

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
54 | Page

**APPROXIMATELY 55% OF THOSE WHO SIGNED THESE PETITIONS ARE RESIDENTS OF UTAH COUNTY. SEVERAL CITY COUNCILS HAVE ALSO ISSUED STATEMENTS IN FAVOR OF PRESERVING THE AREAS UNDEVELOPED STATE. PEOPLE HAVE ALSO NOTED THE NEED FOR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA. I WOULD SAY IF THE CURRENT BUDGET DEVOTED TO DEVELOPMENT PROVES INADEQUATE, THE COUNTY SHOULD REMEDY THIS WITHOUT OFFERING THE AREA ABOVE THE FALLS TO PRIVATE DEVELOPERS. I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD PROTECT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND THE AREA SURROUNDING IT, THAT IS PART OF THE VIEW, WITH A PERMANENT CONSERVATION EASEMENT SO THAT WE AND THOSE WHO COME AFTER US CAN ALL ENJOY IT IN THE SAME STATE THAT IT IS NOW. THANK YOU.**

**KRISTEN CHANDLER - MY NAME IS KRISTEN CHANDLER. I'M A PROFESSOR AT BYU. I'M A LONG-TIME RESIDENT OF THIS AREA. I'VE SPENT THE LAST TWO HOURS WATCHING SOME PRETTY BAD BEHAVIOR IN THE BACK OF THIS ROOM, AND I THINK THE EMOTION IS REGRETTABLE. I THINK WE'RE HERE TO TRY TO DO WHAT WE THINK IS BEST AND PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. SO, I'M GOING TO STATE MY OPINION. MY OPINION IS THAT WHEN YOU MAKE SOMETHING PRIVATE IT'S LIKE MAKING IT A LITTLE BIT PREGNANT. IT'S PRIVATE. YOU HAVE AN OBJECTIVE TO MAKE MONEY. AND THAT'S NOT WHAT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS IS FOR. I THINK IF WE HAD A VOTE TOMORROW OR A YEAR FROM NOW AND WE ALLOWED THE PUBLIC TO SAY WHAT THEY THOUGHT I THINK WE KNOW HOW THIS WOULD GO. IF WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO A CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND ACHIEVE OUR GOALS, WHY WOULD WE SELL THIS FOR SUCH A SMALL AMOUNT? I MEAN WE KNOW WHAT PROPERTY GOES FOR IN THIS VALLEY NOW. THIS IS A RIDICULOUSLY LOW AMOUNT OF MONEY. IT DOESN'T EVEN MAKE SENSE. BUT WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY HERE WITH THIS THIS PROPOSAL TO DO SOMETHING REALLY WONDERFUL, TO MAKE IT SAFE, TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE, WHY WOULD WE MAKE IT PRIVATE JUST FOR THIS VERY SMALL SHORTSIGHTED AMOUNT OF MONEY? IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. I THINK IT'S FINE FOR PEOPLE TO MAKE THESE PROPOSALS. I'M NOT TRYING TO MALIGN PEOPLE. I JUST THINK THAT IF WE'RE GOING TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF WHAT PEOPLE WANT, IF WE'RE GOING TO BE A COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE TRY TO DO WHAT'S BEST FOR THE BEST AMOUNT, IT MAKES PERFECT SENSE TO MAKE THIS A CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND PRESERVE IT IN PERPETUITY. THANK YOU.**

**DEVIN WILLIE – YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE ME I'M NOT MUCH OF A PUBLIC SPEAKER, BUT I THINK THERE ARE A COUPLE OF POINTS THAT NEED TO BE CLARIFIED HERE.**

**COMMISSIONER IVIE – SORRY TO INTERRUPT BUT WE DO NEED YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD.**

**DEVIN WILLIE - MY APOLOGIES DEVIN WILLY. WE GOOD? OKAY. A COUPLE OF POINTS, DO WE NEED THIS? IS THE THING THAT THE COUNTY NEEDS THE MOST RIGHT NOW A ONE TO TWO PERSON TREATMENT CENTER THAT ALMOST NO ONE CAN ACCESS? I WOULD SAY NO. I DON'T THINK THAT SERVES THE PUBLIC INTEREST. NOW THE THINGS THAT WERE BEING OFFERED IN RECOMPENSE IS A PRETTY LIMITED AMOUNT OF MONEY. UNFORTUNATELY, IT DOESN'T SEEM**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
55 | Page

