

GRAND COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
December 6, 2005

Grand County Council met for Workshop/Study session at 2:30 p.m. on the above date. Present were Councilmen Jerry McNeely, Chairman presiding, Judy Carmichael, Nate Knight, Rex Tanner, Audrey Graham and Jim Lewis with Clerk Fran Townsend and Diana Carroll.

2:30 p.m. Workshop

A. Discussion Regarding Airport Board and Number of Board Members (Judy Carmichael)

Judy shared minutes of a meeting with Mark Francis, Moab Airport Manager. Mark requested the County help with expense for some repairs at the Airport. The Airport Board members have all resigned their positions to consider a five member Board. If a five member board is approved the Council representative would be a non-voting liaison member only. All Council members agreed five board members would be sufficient for business transactions.

B. Discussion of 2006 Budget (Fran Townsend)

Travel Council – Fund 22

Marian – TRAX budget submitted did not set money for Grand Center operations. Councilmembers did not receive the budget that Travel Council submitted. Travel Council Board recommendation was \$18,000 to the Airport and \$60,000 in the Travel Council budget. Rex – doesn't feel 60,000 should go to the Travel Council. Jim – the people collecting the tax (Restaurant Owners) want the intent of the tax to stay intact.

Travel Council – Fund 23

Marian – a \$100,000 grant was funded and is not included in the budget. The grant will affect the revenue and expense by \$100,000.

State Lands & Forestry – Fire Control – 10-4222

Lunches & Materials – need to fund at the requested amount to be able to participate in the wildland fire suppression fund. This would require adding \$10,131 to 390 (Outside services) and \$7,088 to 490 (Lunches & Materials) and reducing the 220, 250 and 290 line items.

Treasurer

Requested Professional Services be increased to \$8,000. Peggy needs that amount for the software and extra labor expense during tax season.

Museum

Increase \$3,000 to repair the roof.

Joette Langianese arrived at this time.

Library

Eve Tallman was present to answer questions. \$6,000 in line item 910 (transfer to Capitol Projects will be spent in 2006 as the building will be finished.

Public Defender

Council will draft a letter for Andrew.

C. Other Administrative

4:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Elected Official and Department Head Reports

Ken Davey – Film Commission recently received a call from a film company that intended to begin filming in Moab. They cancelled the Moab location because they received information from the airport staff that large planes could not land at the Airport. Nate - weight limits restrict the size of planes that are able to land.

Action Items

D. Consideration of Approval of Grant Contract with Governor's Office of Economic Development (Ken Davey)

Grant contract - \$20,000 will be received upfront \$2,000 at the completion of the grant. The grant award is not included in budget (Fran will add to the 2006 Budget). **MOTION:** Jim Lewis moved to approve the grant contract. Nate Knight seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

E. Consideration of Approval of Tax Roll Correction (Fran Townsend)

Fran requested the item be tabled. **MOTION:** Audrey Graham moved to table approval of the tax roll correction item. Joette Langianese seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

F. Consideration of Approval a Resolution to Adopt an Employee Policy and Procedures Addendum for Compensation/Classification System Guide (Rex Tanner)

MOTION: Audrey Graham moved to approve the step & grade chart portion only. Joette Langianese seconded. Motion failed 0-7.

MOTION: Judy Carmichael moved to approve the guide as presented to be effective 1/1/2006. Nate Knight seconded. Motion carried 6-1 (Audrey Graham against).

G. Consideration of Approval of Letter of Support for Green River Medical Center for Five-Year Grant from Department of Health & Human Services (Judy Carmichael)

The Green River Medical Center needs the support of Grand County to receive a five year grant. **MOTION:** Judy Carmichael moved to send a letter of support. Audrey Graham seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

H. Consideration of Approval of Design Study Report for SR-128; New Spanish Trail – Bike Path Along Highway 128; Lion’s Park to Negro Bill Canyon (Joette Langianese)

The issue resurfaced when the article came out in the Times Independent newspaper. **MOTION:** Jim Lewis moved to table the action item to instead be a discussion item. Audrey Graham seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion – transportation enhancement matching funds have been acquired for all but \$107,000 of the necessary matching funds. It needs to be determined by June 2006 where the remaining money will come from. Funding numbers presented are just for phase 1 of the project. Approving the Design Study will put the project on UDOT’s list of priorities. The \$4+ million dollar figure includes the design and construction options can change to reduce the amount of the project. If the design study is approved the County will not be committed to the construction project. Council members are concerned where the 20% County match funds will come from. UDOT and private donations may be enough to fund the match portion of the project. The Trail Mix Committee and the community show interest in the project. UDOT would like to have the design study approved by the end of 2005. The County Council will have the decision on the next agenda.

Other Administrative

I. Discussion of Proposed Ordinance for Granting Residential Property Tax Exemptions (Dorothy Gough)

Tabled

J. Discussions of Mineral Lease Allocation (Fran Townsend)

Fran put together a spreadsheet of Mineral Lease allocations from recent years along with the Resolution for 2004 & 2005. Fran will prepare a resolution allocating 1/3 of the total to each entity Hospital, Solid Waste and Recreation Districts.

