce the first annual Government in the Basin training seminar. This will be held April 24th from 3 pm to 8 pm at the Conference Center. There is no fee to attend and dinner will be provided. Entities will be coming from the State to review past and current legislation and municipal requirements. There will be information on middle income housing and a panel discussion on growing water wise for general plans. You may also be able to get credits for this training. You can sign up through the link on the flyer or through Nate at UBAOG.

Commissioner Norton asked for more information regarding the columns in the handout, particularly about funding sources. Kevin took a moment to explain the new spreadsheet. Last year, the State wanted a uniform list and this is what we are now using. In prior years, the spreadsheet had separate columns for loan and grant but they are no longer separated. CIB has adopted a tool to calculate what should be a loan vs a grant so entities now just indicate a total amount to request from CIB. They want a project name and a brief description to ensure there are some specifics for the project showing that it is indeed in the works. The estimated total should be for the entire project with or without other funding sources. The next column allows you to enter where other funding may come from, even if it is from the entity proposing the project. The next column is the amount of funding coming from those sources listed. The list is a work in progress and corrections can be submitted by the entity to UBAOG. The final list will be submitted to CIB no later than May 1st.

Laurie Brummond, UBAOG, wanted to express kudos to Uintah County and the entities for doing everything right and following the process as required. The CIB is revamping a few things trying to figure out how to get all the projects funded; they have less funding to work with. There will be CIB work sessions the next few months. Duchesne County is hosting the CIB in June and everyone is invited to attend. They will send out a Calendar invite so all entities are aware and reminded. There will be some projects that may not get any funding but they need to continue to plan on moving forward.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:11 pm.



JOHN LAURSEN, CHAIR



MICHAEL W. WILKINS, CLERK – AUDITOR

