



**PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING**  
117 South Main Street, Monticello, Utah 84535. Commission Chambers  
September 12, 2024 at 6:00 PM

---

**MINUTES**

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Welcome / Roll Call**

Planning Commission Chair Trent Schafer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Trent Schafer  
Vice-Chair Lloyd Wilson  
Commissioner Cody Nielson  
Commissioner Thomas Garcia  
Commissioner Shea Walker  
Commissioner Melissa Rigg  
Commissioner Ann Austin  
Planning Administrator Kristen Bushnell  
County Attorney Mitch Maughan  
County Attorney Jens Nielson  
County Administrator Mack McDonald (online)  
County Commissioner Silvia Stubbs (online)

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

No conflicts of interest were disclosed at this time.

**Approval of Minutes**

**1. Approval of Planning Commission Meeting Minutes from July 11, 2024**

**Time Stamp 0:02:00 (audio)**

There was clarification needed from Commissioner Rigg on the Desert Rose Tours LLC Heliport that was previously approved for the storage of fuel. The other commissioners clarified that the fuel was not going to be stored in a permanent container but that a truck would be used for transport and storage.

Motion made by Commissioner Walker to approve the meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Garcia.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.

**PUBLIC HEARING for the Consideration and Approval of a Conditional Use Permit Allowing for a Private Airstrip, Old La Sal, Steven Redd**

**Time Stamp 0:15:00 (audio)**

Motion made by Commissioner Garcia to enter into Public Hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Rigg.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.

Public Comment was made by Lynn French in support of the Steven Redd Airstrip in Old La Sal.

Motion made by Commissioner Wilson to exit Public Hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Walker.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** - *Time reserved for public comments. Open comments are not allowed once into Administrative and Legislative agenda items.*

**Time Stamp 0:22:00 (audio)**

Public Comment was made by Robert Schaver of Old La Sal asking for clarification of the Steven Redd Airstrip and to verify that it is a private airstrip.

Public Comment was made by Kelsey Wilson of Geyser Pass in support of an Agriculture zone and wanting clarification on the County Zoning Process.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

**2. Update for La Sal Community Workshop & Comments from Geyser Pass, Kristen Bushnell**

**Time Stamp 0:08:00 (audio)**

Planning Administrator Bushnell informed the commissioners of the Community Workshop to be held at the La Sal Community Center on Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Please help get the word out to our communities.

**3. Importance of Title Report Training, Daniel Anderson**

**Time Stamp 0:26:00 (audio)**

Daniel Anderson of Anderson-Oliver Title Company gave training on the importance of obtaining Title Reports from owners and how to read through the information within.

**4. Update of Variance Decision for APC Towers at 4110 South HWY 191 from Lyn Creswell, Kristen Bushnell**

**Time Stamp 1:23:00 (audio)**

Planning Administrator Bushnell summarized the decision from our Administrative Law Judge ruling in favor of the height variance for APC Towers to be located at 4110 South HWY 191 outside of Blanding City limits.

**LEGISLATIVE ITEMS**

**5. Consideration and Approval of a Conditional Use Application for a HipCamp to be Located near Looking Glass Rock for Where the Wild Things Camp, Steven Alba**

**Time Stamp 1:26:00 (audio)**

Planning Administrator gave a brief overview of the project, previously proposed in March. The issues of Greenbelt taxes were sorted out with the County Assessor's office. The Planning Commissioners discussed the need to improve the access road from the "Y" intersection on the SITLA parcel to the camp resort to ensure emergency access.

Motion made by Commissioner Nielson to approve with the following conditions:

- Must protect any existing well water sources from contamination by campers or hikers within the area.
- Must comply with the Utah Division of Drinking Water requirements for any water storage tanks on the site.
- Must comply with all building code and permit requirements including a fire suppression plan for campsites.
- Must maintain a 15' wide roadway to property for emergency services access.
- Must provide campers with safety guidelines for dangers present in surrounding areas to include falling, hiking, climbing, off-roading, location of first-aid, heat stroke, dangers of severe weather conditions and flooding.
- Must comply with San Juan County Health Department requirements.
- Must comply with San Juan County business license requirements.

