



SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION
MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

Electronic Meeting

(435) 219-1362

Board Members Present: Casey Hopes (Carbon County), Jack Lytle (Daggett County), Greg Miles (Duchesne County), Lynn Sitterud (Emery County), Garth (Tooter) Ogden (Sevier County) and Brad Horrockls (Uintah County)

Also, in attendance: Mike McKee, Eric Johnson, Brian Barton, Mike Hawley, Kelly Carter, Doug Rasmussen, Kristi Sharp, Heather Hoyt, Melissa Cano, Kevin Keller, Pam Juliano, and Mark Hemphill.

Attended telephonically: All

Absent: Willie Grayeyes (San Juan County)

Others Present: Commissioner Irene Hansen, Keith Heaton, Darrell Fordham, Troy Ostler, David Dillman, Reed Page, Curtis Wells, Mary McGann, Christina Sloan, Bret Reynolds, Carter Page, Cheryl Meier, Garrett McMullin, Jonathan Johansen, Kate Groetzinger, Lionel Trepanier, Molly Marcello, Kurt Harris, "Owner", Judy Fahys, and Maggie McGuire (Please notify staff at 435-219-1362 of any spelling corrections or if you were present and not listed.)

NOTE: Due to the Coronavirus, dial-in participation was offered. Dial-in numbers were as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://jonesanddemillezoom.us/j/94522815617>

Meeting ID: 945 2281 5617

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US
+1 301 715 8592 US

1. **Welcome and introduction** (Brad Horrocks)
2. **Public Comment** (Brad Horrocks)

Public comment is limited to electronic submission at 7countyutah@gmail.com Comments are forwarded to the Board Members and summarized in the meeting minutes. A complete copy of the comments can be requested at the email address provided herein.

There was no public comment submitted for this meeting.

In addition to the written public comment this will be the first virtual meeting where we will accept verbal public comment during a public hearing for the adoption of the 2021 annual budget. This is item 15 on our agenda today. At the bottom of the agenda there is information provided on how to sign up and participate in this public hearing.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 13, 2020 (Brad Horrocks)

Motion to approve November 13, 2020 meeting minutes as corrected by Commissioner Miles, seconded by Commissioner Ogden.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

4. Report on San Rafael Research Lab.

Commissioner Sitterud began by saying that the DRAX contract is complete. The Coal Combustion Analyzer has been fired up and there are students from BYU ready to begin testing in the lab. But we have had a challenge getting the fuels DRAX sent (from England) out of the port in Los Angeles. We finally received the first container delivered late last night. The testing has begun but there have been a few challenges.

There will be discussion later in this meeting about the research lab being involved with the University of Utah and a grant application they will be submitting.

They are still trying to get a contract to be able to move forward on the Nuclear Building/Molten Salt Lab. A contractor in Salina is supposed to be submitting some numbers for their consideration. Once they have those, they will better know how they can move forward.

Director McKee asked if the fuels the lab is getting were specialized in some way? Commissioner Sitterud responded that they were pulverized wood. Each container has a different mixture. They will do testing on the one container then mix it with the fuel in the second container and retest. They have begun testing the fuel in the container received last night but may be shut down if they can't get the second container which is still stuck in California. They are hoping to have all the testing done by Christmas Eve.

5. Report on Satellite Transportation Hub.

Commissioner Ogden mentioned that last week there had been an Inland Port Authority board meeting. It was a good meeting and things are still moving along. Utah Association of Counties (UAC) is now involved and helping with Asset Mapping to identify assets that might be valuable to the project. This could turn out to be very important to rural Utah. That's where the jobs are needed. It, also, may be instrumental in encouraging some people to move out of the Wasatch Front and in to rural areas.

6. Report on Uinta Basin Railway Project.

Commissioner Miles mentioned that a lot of work is still being done with HDR and the Private Party. In addition, the draft EIS public comment period has been extended to January 28th. The comment period was extended 45 days. So, there is till plenty of time for public comment.

7. Executive Directors Report.

Director McKee began by stating that his report today would involve short presentations by other people. **Natural Gas Study** As the board might remember it authorized him to pursue a high-level study relating to natural gas and its potential uses. The study is complete and the results ready to present to the board. In addition to the oral report that will be heard today, there are print and electronic versions that will be provided to the board members.

