

**Minutes of the
Dutch John Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 15, 2009 at 6:00 pm
At the Dutch John Fire Hall**

Members Attending: Julie Rogers, Terry Collier and Gayle Wernsing, Sandy Kunkel, Doug Roloson, Patty Schwartz, Sheryl Street, Harriett Dickerson, Bruno Niccoli, and Dave Jones.

Members Not Attending: Jack Lytle, Craig Collett, Mark Wilson and John Morton

Guests attending: Buddy Rogers, Commissioner Gutz, Georgia Willis and Brian Raymond

1. **Welcome:** In the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, the Secretary Brian Raymond started the meeting at 6:10 and welcomed everyone.
2. **Approve Minutes from December 8, 2008 meeting:** Sheryl Street made the motion to approve the minutes as they are, with Terry Collier seconding the motion. All were in favor-motion carried.
3. **Georgia Willis from the Census Bureau:** Georgia Willis from the Census Bureau is over this area and is here to assess what Dutch John as a community might need from the census? Brian asked if we could get Dutch John listed as a separate census district even though it is not an incorporated township. Income will probably not be one of the questions in the 2010 census, but will probably be addressed in a mid-term year. The 84023 zip code is different than the Dutch John. Georgia showed the grid for how the districts are set up. Georgia said she would have someone Todd Hansen, her boss, call Brian about Dutch John being a separate census area. She also explained that they are looking for employees to help with the 2010 census and they will start working in February. It's a 40 hour per week job, but can be done on the weekends for those who already work a 4 day week. She said they are having trouble getting employees for the Uintah Basin. They are working on increasing the wages in this area, due to the high oil field wages. People living in an RV, a sheep camp, or even the homeless will be counted in the 2010 census. This may lead to some redistricting after the census is completed. Georgia asked is she could use facilities here in Dutch John to do testing? The Conference Hall could probably be used. We could put this in the newsletter.
4. **Trapping and Trap Location Discussion:** Dave Jones brought his dog that had gotten caught in a trap here in Dutch John. He explained that a dog's sense of smell is much better than ours (2 miles away). They smell it and take off right out the door. Terry and Gayle's dog has been caught and another There should be no trapping within 2 miles of the town center or in the Dutch John townsite. Others expressed a concern for the traps around the campsites. Kids play around where the traps are and could get caught. There is plenty of public land outside of the townsite where they could trap. Dave made the motion and Terry Collier seconded the motion to disallow trapping within the Dutch John Townsite. The motion was amended by Dave to recommend to the Commission to not allow any hunting within the Dutch John townsite and Terry seconded the motion. The No Hunting signs around town have been shot up and have disappeared. Dave came across people hunting and shooting towards the townsite and businesses. Others said they have heard the whine of bullets within town. DWR has a requirement to be 600 feet away from homes. All were in

favor of making the recommendation to the Commissioners (with the exception of Bruno who abstained) and the motioned carried. Brian will get this on the Commission Meeting agenda for Wednesday, January 21st, due to the Martin Luther King Day.

