

FREDONIA TOWN COUNCIL WORK MEETING
JULY 20, 2017
FREDONIA TOWN HALL
6:00 p.m.

Pursuant to ARS 38-431.01, notice is hereby given to members of the Fredonia Town Council and the public that a Work Meeting will be held on July 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Mary Reynolds, Jim Matson, Byrd Kershaw, Brent Chamberlain, Greg Honey, Chris Evers, Mayor Griffiths, Councilor Hughes, Councilor Purvis, Councilor McConnell, Buster Johnson (telephonically), and Christy Riddle.

Call to Order: Time 6:00 by Jim Matson

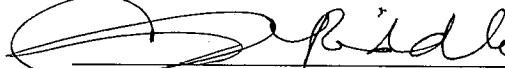
- A. Discussion and possible action regarding joint IGA or memorandum of understanding for coordination and exercise of joint powers with Kane County, Kanab City, Coconino County, and Mohave County- **there was discussion had amongst the group about the purpose of creating the group, a name for the group, when the meetings would be held, where the meeting would be held, and a chairperson from Kanab and one from Fredonia. Further minutes are attached as appendix A.**
- B. Adjournment: 7:30 by Jim Matson

Approved:



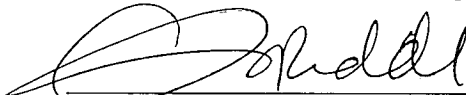
Randy Griffiths, Mayor

Attest:



Christy Riddle, Town Clerk

Certification – I, hereby, certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting. I further, certify that the meeting was duly called and held.



Christy Riddle, Town Clerk

July 20, 2017

Minutes for the AZ/UT Resource Coalition

First Interlocal meeting between Fredonia Town Council, Kane County, Mohave County and Kanab City:

In attendance: Fredonia Town Council - Kimley Purvis, Megan McConnell, Randy Griffiths (mayor), Carl Hughes and Greg Honey (Fredonia Power Board); Fredonia Town Clerk, Christy Riddle; Kane County Commissioner, Jim Matson, Kane County Research Management Planner, Mary Reynolds; Kanab City Council – Byard Kershaw, Brent Chamberlain; Mohave County Supervisor, Buster Johnson (by conference call); Chris Eberz, Business Owner. Absent: Vice Mayor Andre Bunting.

Meeting began at approximately 6 pm (AZ time); Facilitated by Commissioner Jim Matson. Greg Honey, prayer; Jim Matson, Pledge of Allegiance.

Introductions were made as light dinner was served. Commissioner Matson began by discussing the purpose of the meeting – to build a coalition among local agencies to coordinate with federal and state agencies. Haven't seen an increase in timber harvests, grazing allotments (AUMs) and have experienced shut down in mineral extraction. He stressed the necessity to get organized or this area will not get anything done about these things. Made reference to Brian Head fire and the condition of current natural resources; stated there is no set plan yet, but we must share resources, plans and efforts to address the area's issues.

Carl Hughes sent letter to Arizona Senator McCain's office. They appeared interested but not interested. They don't really care.

Kimley Purvis said "down-state don't care about up-state."

Mary Reynolds said we will be recognized when we unite as a coalition and establish a presence as well as be consistent.

Byard Kershaw stated he was retired BLM; said he was interested in the uranium mining aspect and was disappointed about the withdrawal (of the ability to mine the area.) He recognizes part of the problem is market prices; says there is a gross misunderstanding in the public view about uranium mining.

Brent Chamberlain said he worked in uranium mining. It isn't pollution that is the problem, it is an anti-mining mindset. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) use whatever language suits them (to turn public opinion.) There has never been a mine they like. The more we have (through organization) the better off we will be.

Randy Griffiths wants to work with Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and not approach them with a two-by-four. He wants us to establish we want to work together to help our communities.

Brent said their hands are tied; it is political (for BLM personnel). Career people (higher up) are set on how it should be.

Commissioner Matson said that Mohave and Kane County have certain interests, so he wanted to know what Fredonia wanted. We can organize between our four agencies – Mohave and Kane County, Kanab City and Town of Fredonia. We must formulate from here. Briefly discussed population figures; wants to establish a coalition that unifies our local governments to obtain our goals.

Megan McConnell asked what does Kane and Mohave County gain from this (Coalition)?

Commissioner Matson said it benefits the citizenry; area needs more employers and economic development.

Supervisor Buster Johnson said a unified voice helps everyone. We need to show local interest – be on the same page.

Commissioner asked the group if anyone participated in the Arizona Strip Resource Management Plan. Megan said she was partially involved.

Byard discussed other meetings he attended regarding support of the Monument and what is or isn't allowed pertaining to the Proclamation (6920).