Time was turned over to Brian Barton and Reed Page to go through the highlights of the study. It was mentioned that this was a really good report with a lot of valuable information the board will want to read.

Brian Barton began by saying that this has been a great opportunity to take a look at natural gas opportunities. Reed Page, is an industry specialist, and was very valuable in helping them evaluate some of the opportunities and helping to create some recommendations for the board.

Time was turned over to Reed Page to discuss the report highlights. He began by saying that the first thing they did was to assess natural gas in the Coalition member counties. These counties, with the addition of Grand County, account for about 98% of the natural gas production in the State of Utah. The question becomes what to do with all of this natural gas if the interstate pipeline infrastructure is not upgraded? Right now, the production coming out of the ground has a hard time making it to premium markets. Depending on the time of year there are big price differentials between the different markets. It's not likely the constraints will change anytime soon. There is the possibility of some L & G facilities opening on the West Coast but this would only minimally help the situation. In the end, the constraint situation is not going to let up over

the next 10 to 15 years. So, the question becomes what else can be done with all of this natural gas?

Next, they dug into the idea of a nitrogen fertilizer plant. These plants predominately produce two different types of product. One, explosives used in mining or two, nitrogen fertilizers. The primary building block for both of these is ammonia. Ammonia production, globally, takes up 5 to 6% of all-natural gas demand. Methane is another primary input for nitrogen production products manufactured.

As a part of this process, Mr. Page spoke with many industry professionals in production, manufacturing and marketing. Their comments are included in the report. He believes there is a very compelling business case for a nitrogen facility that produces ammonia and some of the intermediary products. The locations might be in Price, Utah or even better Green River, Utah. Dominion Energy is looking to build natural gas service in the Green River area. Once this happens the town of Green River will be served with natural gas from one of the most constrained areas of the State. It will be very competitively priced gas. There are both location and cost advantages to the Green River area.

Another type of use for natural gas to consider might be a natural gas power generation plant in the Price or Green River area. Brian Barton went on to say that the Coalition has an important role in this because it is involved in regional planning, regional public services, and sustainable projects. The Coalition has the ability to handle regional issues better than any single private entity from an infrastructure development perspective, including permitting, environmental clearances and potential rights-of-way. The Coalition could really be helpful as these concepts are evaluated.

As the board members review the print/electronic version of the report, towards the end, there are some next steps to consider. Of course, any of these concepts would need to be run through the ranking matrix. The next step might be to consider issuing a Request for Information (RFI) to gather ideas from private entities.

Director McKee thought it was interesting that in the report it mentions about a 20% cost savings on the price of gas using the Price or Green River locations. Economically, Green River was a little better. He reminded everyone that with the rail project they initially put out a RFI to see what kind of interest there was and the board might want to consider doing the same with this.

Uinta Rail Update

Time was turned over to Kevin Keller with HDR who gave a brief update. He noted that they were working on an EIS review. As was previously mentioned, the comment date has been extended to January 28th. They are carefully looking to make sure everything that has been submitted for the draft document is accurate. As to the 404 Permit, the public review period is closed. They received an information request letter from the Army Corp of Engineers and they are in the process of responding.

DOE Carbon Ore, Rare Earth and Critical Mineral Initiative

This will be covered under agenda item 12. later in the meeting.

Eastern Utah Regional Connection Update

First, Director McKee wanted to acknowledge representatives from Grand County and assure them they would get a chance to address the Commissioners later in the meeting. He continued stating that this project has been underway for a long time. It's been a project in which people have a variety of levels of interest and opinions. Generally, people to the north in Daggett County and Uintah County have been interested to see it constructed in order to provide a regional connection and transportation corridor south to I70. On the other side of the coin, people in Grand County have not wanted to see the road built. There is also a private landowner who has been opposed to the project as it potentially would have to go through his ranch property.

In the beginning, the Legislature authorized 3.2 million dollars to the Coalition to be used in doing an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed road. Later in the meeting there is an agenda item 10. where the recommendation is going to be to suspend the work begin done on this road.

