

# Southwest Utah Planning Authorities Council (SUPAC)

3 November 2009

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Stampin' Up Manufacturing Facility

1400 South 100 West, Kanab

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** A morning field trip was held from 8:30 a.m. to noon to Pipe Spring National Monument hosted by John Hiscock, Monument Superintendent. The tour included the visitor center, museum, and Winsor Castle. Wes welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Josh from Stampin' Up. Josh is a graduate of SUU. Josh welcomed the SUPAC members and said that his company was happy to host the community in their facility. Stampin' Up has been in business about 21 years. Shelli Gardner and Norma Crosby started the company. It is a direct sales corporation providing a line of decorative rubber stamps, markers and metal accessories for scrapbooking, etc. They have a large corporate facility in Riverton, Utah and this manufacturing facility in Kanab. They are worldwide and have over 40,000 demonstrators direct selling their products. Wes thanked Josh for hosting the SUPAC at their beautiful facility.

Wes introduced Mike Noel to present our 3<sup>rd</sup> item on the agenda as he was due back in Salt Lake City this afternoon for elections.

- 2) **Kane County Water Conservancy District (KCWCD):** Mike Noel is the Executive Director for the Water Conservancy District. They have spent the past 17 years developing, improving, and protecting our water resources one drop at a time. In 1999 they brought water to Johnson Canyon. In 1992 they established a 90 % margin to put a tax on them to start the water district. Their water distribution system projects were: Duck Creek Water Improvement district. The old system had substandard materials and wrong pipe size. Sources were not adequate – and had no fire protection. They drilled new well and built a 350,000 gallon concrete storage tank and replaced 47,150 feet of pipeline. This created 261 new water service connections. Also they worked a project at Mirror Lake and Strawberry Meadow View, Phases 1 – 6 included Swains Creek where they laid 98,495 feet of pipeline. Swains Creek and Harris Flat they installed 23,800 pipeline feet to connect. Currently, Strawberry Point water system is being worked on. The Johnson Canyon Water Improvement district was the first system to be improved. All valves are remotely controlled. It even does the billing automatically. East Kanab Water Company also improved by expanding the service area to the north on a 3800 acre parcel with 800 possible lots/connections. The KCWCD have a computer system called *Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition SCADA* – It monitors storage tank levels and well-pump activity chlorinators. They use GIS mapping *Elements Management* software for work order tracking; and they have seen growth since 2001 having 47 connections to 2009 having 2,696 connections. Other projects include Duck Creek road improvements – upgrading the existing roads, and an Orderville hydro-electric plan. They earn \$25,000 year in revenues selling electricity to Deseret Power. They will work on the Jackson Flat Reservoir just south which will be a 4,000 acre feet of reservoir with surface area 198.82 acres. Estimated cost will be \$11,800,000. For more project information on the KCWCD go to their website at <http://www.kcwcd.com>.

Wes thanked Mike Noel and commented on what great accomplishments have been made by the KCWCD.

- 3) **Glen Canyon National Recreation Area:** Brian Sweatland is the chief of planning at Glen Canyon NRA. Their mission is to provide public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of Lake Powell and lands adjacent thereto, and to preserve the scenic, scientific and historic features. GCNRA covers 5 counties. They also work with the Navajo Nation and are landlocked by 9 million acres of BLM land. They have to deal with complex issues and find resolutions for those issues. Their accomplishments for 2008 projects include Bullfrog cover slips; Wahweap fuel dock; Coyote Gulch toilets; and Castle Rock cut. Their current planning efforts include dealing with the infestation of Zebra/Quagga Mussels. Other issues are threat i.d. inspection, decontamination, controls for hours of operation, closures, manpower, proactive outreach, and a quest for supporting states/counties. The mussels cause crustacean on shorelines, and they eat fish.

They also have the Glen Canyon Rim Trail project which includes removal of Tamarisk and Russian olive in Escalante Canyon. Currently, they are working on an off-road vehicle EIS. A 2005 lawsuit to regulate ORV use prompted a 4 year planning process including preliminary draft alternatives, and research and writing of the draft EIS. They are rewriting the plan for access. GCNRA are involved in planning the St. George pipeline; bringing solar power to Bullfrog Marina; remodeling entrance stations; and working on Page, AZ water intake. They had 2 million visitors in 2009; created 2500 jobs; and this also brought revenue in payroll taxes to the surrounding communities.

- 4) **Kane County Planning Issues and Roads litigation update:** Doug Heaton, Kane County Commissioner provided an update on their activities. They have 3 planning projects which include an Emergency Medical Services building which will also house the Sheriff's department, a training facility, and emergency services. Also they are in the process trying to obtain funding for a 180-head jail facility in Kanab to relieve the stress of transporting suspects elsewhere. A Southwest Mental Health building is being constructed near the health facilities. They are still hoping to gain title to the roads (includes 12 roads) on the BLM lands. The government has decided to have them go to quiet title action.

