

**Wasatch County Parks & Recreation SSD #21
Board Meeting
November 9, 2021
Minutes**

Attendance Live & Zoom:

Jeff Wade, Chairman
Marilyn Crittenden, Vice-Chair
Kendall Crittenden, Member
Steve Farrell, Member
Danny Goode, Member (Zoom)
Mark Nelson, Member
Spencer Park, Member

Tom Bonner, Director
Heath Coleman, Asst. Director
Laurie Duke, Admin. Assistant
Amaria Scovil, Rec. Center Director
Erik Lappe, Rec. Center Program Director
Dustin Grabau, Interim County Manager
Ben Marvin, IT Specialist

Board Chairman, Jeff Wade called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m.

Minutes – October 12, 2021:

Tom Bonner presented the minutes for October 12, 2021.

Board Member, Mark Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes for October 12, 2021.

Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE:	Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE:	Board Member, Mark Nelson
AYE:	Spencer Park, Member

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Board Chairman, Jeff Wade (Absent on October 12, 2021)
Board Member, Steve Farrell (“ “ “ ”)

Minutes – September 14, 2021: (Corrected)

Tom Bonner presented the corrected minutes for September 14, 2021, with the correction under Director's Report on page 5, 2nd paragraph, changing the wording from sewer lines to sewer hook-ups, as requested by Kendall Crittenden.

Board Member, Steve Farrell made a motion to approve the corrected minutes for September 14, 2021. Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE: Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE: Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE: Board Member, Mark Nelson

NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Board Member, Spencer Park (Absent on September 14, 2021)

Warrants:

Tom Bonner presented the warrants for October 9, 2021 to November 4, 2021 in the amount of \$75,223.01

Board Member, Steve Farrell made a motion to approve the warrants for October 9, 2021 through November 4, 2021 in the amount of \$75,223.01. Board Member, Mark Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE: Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE: Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE: Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE: Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE: Board Member, Mark Nelson
AYE: Board Member, Spencer Park

NAY: None

2022 Preliminary Budget Discussion/Consideration on Funding Source:

Tom presented three options to the Board in regards to funding source.

Option 1: Take the tax rate to .00033. Tom explained with this option the total budget would be \$4,643,309. He said to keep in mind we are funding the Parks & Recreation District \$140,000. for additional Operation & Maintenance and \$367,963. to fund our portion of the MOU, for the replacement and repair of facilities for a total of \$507,963.

Option 2: Half from TRT funds and half from tax rate. The half tax rate would be .000297. With this option the total budget would be \$4,388,998. Steve asked why there was such a difference in the total budget.

Tom explained that they have discussed these options with the Advisory Board, Dustin, and even a little with Barry. If we go with this option using half TRT and half tax rate, the money we would bring in for the MOU on our side, whether it comes from tax or half TRT or all TRT, (which will be the next option), we would take those funds and put them in a capital improvement fund.

Tom summarized that if we do all taxes the district will transfer that money into the capital improvement account. If it is half we will transfer what we need to and then the other half will be transferred from TRT. If we go all TRT it will all be transferred into the capital account. The reason we want that capital improvement account is so that no matter what happens that money is protected for the improvements it has been earmarked for.

Option 3: Continue tax rate that was adopted in June, with no tax rate increase, and the whole \$508,000. would come from the TRT fund.

Steve asked what we are currently getting from TRT and Tom answered \$421,000. We would be asking for an additional \$508,000. from TRT funds. Dustin reported that there is 1.1 million in unallocated TRT funds.

Mark asked Dustin if there were other requests or priorities for this money and Dustin explained that the county's portion of the MOU is \$234,963. Steve asked what that was for and Tom responded that this is the estimated annual cost for the county since they own the buildings. Tom explained that this is more of a brick and mortar cost. Dustin stated that depending on what needs to be repaired or replaced this amount may be a lot higher in some years. The amount of \$234,963. is an annualized average cost.

Mark commented that on the surface he likes option 3, to use TRT funds, but he said that he is skeptical because he doesn't feel he has a clear picture of exactly what TRT funds can be used for. Dustin responded that he can bring them the state's outline for eligible use of TRT funds. Steve said that he thought there were certain percentages of what the funds could be used for and Dustin agreed.

Marilyn asked what would happen if they went with option 3 and then next year something unexpected happened. Tom responded that then we would go through this process again next year. Dustin responded that TRT funds tend to be more volatile than other revenue sources, but that we do have current reserves that we could cover for a year or two. Dustin also commented that our TRT taxes are up year to date approximately 40 % and that the 1.1 million estimate is a conservative estimate. Steve again addressed the vulnerability of TRT funds and Dustin agreed. Dustin stated that at the end of the month of January 2021 TRT was down 34 % and now year to date TRT is up 40%, so overall it is very volatile.

As the discussion continued, it seemed the Board was leaning toward option 3, but Steve asked Dustin to provide a breakdown of what the percentages are and specifically what TRT funds can be used for. Steve stated that we need to be absolutely sure we can get the funds we need. Marilyn agreed, but felt that if we could do option 3 this year it would be good with the property tax challenges we are having.

Spencer asked if any of the options held the tax rate steady. Tom said that Option 2 is the certified tax rate of .000264. and Dustin said it will go down next year.

Steve suggested that we should lobby our state legislatures to propose an inflation rate on Truth in Taxation. Dustin said that has been discussed and that it would benefit us.

Jeff commented that option 1 is probably out and that is the option that has been advertised. Tom stated that we would still have to go through everything at our Public Hearing on December 14th, but we would not have to do that agenda item.

Tom summarized that he will do his preliminary budget based on option 3 and then we will go through the process. If something changes then we have the other options.

Board Member, Kendall Crittenden made a motion to set the Budget Public Hearing and Truth in Taxation for December 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Board Member, Spencer Park seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE:	Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE:	Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE:	Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE:	Board Member, Mark Nelson
AYE:	Board Member, Spencer Park

NAY: None

Update on Senior Citizen Center:

Tom reported that he is working with Dustin on a budget. Tom & Heath have been attending their meetings and went to their corporate meeting today and they are happy with the way things are going. Tom commented that they will be hiring a director after the first of the year. They will also be hiring a maintenance person. Kendall asked if the inmates would still be cleaning a couple days a week. Tom responded that they probably would. Dustin stated that their intent is to have the maintenance person take care of the whole facility, Senior Center and Library. Dustin explained that this would be a county cost, not a Parks & Recreation cost. This is not in the budget right now, but he has talked with Tom about adding it.

Tom stated that in the \$140,000. he has already discussed, there are additional costs with staffing, fuel costs going up, some merit increases for five or six employees. He said that they did go through the Advisory Board, in which Jeff and Marilyn are a part of, regarding a wage study. Jeff reported that they did a comparison to other districts to see if we were in the ball park for Director wages. Jeff asked Tom to email the results of that study to the Board. Tom commented that none of the staff was at the maximum wage and that they would be doing the wage increases over a couple of years.

Jeff asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

Board Member, Spencer Park made a motion to adjourn. Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden seconded the motion. Motion passes with the following vote:

AYE:	Board Chairman, Jeff Wade
AYE:	Board Vice-Chair, Marilyn Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Kendall Crittenden
AYE:	Board Member, Steve Farrell
AYE:	Board Member, Danny Goode
AYE:	Board Member, Mark Nelson
AYE:	Board Member, Spencer Park

NAY:	None
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Meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Laurie Duke