Certification of Seven County

In 2014, the Six County Coalition was organized. As they went through this organization process, each county had to provide boundaries and an adopted resolution. Once these had all been submitted to the State, along with some other paperwork, the State issued a Certificate certifying the Six County Infrastructure Coalition as a political subdivision.

Then, around 2016, Sevier County joined the Coalition and it became the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition. At this time paperwork was submitted and we were re-certified with an expansion.

Last year there was some question about our certification status and so we re-certified once again. Recently, we were asked to re-certify one more time and we have completed that process.

Time was turned over to attorney Eric Johnson who stated that we submitted information to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. They responded that what was submitted looked good but we have not been able to get them to tell us that there is nothing else they need. Due to COVID we have not been able to contact them in their office – they are working from home. But we will continue to pursue this until we are positive there are no loose ends.

Director McKee added that when the State contacted them, they asked them to provide all of the boundaries again. So, it almost seems like maybe somebody lost some of the paperwork. There is some new legislation and in the future we will need to make sure we re-certify annually.

This concluded the Executive Directors report.

8. Engineers Report.

Brian Barton started by saying that several of the projects have already been addressed. He asked the board members, as they review information in their packets, to please let them know if there are any questions. Jones & DeMille really appreciates all of the effort and team work that has gone in to moving this project along. The rail budget is in good shape.

Commissioner Ogden asked if they were still on schedule? Director McKee stated that with the extension of time on the EIS he thought they were now looking at late spring/early summer for finalization and publication. Once that happens the license to construct and operate should follow.

That concluded the Engineers Report.

9. Discussion and consideration of the Collier Inc Consulting Service Agreement.

Executive Director McKee explained to the board that this is something it had previously approved and today they were being asked to ratify the signing of the contracts with Colliers. As a reminder, this is for the Transportation Logistics Study being worked on in Sevier County.

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-12A ratifying the Collier Inc Consulting Service Agreement was made by Commissioner Hopes, seconded by Commissioner Lytle.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

10. Discussion and consideration of suspending the EIS efforts on the Eastern Utah Regional Connection project.

Chairman Brad Horrocks began by stating there had been a meeting with Senator VanTassel and the engineers to carefully deliberate concerns with this project. Everyone felt, right now, that this project should be pulled. As much as Uintah County would like the additional travel and tourism that would come from extending this road to I70 it was felt it was more important to foster a positive relationship with Grand County.

Commissioner Miles mentioned that the word “suspect” in the second paragraph in the resolution needed to be changed to “suspend”.

Director McKee stated that one of the things that has made them an effective coalition is the willingness to listen to other opinions and try not to be adversarial to each other. Everyone has been willing to give and take. As he thought about the situation with Grand County he realized that Grand County has not been very excited about this project and 7 County is trying to respect that.

Time was turned over to **Mary McGann**, a Commissioner from Grand County. She began by thanking the board for the opportunity to address them. She next thanked the board for suspending the EIS on the Book Cliffs road. This concept became a controversial subject for Grand County in the 1980’s and remains as such today. Although they recognize the importance of regional connectedness and transportation infrastructure, they place a priceless value on the natural ecosystems, remoteness, and cultural resources of the Book Cliffs. Moving forward they look forward to collaborating on projects and concepts that are beneficial to Grand County, the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition, and its member counties. Grand County is working to diversify its economy and reduce dependence on industrial tourism and expand into new sectors. We are currently discussing enhanced rail infrastructure for public transportation services.

As you may have heard, Moab will serve as the destination for a new luxury rail service from Denver. We are also anticipating the increased need for electric vehicle charging stations. We should also be planning for the infrastructure required to respond and responsibly produce critical minerals and commodities needed to supply the electrical revolution, zero emission transportation, and renewable energy.

Commissioner McGann thanked the board for being able to participate in the meeting as they value regional discussions and planning. Grand County is a diverse community with demographics and views that may not always line up with the collective thought of this board but they do value opportunities to exchange thoughts, opinions and perspectives with their neighbors. We look forward to discussing opportunities and immense potential for prosperity in rural Utah in the future.