LIKE ACCORDING TO THE COMMISSIONERS, THAT WE NEED THAT MONEY. SEEMS LIKE WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THE TRAILS USING THE COUNTY BUDGET AND OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME, SO THAT WE CAN TAKE CARE OF THIS PLACE ADEQUATELY WITHOUT HAVING TO ENTER INTO A COMPLICATED PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP. AND I WOULD ARGUE THAT THIS MAY NOT BE A FINANCIAL BOON AT ALL, EVEN IF WE DO CHOOSE TO DO IT. IT MAY BECOME A FINANCIAL LIABILITY, BECAUSE LET'S THINK ABOUT OTHER PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE WITH PRIVATE ENTITIES. WHEN THOSE PRIVATE ENTITIES STRUGGLE, THEY CAN SAY LOOK WE'RE ALREADY TANGLED UP IN THIS, WHO'S GOING TO BAIL US OUT? WE ARE GOING TO NEED THE PUBLIC, THE TAXPAYER, TO BAIL US OUT. THAT'S HAPPENED TIME AND TIME AGAIN WITH PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS BECAUSE THERE IS A BURDEN THAT HAPPENS AND A LEVEL OF ENTANGLEMENT THAT YOU CAN'T JUST WALK AWAY FROM. NOW THE OTHER THING THAT I THINK IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT HASN'T BEEN TALKED ABOUT HERE ADEQUATELY, I'M JUST GOING TO GRAB MY NOTES, THE PROFESSOR THAT SPOKE, SAID THAT A PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP COULD BE CALLED PREGNANT PARTNERSHIP. AND I THINK THAT IS THE BIGGEST THING THAT IS NOT BEING TALKED ABOUT. WE'RE FRAMING THIS AS IF IT'S LET'S BUILD A SMALL TRAM IN A SMALL BUILDING AND ONLY USE ONE ACRE. THAT'S WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT NOW. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT YEAR AND THE YEAR AFTER THAT, AND 10 YEARS AND 20 YEARS DOWN THE ROAD. MAYBE THEY FIND ANOTHER COMMISSIONER WHO'S WILLING TO GIVE THEM ANOTHER ACRE AND ANOTHER ACRE AND EVENTUALLY ACCESS SHRINKS FROM 95% OF THE TIME TO 90% OF THE TIME, TO HAVING TO PAY FOR IT. WE DON'T KNOW. THAT'S WHY A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IS SO IMPORTANT TO SHUT THIS DOWN NOW, TO LOCK IT IN, AND TO KEEP THIS LAND PUBLIC FOR THE PEOPLE WHO NEED IT. BECAUSE THERE IS VERY LITTLE THAT I CARE ABOUT MORE THAN THIS CANYON AND I WILL BE AN ABSOLUTE NIGHTMARE TO DEAL WITH AS A CITIZEN. THANK YOU.

COMMISSIONER AINGE – JOSH?

JOSH DANIELS – GO AHEAD.

COMMISSIONER AINGE - CAN I JUST MAKE A SUGGESTION? I THINK THAT WE SHOULD FORECLOSE COMMENTS NOW FROM THE, IF YOU'VE GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES OF HJB AND IN THE ROOM TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENTS, THEN THERE'S NO OTHER OPTION THAT COULD SPEAK IN THE FUTURE AND SO WE'RE LIMITING TO THOSE WHO SIGNED UP SO WE CAN TIC THROUGH THOSE. THAT WOULD BE MY SUGGESTION.

JOSH DANIELS – CORRECT. YEP, WE WILL ONLY BE GOING WITH ONLINE COMMENTS FROM HERE ON OUT. WE'LL BE WORKING OFF OF THE SIGN-UP SHEET FIRST AND THEN WE WILL GO WITH THE HAND RAISES. WE'LL START WITH BRIGHAM DANIELS AND I'LL UNMUTE YOU HERE IN A MOMENT. OKAY, MY OLD LAW PROFESSOR BRIGHAM DANIELS, GO AHEAD.

