

MINUTES
WEBER COUNTY COMMISSION

Tuesday, August 22nd, 2023 – 10:01 a.m.

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

In accordance with the requirements of Utah Code Section 52-4-203, the County Clerk records in the minutes the names of all persons who 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 Sharon Bolos
STAFF PRESENT: Ricky Hatch, County Clerk/Auditor; Chris Crockett, Deputy County Attorney; and Craig D. Brandt, of the County Clerk/Auditor's office, who took minutes.

A. WELCOME: Chair Froerer

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Kristy Bingham

C. INVOCATION: Commissioner Harvey

D. THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Commissioner Froerer: The tragedies in Maui, Hawaii and personal things that have happened in my life the last few days have brought to mind something I heard a number of years ago which is you only have two big things in your life, the rest are all small things. The first one is your born, that's a big deal. And when you die, that's the other big deal. Everything in between is not quite that important yet we tend to focus on things that are not that important. My thought for the day, let's make sure we look at the big factors and don't be concerned with some of these little things. Make sure those friends, families know how much we love them.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE.

F. PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation of the 2023 Weber County Women in Business Awards:

Commissioner Bolos: July was National Women in Business Month. We thought it would be a great opportunity to recognize women within Weber County.

Learning is Power Award: Janie Avery is Weber County's first dedicated County Records Officer. This is a brand new position, which means there was minimal in-house training available, and a lot of information to learn in a short time. Janie dove right in and achieved certification in both areas offered by the State Archives (they usually recommend alternating years between the two). She has also engaged with records officers in other counties to learn their best practices and adopt anything that will help Weber County improve. She has also delved into state and county code to truly understand the core legal foundation for her role and responsibilities. All of this demonstrates what an avid learner she is, and it has already paid huge dividends for Weber County.

Rising Star Award: Kristi Clark: Kristi recently was promoted to the lead support person in our corrections visitation group. This group interacts with inmates, their families, their attorneys and keeps the financial records for inmates while in custody. This is a challenging job and she has stepped in and we didn't miss a beat. She is detail oriented, hardworking and is making great improvements in a very short time.

Service Star Award: Shirley Robinson - Treasurer's Office - Shirley is a friend to all who enter the Treasurer's office. She listens patiently, and responds with kindness and understanding - always - even when the conversations are hard and the customers are unhappy or discouraged. She has regular customers (tax payers) who come in the office just to see her. She brightens the day for all who interact with her.

Above & Beyond Award: Jacque Cole: She has completed the new condo/townhome permits in the last few years with numbers reaching over 1,000. She works with efficiency and has outstanding quality. She is driven and hard working. She completes her tasks with a smile and is always willing to help where she can. Even though her workload is one of the highest. She has multiple tasks and always completes them on time. She is the positive in the office that is always trying to find activities in the office to promote team building and good atmosphere. She is deserving of this award.

Chair Froerer: Congratulations to these four great employees. Going through the applications, this could have gone to a number of people. It just goes to show what we have here in Weber County.

Commissioner Harvey: Congratulations to you. You have earned this because how great you are. Thank you!

G. CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Warrants #8724-8763, #478546-478700 and #284 in the amount of \$3,754,322.20.
2. Purchase orders in the amount of \$89,952.17.

3. Summary of Warrants and Purchase Orders.
4. Minutes for the meetings held on August 8th and 15th, 2023.
5. New business licenses.
6. Inter-local Agreement with Farr West City for code enforcement services.
7. Contract with Ogden Invitational Hockey League for a NHL Dasherboard Donation.
8. Amendment to Subrecipient Agreement with Youth Impact for American Rescue Plan Act SLFRF Funds.
Commissioner Bolos moved to approve the consent items; Commissioner Harvey seconded.
Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Bolos – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

H. ACTION ITEMS:

1. **APPROVAL OF THE FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 2023-27 AMENDING CERTAIN FEES TO WEBER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FACILITIES.**

Todd Ferrario (Recreation & Parks Director): This was a miss on our prior fee revision. We are asking the North Fork Park summer and winter yurt fees be updated.

Commissioner Harvey moved to approval of the final reading of Ordinance 2023-27 amending certain fees to Weber County Parks and Recreation Department Facilities; Commissioner Bolos seconded.
Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Bolos – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

2. **APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH MARIE OSMOND FOR ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES FOR THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEERY’S EGYPTIAN THEATER.**

Kassi Bybee (OECC Director): This is a contract with Marie Osmond for the January 26th, 2024 kick off of 100th Year celebration of the Peery’s Egyptian Theater. This will be a gala starting with a dinner and ending with her concert.