Time was next turned over to Commissioner Curtis Wells who addressed the fact that he is disappointed. He stated that he recognized the concerns of Grand County but that said also recognized the value of having a regional connector.

Director McKee resumed the discussion stating that there has been significant environmental work done on this road, toward the plan of development, and we want to ensure that public funds are utilized the best way possible. If the board approves this resolution, we will gather up all the work that has been done so far and should there ever be a change of feeling in the future, on behalf of Grand County, we will be ready to move forward. With the building of the rail, we believe this could become a valuable recreation corridor. We understand Grand County’s concern about this not becoming a “carbon highway” and look forward to the future.

Commissioner Lytle offered one final comment. He added that it's disappointing to him to not have the relationship needed for this project to be able to move forward. With no disrespect to Grand County, it would be nice to see if we could figure out a way for this project to move forward in the future. He would like to keep the lines of communication open and consider the future possibility of Grand County becoming a part of the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition.

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-12B suspending the EIS efforts on the Eastern Utah Regional Connection project was made by Commissioner Lytle, seconded by Commissioner Ogden.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

11. Discussion and consideration of a letter to be sent to the Utah State Legislature requesting the reallocation of funds from the Eastern Utah Regional Connection Project for repairs and upgrades to the Seep Ridge Road.

Director McKee stated that several years ago, when he was a Uintah County Commissioner, the funds were first allocated to this project. Senator Van Tassell was a real champion of the project and helped make it possible. A total of 3.2 million dollars was allocated for the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) and the funds were initially given to UDOT. At a later date, in two consecutive years, using a pass through contract, the monies were transferred to Seven County Infrastructure Coalition. The first year 1.6 million was transferred with another 1.6 million the next year.

As we look at suspending the EIS, Director McKee is requesting that the remaining funds be used to do repairs on the Seep Ridge Road. Initially, when the road was constructed, the CIB and the Uintah Transportation Special Service District (UTSSD) put in about 85 million dollars to construct the road south to the Grand County line.

Chairman Horrocks added that the road is in need of chip seal and there are several animal crossings that need to be upgraded. Safety is becoming an issue. Neither the UTSSD nor Uintah County has the funds to make these repairs. This is an important road that provides access to thousands of oil and gas wells in Uintah County.

Director McKee stated he had a conversation with Senator Ron Winterton about the possibility of reusing these funds. Senator Winterton thought this might be a possibility. Director McKee also talked with a member of the UDOT staff who was going to review the contract and if this looked possible request they do a letter of support for the reallocation.

As a reminder, a few months ago the board approved allocating \$100,000 of these funds to BLM for cost recovery. The Moab Field Office told Director McKee that there is about \$98,000 of that money remaining and they were willing to return it. Kristi Sharp with Smuin, Rich, and Marsing stated that there is a total of \$2,849,737.58 remaining in the budget. This amount includes the money to be returned from BLM and all other known expenses.

Commissioner Ogden asked who owned the road? Is it the County or the State? Commissioner Horrocks stated that it is owned by Uintah County. Commissioner Ogden asked about the length of the road and was told it was about 45 miles long. About 43 miles of that needs to be chip sealed. It's been about 9 years since it was last done. Troy Ostler, with CIVCO Engineering, stated that they had done a preliminary estimate for these repairs and estimated the cost to be around \$2.8 million. If the legislature will allow the use of these funds there would be enough to make the repairs.

Director McKee stated that they would be requesting a change of use for the funds. There were a few different options. One is the money could just be left in the account on the chance they will eventually be able to continue work on the EIS. Two is they could request and be granted the change of use to make the road repairs or three, the funds could be returned to the legislature and reappropriated at their discretion.

Commissioner Ogden asked if reappropriation was an option why not ask for the Legislature to just reappropriate the funds to Seven County for them to use as needed? Director McKee explained that they believed the best chance of reusing these funds was if they were used as similarly as originally allocated. In the contract it states that the funds are to be used for the "proposed Eastern Utah Connector Highways" (Seep Ridge Road). If this request is granted, the funds would still be administered by the Coalition but for road repairs instead of an EIS.