5) **Round Table Updates:**

Washington county commissioner Hwy 143 has been designated as National Scenic Byway. It only took 7 years. Ken and Nancy Dalton headed it up. It will help with tourism. Prairie dogs are always a problem and they are working on a Habitat credit exchange program. Private landowners may have habitat on their land. Continue to work on HCP.

Ken Sizemore heard that hwy 9 to the I-15 received money and national designation as well. AOG updating the natural hazard litigation plans. Thanks to commissioners who are willing to work on this document. It should be done by spring 2010.

Mike Empey said Matheson is on Natural Resource committee and it is working on independent projects and funding for projects here.

Jim Crisp reported that Zion Corridor Council received grant money to meld it to the rural transit program from City of Hurricane to Zion for a feasibility study. They're very excited about it. Jim volunteers with Washington County and they are updating the general plan. Last update was in 1972.

Brian Cottam said the SUU alliance for education agreements for Pipe Springs NM; Bryce NP; Zion NP and Cedar Breaks in partnership with the Intergovernmental Internship program and are producing all wayside and multimedia projects to fruition. One project is a new movie for the CBNM and we are using SUU students; we're also providing funding for the Zion Artist in Residence program. IIC has 1 project to utilize the youth crews for next summer. Come and talk to us about youth crews to work on your spring-summer projects. SUU Regional Services is currently updating the Mountain Ranch architectural plan including a forest stewardship plan, and writing the overall resource management plan. The Utah Prairie Dog Recovery Implementation Program is hosted by SUU and there is an interview this evening with the hopes of having a coordinator in place shortly. The monthly Entrepreneurship Forum is December 3<sup>rd</sup> in Kanab. It's been a very successful program. The Best Friends Animal Sanctuary has 2 education projects going. The SUU-GIS lab on campus hold Capstone projects for 4<sup>th</sup> year engineering students to serve in small community planning and is available to them.

It was announced that August 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 2010 are the new dates for the Utah Rural Summit.

Rene Berkhoudt – the BLM funded and acquired a 5 acre parcel for the new GSENM visitor center, the Big Water visitors sign, and Garfield county for the power line upgrade into Hatch. The Lake Powell pipeline project for cultural clearance in NEPA has a couple of glitches they are working on. A GSENM advisory committee list has been sent up to legislative committee and they are awaiting approvals.

Clare Ramsay asked how many went to SUU homecoming – Garfield County held a "½ marathon" with 1200 runners entered and it was a great success. A full marathon through Red Canyon would probably draw 5,000 runners. There is a bike trail through it now too. They are in a brand new senior center and have a Care & Share building too. All American Highway 12 and now Hwy 143 as Scenic Byway will help with tourism.

Don Willden, Beaver County commissioner said Phase I of energy project am almost complete. Ribbon cutting ceremony is 10<sup>th</sup> of November. Generating 70.3 megawatts. First wind is producing. 3 projects for transmission units for trans-west to California; trans-west to Washington County; and they secured loan from CIB.

UFSSL Ron no fires right now. We had small ones the Mill Flat and they are doing reseeding 4they are

doing reseedling along with New Harmony. Kelly Washburn is new forester for Cedar. Restoration is taking place. AmeriCorps is taking care of the Virgin River restoration. 6 projects funded with Beaver, Iron, and Washington, to reduce fuels with ARRA money. Working with SUU for a forest stewardship plan on Cedar Mountain.

Karen working on stream alteration permitting process - - Notices are out making some significant changes to it. US Army Corps process for reissuance of regional general permit. (Incorporated in the minutes).

Marreen Casper said she looked at the schedule – Currently receiving a lot of press on federalism and healthcare; 6.7 billion excise tax will raise everyone's costs instead of lowering them. Seeking funding for the U of U geothermal energy projects within the state; a data center to be built at Camp Williams which will provide jobs for 10,000 people and the Senator was honored for US media group and Harvard business group for being a bipartisan representative.

Bryan Thiriot reported that the partisan climate bill to be derailed; 2 months ago the Red Rock Wilderness Bill was presented was testified against the bill; Senate appropriations they had 5 bills pass out of 12.

Agriculture and Interior received the most monies. An earmark \$2.5 Ashdown Gorge; 2.5 million coal and biomass energy; 20 million for 595 water program to improve sewer and wastewater; \$1 million to energy project for the SUU Science Center.

Mike Empey spoke about the Red Rock Wilderness Bill coming out first in 1989 and it was shot down.

There is a new BLM Director. The house is dominated by health care bills. The house is pushing for Friday vote. The Senate won't be deciding too soon.

John Hiscock, Pipe Springs NM Superintendent said to please stay in touch with Pipe Springs NM said if the group had any questions for Jock or Paul he'll take them to them.

- 6) **Next SUPAC Meeting**— The next SUPAC meeting will be held January 5, 2010, in Washington County.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen McDowell