Supervisor Johnson wants to see the reversal of mineral withdrawal from Salazar's era. President Trump's position is making progress for our communities. This is our chance to make a difference.

Byard said there is a forward movement on federal leases (for coal), but the mine permitting process follows, which can take a while.

Brent said he was at a meeting with Harry Barber (KFO) and Harry was called out of it to go to Salt Lake City for a (coal) permitting process.

Byard said the thing about the resolution to reduce the size of the Monument (GSENM) is that tour companies are concerned about how this will affect their economics. Some think their business will be ruined if it is downsized. Without Monument designation the tourist business owners would have an easier time obtaining permits.

Brent explained the problem Western Legends organizers have had and are having for obtaining permits for travelling alongside the Monument. They have a trip that barely touched

the Monument and the permit was denied. The permitting process is cumbersome. If the answer is no, they have to travel down a road further away. "We would never be allowed to camp there, but we were going to be on Kanab field Office land." Monument staff would never get the permit process done in time for Western Legends week.

Carl said it was tough to get our area recognized by Flagstaff (political office). Even the local Justice court (Moccasin) has a tough time being recognized.

Commissioner Matson called that "benign neglect."

Carl added that when the Walnut Canyon Monument was created they took part of (Bruce) Babbitt's grazing allotment. They originally said they wouldn't do that, but they did.

Brent said for organizational purposes we need Kanab City Mayor's input (Bob Houston). It makes sense for a group of us to speak for this area.

Commissioner Matson suggested we switch the nomenclature from UZAT Coalition to AZ/UT Coalition. He thinks Phoenix legislatures will listen closer. [Decided on AZ/UT Resource Coalition]

Carl asked Supervisor Johnson about Mohave County's representative. Was it Gosar and is there support? He reiterated that "we are battling Flagstaff." [Yes]

Supervisor Johnson said Senator John McCain would support this, too, as long as he can work.

Brent Chamberlain had to leave early at 6:45 pm (AZ Time).

Megan McConnell questioned the Memorandum of Understanding and its changes/edits. Recommended to change the header – put Fredonia before Coconino County. Also thinks we should create a paragraph about how new members join; how do we incorporate other communities into the MOU (such as Colorado City or Centennial Park). The MOU addresses how to exit the group, but not how new members join.

Commissioner Matson said that might be Step #2. First we need to establish ourselves as a Coalition. We can formulate the MOU how we see fit.

Christy Riddle asked what the next steps were tonight; and Commissioner Matson asked for a straw vote to go forward.

Craig Honey said organizing our vote will make a difference (establish influence).

Commissioner Matson said he thought our goals were the same – Town of Fredonia, Kane County, Kanab, and Mohave County; what helps Fredonia will help everyone. He referred to the companies that had been closed (over the last ten years) and how it affected the surrounding

areas. It will take all of us to get things done; Fredonia might be in the forefront, but everyone benefits.

Kimley said she wanted to get the ball rolling.

Byard spoke of the decorative stone caches in the area – named who obtains access to quarries and how hard it is sometimes to get permits. Many people/groups use these resources.

Megan asked what we needed to accomplish tonight – Mary Reynolds said we needed an official name.

Christy asked for the AZ/UT Resource Coalition; Supervisor Johnson concurred. Carl asked if everyone agreed and all said “Yes”.

Commissioner Matson said the next step will be to circulate a one-page information sheet with bullet points. We can simply and succinctly address our goals. Commissioner Matson, Mary Reynolds and Mayor Griffiths will help with that.

Megan has to clear her involvement/participation in the Coalition with her employer (National park Service – Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.)

Commissioner Matson suggested we met twice a month beginning in August. A sign-up sheet was circulated with contact information. We will meet 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Arizona time and 7 pm Utah. Next meeting will be hosted by Kanab City and Fredonia can rotate with Kanab. Commissioner Matson will facilitate the meeting when it is in Kanab; Christy will chair when it is in Fredonia. **The SAR Building couldn't be scheduled for August 10th so we scheduled the Kanab City chambers room.**

Chris Eberz (local businessman) offered his property as we develop a better water source for Fredonia. If they need to place tanks anywhere on his land he is O.K. with that. He owns 45-acre feet of water rights.

There was a discussion about Fredonia's water problems; the water is at a trickle, now. Kanab Creek has a reduced flow; it could be because of Jackson Flat Reservoir or a Tamarask (invasive species) problem. There are no treatments or resource management addressing this right now. The wells in Water Canyon are only putting out 30-gallons a minute. Of the ten pumps, six have been ruined by sand. Only four are operating.

Mary told the coalition that Kanab City manager Joe Decker is ready to meet with the group to discuss Fredonia's water needs. We could assign one of the meetings to invite Joe to join us to discuss all the implications.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.