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-12C authorizing a letter be sent to the Utah State Legislature requesting the reallocation of funds from the Eastern Utah Regional Connection Project to repairs and upgrades on the Seep Ridge Road was made by Commissioner Miles, seconded by Commissioner Lytle.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___ Absent

Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___

Approved 6-0-1 absent

12. Discussion and consideration of partnering with the University of Utah on their Department of Energy Carbon Ore, Rare Earth and Critical Mineral Initiative for U S. Basins grant and sending a letter of support for their grant.

Director McKee began by reminding the board that at the last meeting they discussed a potential grant from the Department of Energy. The intent at that time was for the Coalition to be the applicant.

Commissioner Sitterud added that during the process there were numerous meetings and a lot of interest in the grant but no one felt they were in a position to take the lead. In the end they ran out of time. The University of Utah (U of U) was putting together an application for the same grant. They talked with them to see if they might be willing to have the Coalition as a partner on their grant. We believe that the San Raphael Research Center would be a great facility to do some of the testing and experimenting that will eventually be done in Phase 2 and 3. Phase 1 is predominately gathering research and so there would not be much opportunity for the Coalition to participate during Phase 1.

The U of U agreed and offered to let the Coalition participate. During Phase 2 and 3 its possible we will be able to use some of the ash out of the ash piles at our local powerplants to search for and identify rare earth elements.. If the board approves this change, we will send a joint letter of support from the Coalition and Emery County. By this letter we will be lending our support to the U of U grant. We believe there could be some good opportunities including jobs, funding and possibly participation in a yet to be developed innovation center. The U of U grant budget includes a line item for developing an innovation center where a lot of experimentation would be done. Our hope is that the San Rafael Research Center will be designated as one of the innovation centers.

Last month the board authorized us to submit the grant. Now we are asking for a letter of support to become a part of the University of Utah’s grant.

Commissioner Hopes added that he is in support of this and would be willing to add Carbon County’s support for the grant. He said he did have a little frustration in that they have been a part of a couple of similar studies with the Universty when they needed support from a coal producing county. Once the grant was received and when the money ran out, all the research stopped. They had no real gain or benefit from participating. Hopefully, with the San Rafael Research Center being a part of this grant it might actually get pushed to a production sized model.

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-12D authorizing the Coalition to partner with the University of Utah on their Department of Energy Carbon Ore, Rare Earth and Critical

Mineral Initiative for U. S. Basins grant and sending a letter of support for their grant was made by Commissioner Miles, seconded by Commissioner Hopes.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

13. Discussion and consideration approving the pass through of funds to the Coalition from BYU.

Director McKee began by reminding the board that at the last meeting they approved a resolution to pass funds from DRAX to Emery County. DRAX's contract is with the Coalition but the expenses of operating the lab are being borne by Emery County. The same process will need to happen with BYU. They will be paying the Coalition for work being done at the research lab. The Coalition will again need to pass those funds through to Emery County.

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-12E approving the pass through of funds to the Coalition from BYU was made by Commissioner Hopes, seconded by Commissioner Sitterud.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

14. Discussion and consideration of monthly expenses

Doug Rasmussen with Smuin, Rich and Marsing presented the monthly expenses to the board in the amount of \$703,468.42. Commissioner Miles asked if he understood correctly that this should be final month for processing expenses for Eastern Utah Regional Connection project? Director McKee said they had asked vendors to get all invoices in and they do believe this should be it.

(Remainder of this page intentionally left blank.)

