

BOX ELDER COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES JANUARY 24, 2011

The Board of Planning Commissioners of Box Elder County, Utah met in the Box Elder County Commission Chambers at 11:00 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Richard Day	Chairman
Chad Munns	Excused
Desiray Larsen	Member
David Tea	Excused
Ryan Tingey	Excused
Jay Christensen	Member
Laurie Munns	Member

the following Staff was present:

Kevin Hamilton	Director
Elizabeth Ryan	Ex. Secretary
Scott Lyons	Planner
Steve Hadfield	Co. Attorney

Chairman Richard Day called the Planning Commission meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. and turned the time to **Kevin Hamilton** to review and discuss a proposal that would affect the wilderness areas in the western part of Box Elder County. **Mr. Hamilton** said that the County's General Plan is specific in that it supports multiple uses of lands and that those multiple uses includes, mining, grazing, etc. However, the language is not specific enough to stop those that would want to stop all land uses in that part of the County. A proposal submitted by UAC would amend the General Plan that would help to eliminate those problems; it has been reviewed by the County Attorney, **Steve Hadfield**.

Steven Hadfield then discussed an e-mail that had come from Commissioner Luann Adams and Kevin Hamilton from UAC [J. Mark Ward] (attached) pointing out some relevant portions of the Box Elder General Plan.

1. "...all counties in Utah with proposed redrock wilderness units...should have plan provisions that specifically take on and blunt these wilderness proposals ... that speaks up for a variety of traditional uses..."
2. "As part of UAC's overall strategy, we are urging the rest of the counties in the state with proposed wilderness areas to strongly consider amending their general plans..."
3. "We're in a race to position ourselves legally as best we can by getting our plans and policies in place ... so that we may invoke legally all of the clout and leverage of the consistency and coordination requirement"
4. "that fact alone should not be reason for you to roll over and do this with no questions asked. . . . But ...given the bias in the BLM and Interior and in the Federal Courts against the state and counties and in favor of the enviros ...we have to be absolutely crystal clear in each county that we absolutely and clearly and unconditionally oppose these wilderness designations ...if we are to have a fighting chance to prevail ..."
5. "The desired end result is that you would get the public notice process rolling in order to get some kind of proposed amendment in place ...for the legislature to do its part early in the upcoming Legislative General Session."

Then in referring to Order 3310, which basically instructs the BLM to look at the property in their area and determine if it meets wilderness characteristics and treat accordingly. That would

basically result in only non-motorized and non-mechanized uses. That would prevent any motorized uses, use by the air force as test ranges, etc. Without some strong evidence against designating this as a wilderness area, that is the goal of this Order. **Mr. Hadfield** then referred to the “Citizen’s Proposal for Wilderness in Utah” and the general attitude expressed in the last paragraph. (attached)

The proposed amendment was then reviewed “*Box Elder County General Plan Amendment and Clarification Specific to Certain Non-Wilderness Quality Lands Proposed By Environmentalist Groups for Wilderness Management and Designation*” with the Commissioners. In order to move forward with the adoption of the amendment, it would be necessary to set a public hearing, with the required notice given.

A **Motion** was then made by **Commissioner Jay Christensen** to set a Public Hearing for Monday, February 7, 2011 at 11:00 a.m.; seconded by **Commissioner Desiray Larsen** and passed unanimously.

An additional **Motion** was made by **Commissioner Laurie Munns** to set a Public Hearing regarding this amendment to the General Plan and to recommend adoption of the General Plan with the amendments to the County Commissioners. Seconded by **Commissioner Desiray Larsen** and passed unanimously.

A **Motion** was made to adjourn at 11:42 a.m., unanimous.

Passed and adopted in regular session this 17th day of March 2011 .

Richard Day, Chairman
Box Elder County
Planning Commission