Seconded by Commissioner Rigg.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.

**6. Consideration and Approval of a Temporary Conditional Use Application for a RV Trailer extension during home build to be Located at 170 South Copper Mill Road in La Sal, John Hinde**

**Time Stamp 1:47:00 (audio)**

Planning Administrator Bushnell introduced the application for a temporary RV trailer while building a permanent residence at 170 South Copper Mill Road in La Sal for John Hinde.

Motion made by Commissioner Wilson to approve with the following conditions:

- Must protect any existing well water sources from contamination.
- Must comply with the Utah Division of Drinking Water requirements for any water storage tanks on the site.
- Must comply with all building code and permit requirements.
- Must comply with San Juan County Health Department requirements.
- Must comply with San Juan County business license requirements.

Seconded by Commissioner Garcia.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.

**7. Consideration and Approval of a Conditional Use Permit for Telecommunication Equipment to be mounted on Swinging Steak Restaurant in Mexican Hat, Daniel Thurgood, Technology Associates**

**Time Stamp 1:52:00 (audio)**

Planning Administrator gave an overview of the telecommunication dish proposal for placement on or near the Swinging Steak in Mexican Hat. Planning Commissioners verified that the use of this dish serves as a relay to their other equipment in the area.

Motion made by Commissioner Wilson to approve with the following conditions:

- Prior to construction, the applicant shall apply for and receive a San Juan County building permit.
- The applicant shall apply for, receive, and maintain a San Juan County business license if used commercially and be subject to regular inspections associated with the business license – to include a review of compliance with the CUP conditions.
- The construction and operation of the tower shall comply with the International Fire Code and the San Juan County Fire Policy – and be subject to inspection by fire authorities.
- The telecommunication tower shall be operated in compliance with federal regulations.
- The telecommunication tower shall not be used for outdoor advertising, signage, or similar uses without first obtaining permission from San Juan County.
- This permit shall be null and void if the tower is abandoned as a telecommunication facility or the tower is not maintained for 90 days. After abandonment or non-maintenance, the tower shall be removed at owner's expense.
- Any neighbor or adjacent property owner or person reasonably expected to be at or near the facility during construction, maintenance, or other activity which has the potential to harm an individual shall be informed of the activity and provided with safety information, as appropriate.
- The facility shall be kept clean and free from rubbish, flammable waste material or other noxious or nuisance substances.

Seconded by Commissioner Walker.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.

**8. Consideration and Approval of a Conditional Use Permit Allowing for a Private Airstrip, Old La Sal, Steven Redd**

**Time Stamp 1:58:00 (audio)**

Planning Administrator Bushnell reviewed the previous Conditional Use Permit for a private dirt airstrip in Old La Sal for Steven Redd. She also gave an update of the requested information of adjacent/nearby land owners, topography of the land, and reported on sending out notice to affected parties. The report from the County’s airport engineer was reviewed, and these comments were included in the conditions listed below.

Planning Commissioners discussed other considerations of this particular site. They concluded that there were no major drainages through this area. Commissioner Walker suggested that #2 proposed condition for adjusting flight paths to avoid residential was not practical and should be removed. The other commissioners generally agreed. They discussed safety thresholds with the applicant’s representative, Bruce Nebeker.

Motion made by Commissioner Garcia to approve with the following conditions:

- Administrative Staff will coordinate with the County airport engineering firm on safety & hazards mitigation recommendations. This review will be approved by staff prior to issuance of building permit and/or business license. Engineering consultant expenses will be covered by the applicant at actual cost.
- The extent of buffer and safety zones must be within the owner’s property boundary.
- Must comply with all building code and permit requirements.
- Must comply with any state or federal fire restrictions.
- Must comply with San Juan County business license requirements.

Seconded by Commissioner Nielson.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.

**BUILDING PERMIT(S) REVIEW**

**9. August & September Building Permits**

**Time Stamp 2:14:00 (audio)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Time Stamp 2:15:00 (audio)**

Motion made by Commissioner Nielson to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Austin.

Voting Yea: All in favor. Motion Carries.