UNAPPROVED

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION PAYMENT APPROVAL					
December 18, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.					
Electronic Participation Only					
Expenses Previously Approved by Board-Check Rewritten for Adjusted Amount :					
Vendor	Check #	Invoice #	Amount	Description	Grant
HDR	1788	1200304098	71,220.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Engineering Services - Phase 2
HDR	1788	1200304098	120,000.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Baseline Environmental Services - Phase 2
HDR	1788	1200304101	53,880.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Baseline Environmental Services - Phase 2
Emery County - LBA	See Spreadsheet	Various	10,888.20	Molten Salt/Research Center Facility - Utilities	Energy Research Center
Checks Currently Being Approved:					
Vendor	Check #	Invoice #	Amount	Description	Grant
VOIDED	1774				
CIVCO Engineering, Inc	1789	2020508	121,834.41	I-70 Transportation Corridor EIS-Engineering - Phase 2	State Legislature Funding (UDOT)
Jones & Demille	1790	0123853	6,500.00	I-70 Transportation Corridor EIS-Engineering Program Mgt - Phase 2	State Legislature Funding (UDOT)
Tetra Tech	1791	51671848	543.75	I-70 Transportation Corridor EIS - Third-Party NEPA Services	State Legislature Funding (UDOT)
Smuin, Rich & Marsing	1792	43076	4,424.48	Consulting Per Contract - November 2020	General
Heather Hoyt	1793	December 8, 2020	705.00	Contract Labor	General
Jones & Demille	1794	0123857	2,560.00	Natural Gas Concept Plan - Engineering	General
Jones & Demille	1794	0123854	7,163.50	Program Management and Engineering	General
ETJ Law	1795	1741	3,150.00	General - Legal Services	General
Utah Counties Indemnity Pool	1796	2645	2,694.00	2021 Insurance	General
Utah Media Group	1797	I01304367-11252020	102.50	Legal Ads - Publish 2021 Meeting Schedule	General
HDR	1798	1200312302	89,025.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Engineering Services - Phase 2
HDR	1798	1200312302	160,000.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Baseline Environmental Services - Phase 2
HDR	1798	1200312306	33,675.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Baseline Environmental Services - Phase 2
Jones & Demille	1799	0123855	59,755.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Program Management Services - Phase 2
Jones & Demille	1799	0123855	18,734.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Strategic Communications - Phase 2
Jones & Demille	1799	0123855	4,592.00	Uinta Rail Line - Engineering	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Mapping Services - Phase 2
ETJ Law	1800	1748	11,433.33	Uinta Rail Line - Legal Service	Uinta Basin Railway Project - STB Regulatory and Other Legal Services Phase 2
ICF Jones & Stokes, Inc	1801	0151506	46,529.94	Uinta Rail Line - NEPA Consulting	Uinta Basin Railway Project - Baseline Environmental Services - Phase 2
Venable LLP	1802	2295950	91,179.60	Uinta Rail Line - Legal Services	Uinta Basin Railway Project - STB Regulatory and Other Legal Services Phase 2
ETJ Law	1803	1743	17,000.00	Molten Salt/Research Center Facility - Legal Services	Energy Research Center
Emery County - LBA	Reduce Previous Overpayment	05/20/20, 05/31/20, 05/31/20, 06/30/20, 06/30/20, 06/19/20, 07/31/20, 07/31/20, 08/13/20, 09/15/20, 08/31/20, 08/31/20, 09/30/20, 10/12/20	2,702.82	Molten Salt/Research Center Facility - Utilities	Energy Research Center
Mike McKee	1804	October 8, 2020-December 9, 2020	30.76	Director's Travel	General
ETJ Law	1805	1720	1,487.50	CBD Rail Litigation	
ETJ Law	1805	1747	17,645.83	CBD Rail Litigation	
Total Payment Approval			\$ 703,468.42		

Motion to approve the monthly expenses in the amount of \$703,468.42, was made by Commissioner Miles, seconded by Commissioner Ogden.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

Doug Rasmussen with Smuin, Rich and Marsing next referred the board to the Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2020 which shows the assets, liabilities, and equity. One thing to note, about 2/3rds of the way down the page, is the deferred revenue for the EIS road study. The balance listed does not reflect the reimbursement of \$98,000 from the BLM or the deferred revenue for the UDOT money but it does include the expenditures you just approved. On the second page we have the Profit and Loss Statement and the next page shows the breakout by class and this continues for several pages.

Motion to accept the balance sheet and profit and loss statements as presented was made by Commissioner Miles, seconded by Commissioner Ogden.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

And, finally, the board was directed to pages that represent each individual project since inception with a statement showing expenses for each project and the remaining funds. If the project has been closed it shows as being zeroed out. In addition, these pages show any other

expenses right up to today's board meeting. These are for the board's information and require no approval.

15. Public hearing to adopt the 2021 annual budget

We next moved into the public hearing to consider the 2021 annual budget.

