

**MINUTES  
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WEBER COUNTY**

Tuesday, November 22, 2011 - 5:45 p.m.  
2380 Washington Blvd., Ogden, Utah

*In accordance with the requirements of Utah Code Annotated Section 52-4-7(1)(d), the County Clerk records in the minutes the names of all citizens 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.*

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Jan M. Zogmaister, Chair, Craig L. Dearden and Kerry W. Gibson.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ricky D. Hatch, County Clerk/Auditor; David C. Wilson, Deputy County Attorney; Fátima Ferneliuss, of the Clerk/Auditor's Office, took minutes.

**A. WELCOME** - Chair Zogmaister

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - Shelly Halacy

**C. THOUGHT OF THE DAY** - Commissioner Dearden

**D. CONSENT ITEMS:**

1. Purchase Orders for \$149,879.38
2. Warrants #280018-#280235 for \$3,006,987.22, less #280065 for \$270.00 to be voided
3. Minutes for the meeting held on November 15, 2011
4. ACH payment to US Bank for \$73,008.00 for purchasing card transactions through billing cycle ending November 15, 2011

Commissioner Dearden moved to approve the consent items; Commissioner Gibson seconded, all voting aye.

**E. ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **CONTRACT WITH WEBER FIRE DISTRICT TO PROVIDE EMT SERVICES DURING SWAT CALL-OUTS - CONTRACT C2011-214**

Undersheriff Kevin McLeod, of the County Sheriff's Office, stated that this agreement allows the Weber Fire District to provide medical assistance when necessary at SWAT call-outs. The District will bring in the medical equipment and provide the personnel. The county will train personnel in the tactical aspects (i.e., firearms). Undersheriff McLeod addressed Commissioner Dearden's questions stating that he had approached the personnel who previously provided the service, as well as other agencies, however, it had not worked out. Other fire agencies had not been contacted to assist because of the manpower issue and Undersheriff McLeod felt it was best to work with Weber Fire District, which wants to participate and which offered a reliable and manageable number of people to train and certify. Logistically it would have been difficult to approach every agency. Chair Zogmaister asked who would be paying for the training and Undersheriff McLeod responded that the county will train but will not pay their wages. The District will pay wages for the additional training. The only time the county will actually pay personnel is when they are on a call.

Commissioner Gibson moved to approve Contract C2011-214 with the Weber Fire District to provide EMT services during SWAT call-outs; Commissioner Dearden seconded, all voting aye.

**F. PUBLIC HEARING (WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M.)**

1. Commissioner Dearden moved to adjourn the public meeting and convene the public hearing; Commissioner Gibson seconded, all voting aye.

## 2. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE 2012 BUDGET

Dan Olsen, County Comptroller, stated that there are weak economic indicators in Weber County and nationally and no revenue improvement is expected for the next 2-3 years. The county's total revenues are \$110 million and property taxes make up 36% of that. In preparing the budget, certain impacts to the economy are reviewed—jobs/unemployment, the housing market and taxable sales. Through the end of June 2011 job growth has been flat in the county and the unemployment rate in October was below 8% for the first time in 2½ years. National statistics show housing starts for 2012 at about 566,000 (1/4 of 2005) and this has a devastating impact on the economy because according to economists each new home creates an average of 3 jobs and \$90,000 in taxes. Economists predict that national housing prices have not hit bottom yet, expecting another 5% decrease through the end of 2013 and Utah is following the nation's trend. According to the Salt Lake Tribune, sales of homes in every zip code in the county, except Riverdale, had a decrease, and according to the Association of Realtors the number of homes sold has dropped 40% in the last 4 years.

Property values are decreasing and the county's tax base is based on value. Because there is nothing new coming on the tax rolls, the county is not expecting a lot of growth in property taxes for at least the next 3 years. Property tax growth was overestimated for 2011 resulting in about 1½ % below the original budget but sales taxes are expected to make up that difference. The county expects about \$315,000 in new revenue to the General Fund. Construction values are increasing and the county still has healthy reserves. Personnel costs are half of the budget because the county is a service organization and for the last four years the county has been making reductions in positions through attrition. Health insurance costs and retirement rates have increased. County Departments were requested to submit no-growth budgets. This is the second consecutive year of no COLA or merit increases for county employees. The county is using reserves to balance the budget. There is no proposed tax increase.

Mr. Olsen addressed the commissioners' and David Wilson's questions. RDA tax increment is included under values of new permit construction but not in property tax revenue because the tax increment goes to the Redevelopment Agency and the county does not benefit.

Chair Zogmaister invited public comments and none were offered.

3. Commissioner Gibson moved to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene the public meeting; Commissioner Dearden seconded, all voting aye.
4. **ACTION ON PUBLIC HEARING:** No action was necessary.

## G. ASSIGN PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & THOUGHT OF THE DAY FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2011, 10 A.M.

## H. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

## I. ADJOURN

Commissioner Dearden moved to adjourn at 6:21 p.m.; Commissioner Gibson seconded, all voting aye.

Attest:

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Jan M. Zogmaister, Chair  
Weber County Commission

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Ricky D. Hatch, CPA  
Weber County Clerk/Auditor