

1 **M**INUTES OF THE JOINT VERNAL CITY COUNCIL, NAPLES CITY  
2 COUNCIL, BALLARD TOWN AND UINTAH COUNTY COMMISSION  
3 MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 25, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. in the Uintah County  
4 Conference Room, 147 East Main, Vernal, Utah 84078.  
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6 **OFFICIALS PRESENT:**

7 Vernal City: Mayor Gary Showalter, Council Members Bert Clark, Ted Munford,  
8 Sonja Norton and Cal Dee Reynolds;

9 Naples City: Mayor Dean Baker, Council Member Robert Hall;

10 Uintah County: Commissioners Darlene Burns and Mike McKee. Commissioner Mark  
11 Raymond was excused.  
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13 **STAFF PRESENT:** Ken Bassett, Vernal City Manager, Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder.  
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15 **GUESTS PRESENT:** Robin O'Driscoll, Keith Despain, Malia Bascom, Mary Bernard, Jeremy  
16 Raymond, and Ed Zurbuchan.  
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18 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING:** *Councilmember*  
19 *Bert Clark moved to acknowledge and approve this special meeting. Councilmember Sonja*  
20 *Norton seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote with Councilmembers*  
21 *Clark, Munford, Norton, Reynolds and Hall and Commissioners McKee and Burns voting in*  
22 *favor.*  
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24 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 20, 2010:** Councilmember Bert Clark asked  
25 that the entire name "Uintah Transportation District Board" be added to the minutes. With that  
26 correction, *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to approve the minutes of August 20, 2010.*  
27 *Mayor Gary Showalter seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote with*  
28 *Councilmembers Clark, Munford, Norton, Reynolds and Hall and Commissioners McKee and*  
29 *Burns voting in favor.*  
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31 **UINTAH FIRE SUPPRESSION SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT:** Jeremy Raymond,  
32 director of the Uintah Fire Suppression SSD, explained that funds have been allocated to  
33 remodel the Vernal City / Uintah County fire station. The remodeling will include added  
34 lighting, paint, floor sealant, new cupboards and blinds. Also, drop down electrical cords will be  
35 added to the vehicle bays in order to plug in the fire engines and charge necessary equipment.  
36 In the utility room, a turnout wash bay will be added along with an industrial washer and dryer.  
37 Mayor Showalter asked if a special paint will be used on the floor to prevent vehicle fluids from  
38 penetrating. Jeremy Raymond answered that they will use an epoxy product. The upstairs will be  
39 partially finished, with the unfinished area reserved for living quarters in the future. An  
40 additional storage area will be built behind the building for storage. Keith Despain, engineer for  
41 the project, explained that the additional storage will be 20' x 40' next to the existing vehicle

42 bays. Mr. Raymond displayed a picture of the addition and showed the elected officials the  
43 general location. Councilmember Robert Hall asked if the parking lot will be repaved. Keith  
44 Despain stated that work is not part of this remodel. Jeremy Raymond stated that work needs to  
45 be added to this project. Mr. Raymond explained that the landscaping will also receive a face lift.  
46 The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$400,000. Commissioner McKee asked what the  
47 construction time frame will be. Jeremy Raymond explained they will start construction in  
48 May. The elected officials thanked Mr. Raymond for the report.

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50 **DINOSAUR ROUNDUP RODEO PRESENTATION – GREG WHITBECK &**  
51 **MICHELLE MILLER:** Commissioner Darlene Burns noted that this item has been tabled.

52 **UINTAH RECREATION SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT DISCUSSION ON ASHLEY**  
53 **CREEK THROUGH THE GOLF COURSE:** Robin O’Driscoll, director of the Uintah  
54 Recreation Special Service District, explained that in the past the water level in Ashley Creek has  
55 risen high enough to cause damage to the golf course. Because of this danger, the Army Corp  
56 of Engineers has been approached for a permit to put big boulders in the creek to help prevent  
57 flooding in the future. Councilmember Clark stated that the funding was not available last year,  
58 and the Uintah Recreation SSD Board is excited to complete this project this year.  
59 Commissioner McKee stated that the Phosphate Plant is providing the material, free of charge, to  
60 place underneath the bed of the creek to help mitigate high water flows. Mayor Showalter asked  
61 if the majority of the work will be completed by the County. Robin O’Driscoll answered yes.  
62 The elected officials complimented Robin O’Driscoll and the Uintah Recreation SSD Board on  
63 being proactive on this issue.

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65 **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REPORT:** Councilmember Bert Clark asked how soon the  
66 public transportation system will be implemented. Commissioner McKee stated that the buses  
67 have been delivered, and UBAG is trying to find a place to park them overnight. The kick-off  
68 date for the system is early April.

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70 **CEMETERY REPORT:** Commissioner Darlene Burns stated that so far, \$75,000 of  
71 improvements have been made to the Vernal City Memorial Park. Additional improvements,  
72 including the construction of a 1200 square foot building to hold a small conference room,  
73 reception area and storage, will be built next to the existing carport. Councilmember Clark  
74 asked if there will be a map displayed. Commissioner Burns stated that there will be a map of the  
75 cemetery on display. Councilmember Cal Dee Reynolds explained that the east entrance to the  
76 cemetery will also be improved for graves sites and landscaping. Ken Bassett asked if \$75,000  
77 from each entity would be enough to cover the improvements. Commissioner Burns stated that  
78 she thought it would. She explained that one item that will need to be budgeted for is the  
79 irrigation system. The current system cannot handle the new grassed area by the east entrance  
80 so culinary water may need to be used. There was some discussion regarding water rights and  
81 water capacity. Ken Bassett indicated that Vernal City owns water through the central canal,  
82 but that water is used by the Uintah Recreation Special Service District. Commissioner McKee

83 asked the director of the Uintah Recreation SSD, Robin O’Driscoll, to check on the usage of the  
84 irrigation water belonging to Vernal City to see if there is any available water shares.

85 **UINTAH COUNTY LIBRARY PROJECT:** Commissioner McKee thanked Vernal City for  
86 providing additional land to build a new library. He explained that Uintah County has applied  
87 to the Community Impact Board for funding to build the new library and the cooperation from  
88 the City will look favorably to the CIB Board. Commissioner Burns stated that libraries are  
89 evolving into more of a learning and program center with language classes being taught,  
90 technology available and the history center. If funding is approved, the new building will be  
91 30,000 square feet. Commissioner McKee stated that the old museum is still housing artifacts  
92 and collections, but there is the threat of them being relocated since the building can no longer  
93 preserve them. The State is also looking at cutting funding at the Natural History Museum and  
94 some of those collections could be moved out of the area.

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96 **ADJOURN:** There being no further discussion, *Councilmember Cal Dee Reynolds moved to*  
97 *adjourn. Councilmember Sonja Norton seconded the motion. The motion passed with a*  
98 *unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned.*

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Ken Bassett, City Recorder