Motion to enter into public hearing was made by Commissioner Lytle, seconded by Commissioner Hopes.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

Time was turned over to Melissa Cano to provide instruction on how to participate in the hearing. Melissa stated that there were 2 individuals who had signed up to give comment. Each individual would have 2 minutes to provide comment.

Director McKee asked if procedurally it would be better to present the budget first, then accept comment? Doug Rasmussen, accountant, stated that he thought that would be best. Time was then turned over to Mr. Rasmussen to present the final budget.

The proposed final budget shows total revenues of \$24,967,600 in individual categories. There are corresponding expenses that match that revenue amount. If there are questions about individual categories or line items during the public comment those can be addressed later. Otherwise, this is the proposed final 2021 budget for the Coalition.

Director McKee mentioned that there had been a presentation of the preliminary budget at the November meeting. Since that time there had been a few changes made. One of those was the result of the change in the DOE/U of U grant. Initially we were thinking we would need \$375,000 to participate but since there is no work for the Coalition in Phase 1 of the grant, we will not have to expend those funds. Another is the \$98,000 that will be coming back to the Coalition from the BLM on the Eastern Utah Regional Connection Project EIS that has been suspended. Another area of change would be the pass-through funds from DRAX and BYU. There was also a Travel and Tourism study that initially had been proposed but since has been removed. And, then, if the Legislature approves, there will be the moving of funds from the Eastern Utah Regional Connection Project to make repairs on the Seep Ridge Road.

The preliminary proposed budget was \$24,919,600. The proposed final budget is \$24,967,600.

Commissioner Ogden asked about the DRAX revenue in the budget of \$66,000. He didn't see an opposing expense. Mr. Rasmussen explained that the revenue showed as DRAX but the opposing expense showed as Emery County.

Time was turned over to Melissa Cano to begin the public hearing. The first to make comment was Lionel Trepanier. Mr. Trepanier began by thanking everyone for the opportunity to comment. He introduced himself and noted that he organizes with Utah Tar Sands Resistance. In November of 2020 the board approved a tentative 2021 budget but the board did not decide to hold a hearing as required by law. And, notice for this hearing has not been provided as required by law. He offered to explain. The budget and budget hearing were 2 topics under last month's agenda item number 15. Just like this month's agenda item number 15 has multiple topics. In the motion on agenda item number 15 last month, it was to approve the tentative budget only. The November SCIC board did not propose or vote to hold this public hearing nor did it authorize the form of the notice that was used for this public hearing. Both of these matters are required under Utah law. And, it's actually the law that was cited in the notice that was published. But this notice was deficient. Now, there was a resolution last month, a Resolution 11G which was regarding the tentative budget but agenda item number 15 did not reference Resolution 11G, nor did the motion made regarding item number 15 reference Resolution 11G, although Resolution 11G now bears the signature of the board, it is not proper. But even if that had been properly approved by the board last month this hearing notice was not properly published 7 days in advance according to the Utah Statutes cited in that very notice, informing the public how to attend and provide comment at this meeting. The notice that was published 7 days earlier did attempt to incorporate a later published document. That document actually told people that this meeting would be held at 10am or as soon thereafter as feasible. This is now more than 2 hours later. And, now we just learned that the budget is not the budget that was published to the public. So, this hearing in no way has fulfilled the SCIC's duties under the law. So, he is asking, this morning, suggesting to the board, that they adopt a motion today, adopt a tentative budget and adopt a motion to notice this meeting properly and then actually hold the public hearing pursuant to the notice.

Next time was given to Darrell Fordham to make comment. Mr. Fordham introduced himself and stated that he wanted to express significant frustration as well that the public hearing was pushed to the end of this meeting. The public notice clearly states "the hearing will begin as close to 10am as practical". The hearing did not begin until almost 2 hours later. This is yet one more example of the Coalition's disregard, disdain for the public and your lack of consideration of the public's time. Unlike you, we are not being paid to waste our time listening to your entire meeting while waiting to make public comment. He stated that he appreciated the opportunity to comment on the proposed 2021 budget of the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition. He is deeply concerned with the millions of dollars of public money that the Coalition is siphoning away from projects which would actually benefit rural Utah communities. He has listened to and participated in nearly every Coalition meeting since April 2018 and has yet to see the Coalition complete any project which has benefitted the public or which has been followed through to

completion that actually generates revenue for the counties and communities where they are located.

