

**MINUTES**  
**WEBER COUNTY COMMISSION**

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom meeting + at Weber Center, 2380 Washington Blvd., Ogden, UT

In accordance with the requirements of Utah Code Annotated Section 52-4-203, the County Clerk records in the minutes the names of all persons who appear and speak at a County Commission meeting and the substance "in brief" of their comments. Such statements may include opinion or purported facts. The County does not verify the accuracy or truth of any statement but includes it as part of the record pursuant to State law.

**WEBER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:** Gage Froerer, James "Jim" H. Harvey, and Scott K. Jenkins.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Ricky D. Hatch, County Clerk/Auditor; Bryan Baron, Deputy County Attorney; and Fátima Fernelius, of the Clerk/Auditor's Office, who took minutes.

**A. WELCOME - Chair Froerer**

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Sarah Swan**

**C. INVOCATION - Bryan Baron**

**D. THOUGHT OF THE DAY - Commissioner Harvey**

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

--Lynnda Wangsgard, County Library Director, reported on the libraries' reopening after closing on March 17<sup>th</sup> (related to the COVID-19 pandemic) and noted that Library Board members, Friends of the Library, building managers, etc., were present. She thanked the commissioners for their overriding support to reopen, stating that during the closure staff looked for opportunities to improve and learned to serve in new ways. She acknowledged all the great county teams that led the county forward in extraordinary ways in these last few months. Chair Froerer thanked Ms. Wangsgard and the Library Board and recognized the members present. He said that the Commission wrestled with reopening the libraries, one of the main assets of our county, even though they had not received 100% community support in doing so. Ms. Wangsgard and her team worked very hard to not increase the virus' spread. He stated that what the Library does is a very important part of this county and community and is very much appreciated. Commissioner Harvey echoed Chair Froerer's comments stating that there is great diversification of thought and action by the Board and that he has nothing but the highest respect and appreciation for Ms. Wangsgard who has dedicated her life to this work because she cares so much.

--Ralph Price, of Ogden, thanked Ms. Wangsgard and the Library Board and echoed Commissioner Harvey's comments. He referred to the recent protests and riots stating that there are groups that are not just looking for chaos but want dialogue, that our Board is willing to look at diversity and Weber County leads the way in many ways, that he strongly disagrees with the three minutes allotted for public comment, that the time should be flexible, and that the commissioners have done so much to help him and the community. Chair Froerer stated that the 3-minute limit is to allow everyone who wishes to come and address the Commission to be able to do so, and this is on an equal basis for everyone. As Mr. Price knows very well, this is not the only time to address the Commission and other public officials, as he has spoken with the commissioners in their offices a number of times, and the commissioners are willing to listen.

**F. CONSENT ITEMS:**

1. Warrants #2789-2806 and #449936-450105 in the amount of \$572,834.77
  2. Purchase orders in the amount \$51,539.57
  3. Minutes for the meeting held on June 2, 2020
  4. New business licenses
  5. Retirement Agreement with Sharlene Call
  6. Change Order #5 on Saunders Construction Contract, Ogden Valley Branch site & utility improvements, to adjust contract cost to add back credits & accommodate costs for mitigation of unforeseen site contamination, sandblasting & repainting driveway security gate & provide presentation equipment to facilitate public & staff use of outdoor education center (bowery)
- Commissioner Harvey moved to approve the consent items; Commissioner Jenkins seconded.  
Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Jenkins – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

**G. ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE WEBER COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD – RESOLUTION 12-2020**

Commissioner Harvey stated that currently there is an open position and members of the public applied. The Board recommended the reappointment of Diana Allison, who does a wonderful job.

Commissioner Harvey moved to adopt Resolution 12-2020 reappointing Diana Allison to the Weber County Library Board through June 30, 2024; Commissioner Jenkins seconded.

Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Jenkins – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

**2. FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A LIBRARY CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

Scott Parke, County Comptroller, stated that this separate Fund will allow saving money for future capital improvements for the Weber County library facilities, such as purchase of real property for a new library, current library expansion, and the costs of planning, constructing or rehabilitating our library facilities. It can be used to collect donations, the Commission can appropriate money into this fund through the regular budget process, although not required, and it allows the Commission to set up a transfer into this account of

a portion of unused surplus budget money at the end of each year. He addressed the commissioners' questions stating that once money goes into this fund it is strictly dedicated for the fund's purposes and to pull money out of it to be used for a different purpose would require a vote of the people. Weber County is in a really good financial position, and the fund balance is as high as it has been in the last 15 years. Some county officials had anticipated an economic slow down in 2020 and had been preparing for it. The Library has a large fund balance; that money was built up in anticipation of the recent library projects. Ms. Wangsgard has managed her financial budget very well and Mr. Parke has never seen such a large project come in under or even on budget. One-time money was set aside for construction and improvement of libraries and is currently in the Operating Fund balance, but it was not used because bond funds paid for it, but if left there it could be used for general county operations, which is not preferred. This fund sets up a mechanism to put aside some of that money. Because of the newly constructed library facility and library expansion, it is anticipated that the Library's operating costs will exceed the revenues; the bonds did not include funding the increased operating expenses. Mr. Parke said that the library budget is managed so well that before the pandemic it would have been very hard to hire employees into the library system for the pay, and in the future a salary survey will need to be considered for the library to be competitive. Commissioner Jenkins hopes to put \$5-\$6 million dollars during the budget process this fall of the one-time money into this fund, including for a library in the west part of the county where there isn't one and for maintenance/repairs. Even though we have plenty of fund balance to fund operating expenses, the cost of operating the library is exceeding revenues which will deplete that balance in a couple of years leading to a tax increase. He once questioned whether the county should continue to support the library system at the current level, but the people voted for it, thus he supports it and this fund. Commissioner Froerer asked if the fund could be used for building maintenance, and Mr. Parke affirmed that it could be used for that purpose.

Commissioner Harvey moved to approve the first reading of the ordinance establishing a Library Capital Projects Fund; Commissioner Jenkins seconded.

Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Jenkins – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

**3. RESOLUTIONS APPOINTING 2 MEMBERS TO WEBER COUNTY CAREER SERVICE COUNCIL – RESOLUTIONS 13 & 14**

Sarah Swan, Administrative Services Director, presented two open positions and membership requirements. Commissioner Harvey moved to adopt Resolution 13-2020 reappointing Robert Hunter to the Weber County Career Service Council through June 30, 2023; Commissioner Jenkins seconded.

Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Jenkins – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

Commissioner Harvey moved to adopt Resolution 14-2020 reappointing Marcia Owen to the Weber County Career Service Council through June 30, 2023; Commissioner Jenkins seconded.

Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Jenkins – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

**4. AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, CENTRAL FEDERAL LANDS HIGHWAY DIVISION FOR PROJECT SCOPING OF CAUSEY RESERVOIR ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS (FEDERAL LANDS ACCESS PROGRAM GRANT)**

Bill Ross, with County Community Development, stated that the county's application was accepted for the scoping portion of this work. There is no cost to the county. The commissioners stated that this is a much needed project.

Commissioner Jenkins moved to approve the agreement with the Federal Highway Administration-Central Federal Lands Highway Division for project scoping of Causey Reservoir Access Improvements (Federal Lands Access Program grant); Commissioner Harvey seconded adding that the county now enjoys a fantastic relationship with the U.S. Forest Service, which is due in large part to Ranger Sean Harwood.

Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Jenkins – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

**H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:** Commissioner Jenkins noted that it had been a difficult week for the county, including the loss of Ogden City police officer Nate Lyday, as well as the riots and protests, and the County Sheriff's Office put in lots of extra time. The county responded well this week. Chair Froerer recognized the Sheriff's Office and thanked the 911 dispatchers/staff, who have been under tremendous stress, and thanked all the citizens of Weber County who protested civilly. Commissioner Jenkins concurred with how difficult the 911 dispatcher's job is.

**I. ADJOURN**

Commissioner Jenkins moved to adjourn at 11:05 a.m.; Commissioner Harvey seconded.

Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Jenkins – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

Attest:

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Gage Froerer, Chair  
Weber County Commission

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Ricky D. Hatch, CPA  
Weber County Clerk/Auditor