BRIGHAM DANIELS - THANK YOU VERY MUCH. MY NAME IS BRIGHAM DANIELS, I TEACH PROPERTY LAW AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AT BYU LAW SCHOOL. I AM A RESIDENT OF PROVO. I'M REALLY GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO

**COMMENT AND I AM GRATEFUL THAT THE COUNTY COMMISSION IS TAKING TIME TO CONSIDER THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT CONCERNS ME ABOUT ANY OPTION THAT DOES NOT END WITH A CONSERVATION EASEMENT, IS THAT THERE'S ALWAYS GOING TO BE THE TEMPTATION TO MAKE A CHOICE THAT IS GOING TO PRIVATIZE SOME OR PART OR MAYBE ALL OF THE LAND THAT THE COUNTY HAS, DEPENDING ON WHICH THE DEVELOPMENT OFFER COMES, HOW IT COMES IN. WE JUST NEED TO REMOVE THAT TEMPTATION. BRIDAL VEIL FALLS HAS BEEN SAVED SO MANY TIMES FROM DIFFERENT DEVELOPMENTS AND PROBLEMS WITH DIFFERENT DEVELOPMENTS. WE NEED TO STOP SAVING IT OVER AND OVER AND OVER AND JUST PUT THIS TO BED. LET'S SAVE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS FOREVER. RIGHT? WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO DO THIS. A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IS THE WAY TO DO THAT. THAT IS THE MOST LOGICAL WAY FOR THE COUNTY TO DO EXACTLY THAT. I AM NOT CERTAIN WHAT THE CURRENT COUNTY COMMISSION WILL DO, I'M NOT CERTAIN WHAT THE FUTURE OF THE NEXT COUNTY COMMISSION OR THE ONE 20 YEARS FROM NOW OR 40 YEARS FROM NOW, BUT WHAT I CAN TELL YOU IS I WANT THAT FALLS TO BE THERE WHEN I BRING MY GUESTS TO THE LAW SCHOOL AND I SHOW THEM WHAT A GREAT PLACE I LIVE IN. I WANT MY KIDS TO BE ABLE TO DO THAT. I WANT MY GRANDKIDS TO DO THAT, AND I WANT MY GRANDKIDS, GRANDKIDS TO ENJOY THAT. I WANT THEM TO LOOK BACK AND SAY SOMEBODY DOWN THE ROAD MADE THE RIGHT DECISION. THEY WON'T REMEMBER WHO WE ARE, THEY WON'T REMEMBER, THAT'S GOING TO BE IRRELEVANT TO THEM. BUT WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO KNOW IS THAT *THAT* FALLS, WHICH IS THE CROWN JEWEL OF OUR COUNTY, IT WAS CREATED RIGHT THE FIRST TIME. NO ADDITION IS NEEDED. WE DO NOT NEED ANY PRIVATIZED, ANY ADDITION IS NOT AN IMPROVEMENT. IT'S BEAUTIFUL THE WAY IT IS, AND IT SHOULD BE KEPT THAT WAY. THANK YOU. I APPRECIATE YOU. THANK YOU FOR THE TIME.**

**MELODY ROPER - ALRIGHT THANK YOU. COMMISSIONERS AND RESIDENTS, I RESIDE IN PLEASANT GROVE HAD LIVED IN UTAH FOR 27 YEARS. I AM HERE TO VOICE SUPPORT TO THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES USE THE BRIDAL VEIL AREA AS A PLACE TO RECREATE AND BOND WITH THEIR FAMILY. PEOPLE FROM ALL ABILITIES ALL THE WAY TO CLIMBERS HAVE TRAVELED FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. SPEAKING AS AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY, A CLIMBER, AND A RESIDENT, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I FIRMLY OPPOSE ANY POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT. PLEASE MAKE THE CHOICE THAT WILL BENEFIT ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS, RATHER THAN THE CHOICE THAT BENEFIT ONLY A SELECT FEW IN THE SHORT TERM, AND THE DANGER OF HURTING US ALL IN THE LONG TERM. NATURE REQUIRES NO EDITS OR DEVELOPMENTS. ANY DEVELOPMENTS THAT ARE WITHOUT THE INTENTION OF CONSERVATION, TRAIL MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY, WILL DAMAGE THE NATURAL BEAUTY AND LONGEVITY OF THE FALLS. A WORLD CLASS ICE CLIMBING LANDMARK DESERVES TO BE ACCESSIBLE. NOT PASSING THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT BOTH DAMAGES A PIECE OF CLIMBING HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANTLY LIMITS RECREATION ACCESS IN THE COUNTY FOR THE WINTER. PEOPLE COME FROM ACROSS THE WORLD TO CLIMB STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN IN BRIDAL VEIL. AND IF IT'S A MONEY ISSUE, I AM CERTAIN THAT WE WILL LOSE MONEY IN THE LONG TERM WITHOUT THE CONSERVATION**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
57 | Page