MOTION: Nate Knight moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending legal issues. Joette Langianese seconded. Present were Judy Carmichael, Nate Knight, Rex Tanner, Joette Langianese, Jerry McNeely, Audrey Graham Jim Lewis, Fran Townsend and Diana Carroll. Motion carried 7-0. **MOTION:** Judy Carmichael moved to end the executive session. Jim Lewis seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

MOTION: Judy Carmichael moved to enter into executive session to discuss collective bargaining. Nate Knight seconded. Present were Judy

Carmichael, Nate Knight, Rex Tanner, Joette Langianese, Jerry McNeely, Audrey Graham Jim Lewis, Fran Townsend and Diana Carroll. Motion carried 7-0. MOTION: Joette Langianese moved to end the executive session. Judy Carmichael Seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Recess/Adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

The evening session of the Grand County Council meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry McNeely at 7:00 p.m. Joette Langianese was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sam Sturman

Approval of Payment of Bills

MOTION: Judy Carmichael moved to approve payment of bills presented in the amount of \$643,476.02 check numbers 42193 - 42520. Nate Knight seconded. Roll call vote: Carmichael – aye; Knight – aye; Tanner – aye; McNeely – aye; Graham – aye; Lewis - aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Minutes

K. Approval of Minutes of Council Meeting: October 4, November 15 and November 29, 2005 (Fran Townsend)

MOTION: Audrey Graham moved to approve the minutes of the October 4 meeting. Judy Carmichael seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Judy Carmichael moved to approve the minutes of the November 15 meeting. Audrey Graham seconded. Audrey had corrections from page 5 the Public meeting in Thompson was December 15 and in Moab December 14. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Audrey Graham moved to approve the minutes of the November 29 meeting. Judy Carmichael seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

Citizens to be Heard

Sarah Fields is requesting a public hearing be held in Moab to allow citizens to voice their opinion on the matter of radioactive waste being hauled through Moab to White Mesa Mill in Blanding. County Council agreed to support a letter requesting the public hearing be held in Moab.

Mark Horowitz – Regarding the articles and letters to the editor feels there is a conflict of interest for Dave Cozzens to be a Planning Commission member. Mark asked the Council to remove Dave from the Planning Commission.

L. Presentation of Service Recognition to Kent Green (Jerry McNeely)

Jerry presented Kent Green a plaque in honor of 20 years of service working in the Sheriff's Office.

M. Public Hearing Regarding 2006 Budget (Fran Townsend)

Fran – presented the proposed 2006 Budget to the County Council. The meeting was opened to the public for comment.

Bob Maxwell – requested Council to consider a request for \$2,000 for the creation of a GED testing facility in Moab using USU campus.

Marian Delay representing the Tourism, Tax Advisory Board clarified the notation on the side of the budget spreadsheet as just a note.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:20 p.m.

N. Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Property Tax Increase (Fran Townsend)

Fran noted that even with a tax increase, \$130,000 will come out of the fund balance. The ad in the paper includes the other component entities of the County. The meeting was opened to the public for comment.

Mona Horowitz - asking to look carefully at tax increase. All other costs are increasing, I would stand to loose my house if the tax increased.

John Fogg – Is losing Green River revenue the reason for the increase or is it poor management? (Fran) two fold. John – Can we approach the State of Utah for re-imbursement of the loss of revenue. Employees need a COLA. The single most expense in running a business is property tax. Grand County should approach State to make up loss in Green River.

Sarah Fields – not a property owner in Utah. Assessments and rates have increased, does the State have an abatement program for seniors and low income. Fran – Circuit Breaker is available to low income residents to allow for abatement – the level of income is \$24,700 annually.

Mark Horowitz – I do not have experience balancing a budget – I do have experience with my own finances. Business is down. Tighten your belts, I'd ask you to do anything you can to avoid a tax increase.

Mona – did we have to have the library, etc. Audrey – the voters approved the tax increase. At whose expense do we build these buildings?

Public Hearing closed at 7:40 p.m.

K. Consideration of Approval of an Resolution Allocating Mineral Lease Monies for 2006 (Fran Townsend)

Fran presented the Resolution. **MOTION:** Jim Lewis moved to approve the resolution as follows: 52% of PILT to the school district and 48% to the

Recreation District. Mineral Lease allocation will be 33 1/3 % to each the Solid Waste District, Hospital District and Recreation District. Audrey Graham seconded. Motion carried 4-2 (Tanner and Knight against).

Other Considerations

Council and Administrative Reports

Moab Tailings Site Project Update – there will be a meeting at Grand Center December 14 and in Thompson on December 15.

Future Agenda Items

MOTION: Jim Lewis moved to enter into executive session to discuss the Character, Competence or Health of an individual. Audrey Graham seconded. Present were Judy Carmichael, Nate Knight, Rex Tanner, Jerry McNeely, Audrey Graham, Jim Lewis, Fran Townsend and Diana Carroll. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Judy Carmichael moved to end the executive session. Audrey Graham seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Audrey Graham moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Jim Lewis seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

ATTEST:

Fran Townsend
Grand County Clerk/Auditor

Jerry McNeely
Grand County Council Chairman