

## Minutes

**Moab Area Travel Council  
Advisory Board Meeting  
February 14, 2017  
3:00pm  
Grand County Council Chambers  
125 E. Center Street**

**Members Present:** Jodie Hugentobler, John Knowles, Howard Trenholme, Sarah Sidwell, Curtis Wells, David Everitt, Sharon Kienzle, Colin Fryer

**Members Absent:** Rachel Paxman

**Staff:** Callie Tranter, Robert Riberia

1. **Meeting Called to Order** at 3:01 pm
2. **Approval of Minutes** Sarah made a motion to approve the January 10<sup>th</sup> minutes, Howard 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Passes 4-0.
3. **Public Q & A**
4. **Presentations**
  - a. **Lance Porter, BLM updates** Christina Price, Moab Field Manager also spoke to the board. The Canyon Country District includes the Moab and Monticello Field Offices covering 3.6 million surface acres. They have 2.4 million visitors to Moab and 375 special recreation permits. They launched the respect and protect campaign in 2016 to educate more responsible use of our public lands and protect the petroglyph panels. In Moab they have 44 Developed campsites, 25 campsites that can be reserved, 25 shade shelters, 50 film permits and 593 campsites that cannot be reserved. New for 2017, they will add toilets at Goldbar, Upper Big Bend and Klondike, group sites at Lower Onion Creek, a new shade shelter at Ken's Lake group site. With the help of Trail Mix they have created new trails for hiking, biking and equestrian use. A proclamation for Bears Ears National Monument was issued December 28, 2016. Not implementing new management as the 2008 management plan. There is nothing in that proclamation that changes the current management on the ground with the exception of mineral development and oil and gas leasing. No new oil and gas leasing in that proclamation. Curtis asked about the Planning 2.0 update. Lance said that the Environmental Impact Statements took 5 years and they wondered how they could speed up the process so they came up with Planning 2.0 which looks at geographical boundaries. The new administration is not happy about it so it is on hold right now.
  - b. **Robert Dowell, UDOT updates** Troy Torgerson and Kurt McFarlane gave updates as well and provided a timeline and cost estimates on projects.

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Collectively they discussed the different projects that they will be working on in 2017. Hwy 128 project will include 20 miles of rehabilitation projects with asphalt, shoulder widening and guard rail where it can be placed. Traffic control signs at Cisco and at 191 to make people aware of the construction. Expect delays of 15 minutes beginning in June.

Construction project on Main Street will begin in November to repair concrete panels. Troy and Robert went over some other construction projects. They will work with a public information firm to get information out to the community. The Board asked about the road widening on Hwy 191 north of Moab to the River Bridge. They are soonest they can begin the project is 2019 due to funding and commitment from the City to fix the drainage.

- c. **Howard Trenholme, Tourism Day on the Hill** was on February 13<sup>th</sup> and Howard attended that event. He came back with some information provided by the University of Utah on the impacts of tourism. Elaine has planned a meeting with Representative Christine Watkins. Next year's Tourism Day on the Hill will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Michele Hill asked if John could go back to Public Q & A to announce the change in her position in the Travel Council office to include event permits for the County. The job was previously in the Council Administrator's office.
- 5. Committee Reports**
- a. **Marketing Committee** Colin reported that the ads are running but they haven't had a meeting. They will meet before the next Board Meeting. Working on pushing the Christmas season in Moab.
  - b. **Airport** John reported that we are no longer an economically distressed county so we are having to foot the bills on our own. The airport project will double to \$600,000 for the runway. We are going to CIB to apply for a low interest loan. Howard suggested that with the increase in TRT and TRCC the project should be paid for out of those funds. John also told the board about terminal expansion also. Curtis commented that we are in a situation where we need TSA but TSA wants a larger airline.
  - c. **Chamber of Commerce** Jodie told the board that the next Chamber Luncheon will be held on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> at the Peace Tree with Kate Cannon as the speaker. The new maps are in and she has been out delivering them. The City is also holding a ribbon cutting on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 am on the Solar Panels.
  - d. **Tax Advisory sub-committee** Howard reported that they will meet at 2pm on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - e. **County Council** Curtis gave some updates on HB 253 that which allows rentals regardless of planning and zoning to market on Airbnb and other vacation rental websites. It would be a complete catastrophe if it goes through. The Council will have a resolution to send to Legislators next week at the County Council meeting. He encouraged the board to email the Senators. The Council has tasked Curtis with an exploratory project to find out what it would look like to have an Economic Development department in the County. Curtis attended Rural Day on the Hill and

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Bears Ears dominated most of that but it was a great time to network. Kirk Pearson with the Rodeo spoke to the County Council regarding the need for more help either in labor or money. He also mentioned expanding the event to include a Fair. Elaine has had some discussion with Kirk.

- f. **City Council** David reported that they have a City Council meeting tonight and will have a briefing on the Lionsback Development. The City has also enacted a temporary moratorium on Commercial Development but we hope to have it rescinded once we maintain clarity of the code. The wastewater treatment plant is going to be 3 million dollars more than anticipated. There will be an increase in sewer fees once that is completed with an anticipated completion date of September 2018.
6. **Future Agenda Items**
    - a. **Next board meeting will be held on March 14, 2017**
    - b. **Guest Speaker Michael O'Brien, Peak Performance**
  7. **Adjourn** Sharon made a motion to adjourn at 4:40 pm, Jodie 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.