**EASEMENT. I AGREE WITH WHAT BRIGHAM SAID, STOP SAVING BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND JUST SAVE IT THIS ONE LAST TIME. THANK YOU.**

**JIM HARRIS - THANK YOU MY NAME IS JIM HARRIS. I LIVE IN SPRING LAKE IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE COUNTY. I GREW UP IN PROVO AND I'D LIKE TO START OUT BY RESPONDING TO SOME OF THE COMMENTS BY MR. LOSEE'S REPRESENTATIVES. A TRAM WITH CABLES RUNNING UP THAT CLIFF IS NOT A SMALL THING. IT'S NOT AN ENHANCEMENT. IN FACT, I GREW UP IN PROVO AND I REMEMBER DRIVING THROUGH THAT CANYON AND ALWAYS REGRETTING THAT EYESORE OF A TRAM AND CABLE SYSTEM RUNNING UP THE CLIFF. IT DIDN'T BELONG THERE ORIGINALLY AND MOST CERTAINLY DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE REBUILT. IN FACT, WHEN THE ORIGINAL OPERATION CLOSED DOWN AND FOR SALE SIGNS WENT UP, I WAS ON PINS AND NEEDLES WORRYING THAT SOMEBODY ELSE WOULD COME ALONG AND REBUILD THAT DARN THING. AND THEN FINALLY UTAH COUNTY HAD THE FORESIGHT TO BUY IT AND I THOUGHT THE WHOLE ISSUE WAS OVER. THE PROPONENTS SAY THEY'LL ONLY DEVELOP ONE ACRE BUT THAT ONE ANCHOR IS CRITICAL. I MEAN IT'S THE CENTRAL CORE OF THIS PROJECT AND IT'S THE ONE THAT DEGRADES THE VISUAL BEAUTY OF THOSE FALLS THE MOST. ONE OTHER THING AND IT DEGRADES IT BY THE WAY FOR THE REST OF THE PUBLIC, THE PEOPLE WHO DON'T OWN IT. ONE OTHER THING, THERE'S BEEN SOMETHING SAID ABOUT HOW A CONSERVATION EASEMENT WOULD BLOCK FUTURE OPTIONS, BUT NOTHING'S BEEN SAID ABOUT WHAT ALLOWING US DEVELOPMENT TO GO FORTH WOULD BLOCK IN THE FUTURE. IN OTHER WORDS, WE COULD DO THE RIGHT THING AND WE COULD ESTABLISH A CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND BE DONE WITH THIS ISSUE AND EVERYONE IN PERPETUITY COULD ENJOY IT. OR WE COULD LET THE LOSEE'S DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE PUT CABLES AND BUILDINGS UP THERE AND STILL BLOCKS ANY FUTURE THINGS FOR DECADES. PLEASE, PLEASE, PUT A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IN PLACE. IT'S FOR THE BEST OF OUR VALLEY OUR COUNTY, OUR COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.**