5. Commissioner Update:

- **Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Money Discussion:** For Title I of the SRS Money, Daggett County was allocated \$680,547. **Title I** is what is split between the School and the County, so 340,273.50 went to the School District and the County Road Fund. Title II is 8% of the total allocation, which is \$64,051 and Title III money was \$56,045. **Title II** is for “implementing cooperative agreements with willing federal agencies, state and local governments, private and non-profit entities and landowners for protection, restoration/enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat and other resource objectives consistent with the purpose of this act on federal land and non-federal land for projects that will benefit the resources on federal land.
- **Title III funds** are authorized “to 1) carry out activities under the [Firewise Communities](#) program to provide the homeowners in fire sensitive ecosystems education on and assistance with implement techniques in home setting, home construction and home landscaping that can increase the protection of the people and property from wildfire. 2) To reimburse the participating county for search and rescue and other emergency services including firefighting that are: a) performed on federal land after the date on which the use was approved under this section and b) paid for by the participating county. 3) To develop Community Wildfire Protection plans in coordination with the appropriate secretary’s concerns.”
- Commissioner Gutz said he thought that under Title II we could work with the Forest Service as a partner on trails through their land. He also mentioned that the funds are allocated through a RAC board and we may have a tri-county RAC since we have so few people and there are guidelines of who sits on the RAC. It was wondered if we wouldn’t we get shortchanged by the other counties? Commissioner Gutz did not think so, because the money is allocated to the specific counties, so we won’t lose our money.
- Bruno Niccoli asked how this worked in relation to search and rescue. We put the full amount for 8% in Title 2 and 7% in Title 3. It’s a reimbursement for searches that are done on the forest, which is fairly likely in our county.
- Budget Updates: This year’s money for Dutch John was received and is in the interest bearing account. Brian explained the set up the funds and that interest is in each account and stays in each specific account. There is also an operational account where rent payments and all your utilities are paid into. Some thought it seemed like a lot of accounts, but Brian explained that the auditors had set it up that way to keep the moneys separated for better tracking. The money from sale of the property is in two different accounts, neither of which have had any withdrawals yet.
- Patty asked why Fire is in both accounts and Ambulance is only in the General Fund since it serves Dutch John. The \$380,000 budget to the County helps pay for both departments. Fire is also being paid out the general fund. Both departments are for the County not just exclusively for Dutch John. The item you see is a line item that may have been used at one time and just left in, but Brian said he wasn’t real sure.
- Commission Gutz noted that the Developer position was funded. Let’s get going on this or the year will be over before we know it. We probably don’t want to say how much we are willing to pay upfront and Brian mentioned that with Engineering usually an RFQ or Request for Qualifications that doesn’t even discuss the pay, just what their experience is and what they are going to accomplish. After you choose

- someone based on their experience and then you negotiate the contract from their. David Jones said we probably wouldn't want to say how much we have available. Harriet asked if we could do a search for people with expertise on the specific jobs we want to get accomplished. Let's get a separate committee together to move forward on this. Jack Lytle, Harriett Dickerson, Julie Rogers, Sandy Kunkle and Dave Jones will be on the subcommittee. We need to get something ready as we are already looking at the end of March. Brian will send out Maureen's original proposal to everyone and get the additional info to the sub-committee people. Can we use this money to contract instead of hire, which is what most people thought we were going to do anyway. They will be responsible for their own benefits, etc.
- Utility Rates and grant possibilities: We need to raise the rates for the developer to be able to get grants. If we don't have the money to do the needed improvements then why are we hiring someone to tell us what we already know? We have also sent in a list of projects to the Utah Association of Counties (UAC), so we are hopeful that we can get some grants for at least some of these projects. Brown's Park Road project is our number 1 project as it's hard to get enough road money to complete the project.
 - Sewer would need to go up from \$15 to \$52/month and they don't have a lot of money for grants. The water rates would need to go up from \$45 to \$65 for Dutch John to be eligible for grants, but Drinking Water has more money available for grants, so even though it's higher than sewer it would be incrementally less per month to be eligible for grants. Seasonal people pay their monthly amount even when they are not here, so it is really costly for them. Right now Residential water is \$45/mo, sewer is \$15/mo and garbage is \$28. This would go up \$20 for a total of \$108. Part of the reason this is so high is there are so few people to spread the costs to. The sewer could be lowered some to offset the raise in water rates if the Commission so decided. There are also increased costs for M & O for the new systems that need to be taken into account even though it isn't a lot of money. This is incentive to get more people and businesses here to spread out the costs.
 - One opinion was expressed that the Federal Government gave us the money for infrastructure and we ought to spend it before we raise the rates. Dutch John shouldn't have to keep the County afloat and have to pay the highest utility rates. There was some discussion about future costs and who's going to paying for what, but it was rather heated on both sides.
 - The proposal was made that Manila rates should be raised so that both sides of the county pay the same rates. County residents in Manila pay to the Town of Manila, not the County \$50.50/month for water and sewer, if they have sewer, which most don't. If they have garbage pick up, they pay an additional \$42.
 - We can't afford to keep sustaining the jail, so the Commissioners need to make a decision to minimize this expense. Can we afford to take an additional loan for the jail when we can't make the current payments? There was some c.
 - Sandy Kunkle asked what happens if we lose our certified water expert. The County does have Sean Hughes as a back-up. Terry Collier said he was certified, but they let his certification expire and it's not easy to get and takes some time to prepare for the exams.
 - Several people would not support the raising of rates even if that took away the grant possibilities, but it became contentious again and we moved on to water and sewer topic again. Brian said that we were just trying to save some of the money and allow for the generation of future interest.