Commissioner Harvey moved to approval of a contract with Marie Osmond for entertainment services for the 100th Anniversary of Peery’s Egyptian Theater; Commissioner Bolos seconded.
Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Bolos – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

3. **APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT WITH WHEELER CAT FOR MAINTENANCE SERVICE ON TRANSFER STATION EQUIPMENT.**

Ron Brown (Assistant Director, Transfer Station): We need to renew our contract with Wheeler on servicing the 315 and the 950 every 250 hours with servicing the hydraulics every 2000 hours.

Commissioner Bolos moved to approval of a contract with Wheeler CAT for maintenance service on Transfer Station equipment; Commissioner Harvey seconded.
Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Bolos – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

4. **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 38-2023 PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 21, 2023, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF WEBER COUNTY, UTAH, A PROPOSITION REGARDING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$98,000,000 OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS; AND RELATED MATTERS.**

Commissioner Bolos: I wanted to bring the attention to recent accreditation from the American Corrections Association, received on August 9th. The association was founded in 1870 and is the oldest association created for practioners in the correctional profession. I wanted to give accommodation to our Corrections team. This is not an easy accreditation to achieve.

Sheriff Arbon: That was a heavy lift and Chief Reese did a fantastic job and so did Captain Ryan and their team.

We started a journey on continuing improvements with the Correctional facility. We have been learning about having the proper medical and mental health care at our facilities for our inmates. Recently our team took a trip to Bergen County in New Jersey and learned about their reentry teams and what they do for their inmates. We asked what we can do more for our inmates when they are released. We created a presentation that we want to share with you and the public. A November 2021 Expansion Feasibility Study estimated cost of \$62.5M for two new pods, a new work release building, and a medical/mental health wing. The revised

costs in 2023 jumped substantially to \$140M. Chief Reese led a team to look at ways to reduce this cost, starting with looking at data from the state and Weber County courts, we looked at our own data, we looked at what the state prison has done. How can we centralize and not spend so much money? One idea is to renovate a portion of the sheriff's office to create a medical and mental health and then add some wings to that to accommodate a male and female section of medical/mental health. This would add 48 beds and relief the pressure of housing in the main facility where they are currently mixed in, requiring additional supervision.

The previous medical/mental health cells will be converted to a video court. Some of the struggles we have now is transportation. Every time the inmates need to go to court or another facility we have to transport them. We are seeing a trend moving towards more and more video court substantially dropping costs of transportation. Currently, inmates may have to appear in other courts; they will be transported only to have the hearing delayed; there are times when deputies have to travel to other counties to pick up inmates and are required to spend the night. Video court allows the inmates to be seen in front of a judge without having to travel.

Multiple solutions have been explored over several years for an administrative building. Parking availability and costs drove a decision to go vertical on a four story administrative building to be called the Weber County Justice Center. The lower two levels will be the work release center and the administrative offices will be on the fourth floor. We want to include allied agencies as a hub and support and to collaborate on offering something better for inmates being released to reduce recidivism. We want to reduce building costs through renovating in lieu of building new. This building will be more energy efficient, provide for future expansion, and will cost up to \$150k less in maintenance. Also, no additional land will need to be purchased. No additional staff or property required with the proposed project. This will be a 225 bed facility.

We feel if we do not do this that we increase possible liability and lawsuits and this could worsen over time. We feel these new facilities will reduce recidivism and liability while increasing public safety. The bond cost is under \$5 per month per household and about \$60 per year based on a home value of \$468k.

Commissioner Bolos: We have a thorough understanding of the process you've gone through to get to this point. Thanks for your work and your concern for moving forward and what we need to do in our community and reducing recidivism which is our main goal.

Commissioner Harvey: The data certainly supports the need. Thank you for being so well prepared.

Chair Froerer: Can you give us an idea of how many of our inmates are from Weber County versus outside? And how many deal with mental health and/or substance abuse issues?

Chief Reese: For a long period of time we housed out of county inmates on contract. Since the pandemic, a vast majority come from Weber County. By in large, every inmate has touched some component of mental illness or substance abuse.

Commissioner Bolos moved to approve Resolution 38-2023 providing for a special bond election to be held on November 21, 2023, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of Weber County, Utah, a proposition regarding the issuance of not to exceed \$98,000,000 of General Obligation Bonds; and related matters; Commissioner Harvey seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Bolos – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

I. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

1. Commissioner Bolos: Thank you Mr. Chair for letting the Sheriff's office be in my portfolio. I enjoy working with them. They are a great group of people.
2. Chair Froerer: They are a great group of people to work with.
3. Commissioner Harvey: Hopefully we can get the people educated and see the need.

J. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Bolos moved to adjourn at 11:03 am.; Commissioner Harvey seconded.

Commissioner Harvey – aye; Commissioner Bolos – aye; Chair Froerer – aye

Attest:

Gage Froerer, Chair
Weber County Commission

Ricky D. Hatch, CPA
Weber County Clerk/Auditor