**TYSON BRADLEY - MY NAME IS TYSON BRADLEY. I'M WITH UTAH MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES, A GUIDE SERVICE BASED IN SALT LAKE CITY SINCE 1993. THANK YOU, COMMISSIONER AINGE, FOR YOUR EFFORT TO BRING THIS PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT ON A PUBLIC JEWEL TO LIGHT AND FOR ENTERTAINING THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR THIS INCREDIBLE NATURAL WONDER. ALTHOUGH OTHER COMMISSIONERS HAVE QUESTIONED, YOU'RE RIGHT TO DO SO, IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT TANNER AINGE HAS A RIGHT TO PURSUE THIS SOLUTION, EVEN THOUGH HE IS AN OUTGOING COMMISSIONER. UTAH MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES OFFERS GUIDING AND INSTRUCTION AND ICE CLIMBING AT BRIDAL VEIL AND ITS NEIGHBORING STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN ICE FORMATION. OUR COMPANY WAS FOUNDED BY EXUM MOUNTAIN GUIDES AND KITTY CALHOUN, PREEMINENT ICE CLIMBER AND MOUNTAINEER, CHICKS WITH PICKS OWNER, FIRST ASCENDER OF THE GREAT WHITE ICICLE, TED WILSON AND RICK REESE AND RICK WYATT, FIRST ASCENDER OF THE FANG ANOTHER FORMATION IN PROVO CANYON. ICE CLIMBING IN UTAH IS IN OUR DNA AND PROVO IS THE LARGEST MOST RELIABLE ICE IN UTAH. AS OUR GUY JOSEPH HOBBY WROTE TO ME YESTERDAY, PRIVATIZING BRIDAL VEIL COULD PUSH ICE CLIMBING FROM A FINITE RESOURCE TO BORDERLINE EXTINCTION**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
58 | Page

**IN THE SALT LAKE AREA. NOT ONLY IS IT A REASON FOR PREEMINENT GUYS LIKE ALAN RUSSO TO WORK IN UTAH, IT IS ALSO A TREMENDOUS DRAW FOR TOURISM. OVER THE YEARS WE'VE BEEN INTERVIEWED FOR COUNTLESS ARTICLES ABOUT ICE CLIMBING, THERE'S BEEN ICE CLIMBING FESTIVALS HELD AT THIS VENUE, IT'S AN OUTSTANDING ICE CLIMBING VENUE. JIM KNIGHT, I BELIEVE HAS BEEN PRESENT HERE, HE MADE THE FIRST ASCENT OF MANY OF THE NOW CLASSIC ROUTES AT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN. IT IS INDEED ONE OF THE BIRTH PLACES OF ICE CLIMBING IN UTAH AND THE WORLD AS A WHOLE. I THINK I'M DONE. THANK YOU.**

**CADE ANDERSON – GREAT, THANK YOU. HOPEFULLY EVERYBODY CAN HEAR ME. FIRST OFF, I WANTED TO THANK COMMISSIONER IVIE I BELIEVE. SO, TO BEGIN, MY NAME IS CADE ANDERSON, I'M A SALT LAKE CITY RESIDENT ALTHOUGH I LIVED IN UTAH COUNTY FOR THREE YEARS PRIOR TO LIVING IN SALT LAKE COUNTY. FIRST OFF, I WANT TO THANK COMMISSIONER IVIE AS WELL AS THE OTHER PEOPLE PRESENT IN THIS MEETING TONIGHT FOR WEARING MASKS. IT SEEMS THAT YOUR DEDICATION TO PUBLIC HEALTH DEFINITELY SETS YOU APART FROM YOUR COLLEAGUES, ESPECIALLY COMMISSIONER LEE, I BELIEVE, I'M NOT SURE IF I'M GETTING NAMES RIGHT, BUT I THINK THAT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE. I JUST WANTED TO STATE ALSO MY SUPPORT OF CONSERVATION EASEMENT. I THINK THAT A LOT OF COMMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TONIGHT REGARDING THE TRAMS BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY AND HOW IT WILL ACCESS, IMPROVE PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE GREAT VIEWS OF BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. IF THAT'S THE CASE I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR IF THERE'S ANY PLAN TO ENSURE THAT THIS TREND WILL BE CONSISTENTLY PERMANENTLY 100% FREE. I HAVEN'T HEARD THIS, IN FACT I'VE HEARD ESTIMATES THAT IT WILL BE COSTING MEMBERS A FEE TO USE AND QUITE FRANKLY ANY FEE IS IRRESPONSIBLE AND OUTRAGEOUS CONSIDERING THAT THE PARKS, CAMPGROUNDS, AND OVERALL ATMOSPHERE OF BRIDAL VEIL FALLS IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY REGARDLESS OF SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS. THIS IS CLEARLY NOT AN ATTEMPT TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY ACCESS, BUT ACTUALLY INHIBIT IT. I THINK THAT'S SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR BY COMMENTS TONIGHT AND OVERALL JUST HOW THE PROJECT IS MOVING FORWARD. IF IT WERE ACTUALLY A PROJECT TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY ACCESS, I THINK THIS WOULD BE A DIFFERENT CONVERSATION, BUT COMMENTS EARLIER MADE BY AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY HAVE JUST BEEN SHOWN HOW THAT HAS BEEN WARPED TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT WHEN THAT WAS CLEARLY NOT THAT INDIVIDUALS INTENTION. AND I THINK IT'S CLEAR THIS PROJECT IS NOT GOING TO BE GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY. THANK YOU.**