6. **Water and Sewer Update:** Brian Raymond said the sewer was approved today. We hope to be out for bid by the end of the month or early February. The water project is 90 days out or so, but we also found that we did not miss the deadline for future stimulus money. We have until Tuesday to get our application in. Talking with Chris Clarke he hopes to have the bid out by the end of January or early February. Harriet read a letter from Chris explaining some changes in the water system that will save money, be quicker to construct and cost the same for operational costs. We've got to get the water pressure where it needs to be and then we would be able to sell lots and build more houses. This should be ready to go to bid in another month or so. The developer person can help keep the engineers and contractors on task so they can get finished on time. The nature of construction is nothing is ever as easy it seems and things happen to change schedules and times. Harriett will call Chris 2x month.
7. **Bureau of Reclamation (Hospital, Water and Sewer, Landfill, etc.):** Buddy Rogers has talked to some people about this as he thought the BOR should take responsibility for the Hospital from cradle to grave under the Resource Recovery Act. He asked if the building had been condemned officially. It probably isn't. Buddy talked to EPA and there are certain criteria that have to be gone through before you take down a building like the Hospital. If the building is condemned it allows a little less stringent guidelines to take it down. The County should talk to their attorneys and work with DEQ (Beau Powell?) to get it properly taken care of. We still need to get it tested to know what's there. The County could be held liable if it's not done properly. Buddy had no information on the other topics. The Attorneys should look at the process for condemning the building. If it gets condemned the County would probably need to fence it. There is old fencing laying around that could be used or it could just be taken down before it has to be fenced.
8. **General Plan Update** (<http://www.daggettcounty.org/gpdraft>): It was approved by Planning & Zoning last night and there were some new items added and tweaked since the last public hearings. The commission can approve as is, make changes or reject following their Hearing at 10:30 am on January 21, 2009 at the Courthouse.
 - o Parks and Trails: The map wasn't added into the General Plan, but it will be part of the Master Plan, when that gets worked on. The 2009 Dutch John Budget has \$5000 parks and trails. Harriet asked about volunteers for grants so Brian explained that anything done before the application is not useable for match. We used a tracking sheet to total our volunteer hours. Brian was told in one of his grant classes that \$18 for an adult volunteer was an okay wage to use for calculation. We can hire an engineer or architect to get it ready to go. Scouts, young women and guides are potential groups to provide volunteers to help get this off the ground. JD Guyman could maybe draw it up for us. Everyone wants to get something done. In Utah \$16.97/hr was the average cost of non-farm labor in 2007 and is a "volunteer" wage.
9. **Items for Next Meeting:** Water and Sewer, Freedom Festival, Parks, Developer Position. Bureau report, Water and Sewer Rates, Resort Lodging location from last month. We desperately need Planning Commission members as we had another resignation last night, plus library board. EMT's are needed-especially in Manila. We have a Dutch John EMT in training plus 3 others, but only two in Manila-one is leaving! A question was asked about the TRT tax and if we could generate more money through that. We received \$72,000 in 2008 and it is its own fund, not part of the general fund. Currently we charge 3%, but we could raise that up to 4 ¼ or 4 ½. We could bring out groups if we had a conference center. Have to have people coming to build the lodging. The attorneys are looking at ways of changing the disposal policy that could benefit the community. Let's talk about making a

recommendation for the Sale of property-We could host a reality TV show and make the money from that. We can't really do anything about this tonight as it's not on the agenda. We are looking at putting the three properties that did not sell at the last auction-3, 16, & 17. Under current regulation lots have to be sold at the assessed value.

10. **Next Meeting:** February 5th, 2009 at 6:00 pm

11. **Motion to adjourn** at 8:15 pm by Gayle Wernsing and seconded by Bruno Niccoli

Minutes approved as written at the February 5, 2009 meeting with motion made by Bruno Niccoli, second by Harriett Dickerson and all in attendance in favor.