The Coalition is nothing more than a redundant, extraneous, unnecessary pseudo-government entity that is self-created. Virtually all the projects the Coalition is working on benefit private industries rather than the public at large. Mike McKee, Jones and DeMille, Eric Johnson, CIVCO, HDR, Rio Grand Pacific and other private entities are those profiting from this illegally diverted public money. The Uinta Basin Railway is one of the most glaring examples of a project that private companies stand to benefit from while not risking any of their own money while planning and developing it. The Coalition further harms the public by deliberating in secret. It's time to stop this government waste of public money. The Seven County Coalition should be defunded and decommissioned.

This ends the public comment portion of this hearing.

Motion to exit public hearing and return to open meeting was made by Commissioner Miles, seconded by Commissioner Hopes.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

Before proceeding to the next item, Director McKee asked if Eric Johnson and Heather Hoyt would inform the board of the process they followed with the public notice. Eric Johnson began stating that his thought is he would like to get together with Mr. Trepanier and make sure he understands his concerns. In light of that, his recommendation would be to approve the budget today understanding that if it's determined that further action is needed further action could be scheduled.

Director McKee asked if he would address the aspects of public advertising. How was the notice advertised? The board doesn't see everything that happens behind the scenes so this might be beneficial for the board.

Mr. Johnson stated that his office reviewed the notification but did not actually publish it. There was a notice published. It did reference the agenda to come. It's this, in part, that Mr. Trepanier believed was insufficient and that is why he believes it best to meet with him.

Heather Hoyt added that the notices were published timely and under the direction of the accountants. So, Kristi Sharp is probably the better person to address this.

Kristi Sharp stated that the notice was published in the Deseret News. It did reference that the meeting was at 10am or as soon after as feasible. It also stated that the dial-in information would be available at the bottom of the agenda. Because we are having electronic meetings, we did not have the actual numbers at the time of the advertising, so we directed the public as to where they would be able to find the participation information.

Chairman Horrocks stated that they would move forward with adopting the budget and if necessary, they would re-address this at a future meeting.

Motion to approve Resolution 2020-12F adopting the 2021 Annual Budget was made by Commissioner Miles, seconded by Commissioner Hopes with the understanding that if this process is found to be inadequate, it would be re-addressed at a future meeting.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___	No ___	Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

Approved 6-0-1 absent

16. Motion to enter closed (executive) session pursuant to Section 59-1-404 related to real estate acquisition, potential litigation, professional competency and trade secrets was made by Commissioner Hopes, seconded by Commissioner Ogden.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X	No ___	
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	
Emery	Board Member	Yea X	No ___	

San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___ Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X No ___
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X No ___

Approved 6-0-1 absent

NOTE: Using a Zoom break out room the applicable board members and staff joined at a separate electronic location for closed session. The public remained at the original electronic meeting location. The board rejoined the public after closed session was complete.

Motion to leave closed/executive session was made by Commissioner Hopes, seconded by Commissioner Miles.

Roll call vote, to make sure every electronic vote was counted, was as follows:

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea X No ___
Daggett	Board Member	Yes X No ___
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea X No ___
Emery	Board Member	Yea X No ___
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___ Absent
Sevier	Board Member	Yea X No ___
Uintah	Board Member	Yea X No ___

Approved 6-0-1 absent

17. Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Sitterud, seconded by Commissioner Lytle.

A motion to approve the December 18, 2020 meeting minutes was made by Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____.

SEVEN COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE COALITION VOTING:

Carbon	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___
Daggett	Board Member	Yes ___ No ___
Duchesne	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___
Emery	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___
San Juan	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___
Sevier	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___
Uintah	Board Member	Yea ___ No ___

Approved 6-0-1 absent

Co-Chair: Brad Horrocks

Co-Chair: Lynn Sitterud

(COALITION SEAL)

ATTEST:

Eric T. Johnson (Legal Counsel)