**KATIE OLSON – THANK YOU. YES, MY NAME IS KATIE OLSON. LAST YEAR I MOVED TO SALT LAKE COUNTY, BUT I WAS A RESIDENT OF UTAH COUNTY FOR 30 YEARS. MY FATHER WAS A FIREFIGHTER FOR PROVO AND BRIDAL VEIL FALLS WAS A PLACE WE WENT OFTEN, UNFORTUNATELY IT WAS ALSO A PLACE THAT HE HAD TO RESPOND TO CALLS FOR. SO, WHEN IT CAME TO MY ATTENTION THAT THIS ISSUE WAS UP ON FOR DEBATE, I SENT AN EMAIL TO THE COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING THAT IT NOT BE PRIVATIZED EXPRESSING THAT VIEW. I RECEIVED AN EMAIL BACK FROM COMMISSIONER LEE THAT REALLY KIND OF GOT TO ME. IN HIS EMAIL HE SAYS QUOTE “I REJECT ANY PLANS TO**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

Public Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

59 | P a g e

**SELL SOME OR ALL OF THE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS PROPERTY.” THIS REALLY BOTHERED ME BECAUSE IT SEEMS VERY UNGENUINE WITH WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON AND THE TALKS THAT HAVE BEEN HAD IN ORDER TO PRIVATIZE IT, ESPECIALLY BECAUSE IT'S SUCH AN ABRUPT STATEMENT OF REJECTING ANY PLAN. I DON'T WANT TO DO A CHARACTER ATTACK, BUT I DO REALLY WANT TO SAY THAT I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR OUR GOVERNMENT LEADERS TO BE ACTING GENUINE AND TO BE UPHOLDING, BEING WILLING TO SAY WHAT THEIR ACTIONS ARE, ESPECIALLY IF THEY CHANGE THEIR MINDS. I'M NOT AGAINST PEOPLE CHANGING THEIR MINDS. I ACTUALLY WORK IN GOVERNMENT. I SPECIALIZE IN CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, MAKING PRIORITY-BASED BUDGETING DECISIONS BASED ON OUR PRINCIPLES. BECAUSE OF THAT WORK, I FEEL LIKE IT'S A KEY FOR US TO BE ABLE TO OPEN UP OPTIONS TO DEBATE THEM. BUT WITH THIS I FEEL LIKE WE'VE DEBATED IT SO MANY TIMES AND AT THIS POINT WE'VE SEEN THE EFFECTS OF PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT AND WE WANT IT TO BE A PUBLIC PLACE. THAT DEFINITELY SEEMS TO BE THE SPIRIT AMONG THE PEOPLE AND WHAT THEY ARE ASKING FOR. LASTLY, I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT WHEN WE TRY AND SOLVE ALL THE INTERESTS, SOMETIMES THAT STILL HAS A HIGH COST TO IT. I'VE SEEN GOVERNMENTS DO THAT SUCCESSFULLY AND I THINK THAT'S A GREAT PROPOSAL, BUT IN THIS CASE IT DOESN'T SEEM WORTH IT. I THINK THAT KEEPING THE FALLS PUBLIC CAN STILL SATISFY ALL THE NEEDS THAT NEED TO BE MET. THANK YOU.**

**COMMISSIONER LEE - I'D LIKE TO KIND OF RESPOND TO THAT. I THINK THAT'S INTERESTING THAT WAS BROUGHT UP. MY PAST RECORD INDICATES THAT WHEN PROPOSALS CAME FORWARD, THERE WAS A VOTE THAT WAS TAKEN AND THAT REFLECTS AN ATTITUDE THAT I HAVE HAD AND IT HAS BEEN ALSO NOTED EVEN BY COMMISSIONER AINGE THAT I HAVE BEEN PRETTY FIRM IN THAT FOR THE PAST BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT AS PEOPLE ARE TALKING TO ME AND BRINGING UP PROPOSALS, THAT DOESN'T MEAN I HAVEN'T LISTENED. I DO LISTEN TO ALL PROPOSALS THAT HAVE COME FORWARD AND THEN TRY TO WEIGH THEM ACCORDINGLY. A COMMENT THAT I'M CONSISTENT WITH THAT. I THINK MY FELLOW COMMISSIONERS HAVE FELT THAT AS WELL. I EVEN VOTED THAT WAY AND SO THAT STATEMENT, I STAND BY IT. IT'S A STATEMENT THAT I BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE AND I'VE HELD VERY STRONG TO THAT, EVEN SAYING TO OTHERS, IF THIS IS NOT PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE THEN WE'RE GOING DOWN THE WRONG PATH AND THAT'S BEEN VERY CONSISTENT ALL THE WAY ALONG.**

**KATIE OLSON - THANK YOU FOR RESPONDING TO THAT. I WANT TO SEE THAT THEN WE'RE A LITTLE BIT MORE OPEN THAN YOU'VE BEEN CURRENTLY ON THESE TYPES OF THINGS, HAVING MORE OF THOSE PUBLIC DOOR OPEN MEETINGS, KEEPING ITS PUBLIC HEARINGS, LESS OF THOSE CONVERSATIONS. IT'S GOOD TO LISTEN TO PEOPLE BUT IF WE'VE ALREADY MADE A DECISION, SOMETIMES IT SOUNDS LIKE THOSE PRINCIPLES ARE ALSO GETTING LOST THERE.**

**COMMISSIONER LEE – YEAH, AND I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE I DON'T REALLY WANT THIS TO BE A DEBATE FORMAT AS WELL AS ANYBODY, BUT COUNTY BUSINESS, COUNTY GOVERNMENT, THIS IS HOW COUNTY**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
60 | Page

**GOVERNMENT WORKS. PEOPLE WILL COME INTO OUR OFFICES AND THEY WILL HAVE A PROPOSAL AND IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME. EVERY WEEK SOMEBODY'S GOT SOME QUESTION OR SOME PROPOSAL. AND BECAUSE WE'RE THREE DIFFERENT OFFICES AS COMMISSIONERS, I HAVE OFTEN SAID YOU HAVE TO GO TALK WITH THE OTHER COMMISSIONERS AS WELL, YOU CAN'T JUST COME AND TALK WITH ME. I KNOW IT WAS ALLUDED TO THERE ARE BACKROOM DEALS OR SOME SECRET MEETINGS OR ANYTHING OF THAT NATURE, MOST OF THE TIME IT'S ALWAYS GO TALK WITH OTHER COMMISSIONERS AS WELL. IT'S NOT JUST COME AND TALK WITH ME AND I'M SURE THE OTHER COMMISSIONERS DO THE SAME THING. THAT'S HOW COUNTY GOVERNMENT WORKS. WE SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS, PEOPLE COME IN AND TALK, THEY'LL CALL UP, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THEY ARE, AND THEY SAY HEY I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THIS LAND USE, OR I WANT TO TALK ABOUT A CERTAIN PROCESS THAT'S GOING ON IN THE COUNTY. I BRING THEM IN, WE HAVE CONVERSATIONS, IT'S USUALLY GOING AND TALKING WITH OTHER COMMISSIONERS. IT'S NOT THAT EVERY SINGLE CONVERSATION THAT WE HAVE IS DONE IN AN OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LIKE THIS, BUT WHEN WE COME TO MAKING DECISIONS, IT'S AN OPEN AND PUBLIC MEANING IN AN OPEN AND PUBLIC PROCESS, RFP'S, MAKING DECISION IN AN OPEN MEETING, BUT CONVERSATIONS ARE HAD ALL THE TIME, ALL WEEK LONG WITH INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE CONCERNS OR QUESTIONS.**

**KATIE OLSON – I'M AWARE OF THAT, I WORK IN GOVERNMENT, IT'S NOT NEWS TO ME. I JUST THINK WE CAN STEP IT UP A LITTLE HERE. THANK YOU.**

**KENNETH DONALDSON - HI MY NAME IS KENNETH DONALDSON AND I LIVE IN PROVO. I'D LIKE TO THANK THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR TIME. I JUST WANTED TO SAY THAT I'M VERY MUCH IN SUPPORT OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. TO BE HONEST I KIND OF DON'T LIKE THAT I HAVE TO BE HERE, BECAUSE I GENERALLY HOPE THE COUNTY IS WORKING WELL AND TO SEE THAT THIS IS EVEN BEING PROVIDED AS AN OPTION TO SEE THAT RICHARD LOSEE HAD EVEN PUT OUT SOMETHING HE THOUGHT PEOPLE WOULD LIKE, AND SO FAR, ALMOST ALL OF THE COMMENTS THAT CLAIM THEY LIKE RICHARD LOSEE'S POSITION SEEMS TO BE COMING FROM HIS ATTORNEYS. I SAW NEIL DASTRUP ON THERE, WHICH I KNOW LIVES BY A GUY WHO CLAIMS HE CAN TEXT HIM. IT JUST LOOKS LIKE ASTROTURFING TO ME. I THINK WE SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL ABOUT UNDERSTANDING WHERE THE PUBLIC SITS ON THIS. THE PUBLIC IS OVERWHELMINGLY, EVERYONE I TALKED TO IS ON THE SIDE THAT THE PUBLIC EASEMENT SHOULD GO FORWARD BECAUSE WE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT IT WOULD TAKE ALMOST NOTHING FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SELL OFF VALUABLE LAND. AND SO, I JUST WANTED TO MAKE IT KNOWN THAT IT'S IN MY INTEREST, IT'S IN THE PUBLIC'S INTEREST THAT THAT WATERFALL DOESN'T HAVE ANY PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT, WE DON'T LEASE THE LAND AND WHEN I LOOK UP AT THE TOP I DON'T SEE AN OVERHANG OR PEOPLE LOOKING DOWN ON ME. AND I KNOW SOMEONE'S GOING TO SAY THAT'S NOT WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO, BUT THE DEVIL IS ALWAYS GOING TO BE IN THE DETAILS AND LESS THERE IS AN EASEMENT, THIS THING ISN'T GOING TO SORT ITSELF. AND I GENERALLY THINK I WROTE AN EMAIL TO YOU BILL LEE THAT WAS A LITTLE BIT HARSH JUST FROM THE REPORTING ON IT AND I HOPE THAT THAT'S NOT ACTUALLY YOUR POSITION. I JUST HOPE THAT YOU ARE IN THE MINDSET THAT THIS THING NEEDS TO BE**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
61 | Page

**PRESERVED AND THAT WE DON'T WANT TO FIGHT OVER DEVELOPERS MOVING FORWARD.**

**ALEX GROW – YEAH, THANK YOU. I HOPE I'M COMING THROUGH CLEARLY AND I APOLOGIZE FOR ANY BACKGROUND NOISE. I'M CURRENTLY WATCHING MY CHILDREN. MY FAMILY IS OWNED BRIDAL VEIL FALLS FROM 1974 UNTIL 2015. WE SOLD IT TO THE COUNTY IN THE HOPES OF CONTINUING PROTECTION AND ACCESSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC THAT OUR FAMILY MADE A PRIORITY. ONE THING THAT I THINK IS PERTINENT TO THE DISCUSSION TONIGHT, THE AGENDA ITEM IS PASSAGE OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. I MET WITH TWO OF THE THREE COMMISSIONERS YESTERDAY AND WAS REVEALED THAT THE LANGUAGE OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT WASN'T EVEN DONE YESTERDAY. I CAN APPRECIATE IT, I'M SURE THERE IS A FINALIZED VERSION TODAY THAT NO ONE OUTSIDE OF THE COMMISSIONERS THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN MADE PRIVY TOO. IT'S ALSO AN IMPORTANT COMPONENT TO THAT TO UNDERSTAND THAT MY FAMILY ACTUALLY GRANTED A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IN THE EARLY 1990S TO THE NATURE CONSERVANCY BASED OUT OF WASHINGTON, DC. SO, I'M JUST CONCERNED THAT THE PROCESS IS MOVING FORWARD TOO QUICKLY TO BE ABLE TO ACCURATELY DEPICT WHAT LEGAL RIGHTS THE COUNTY RETAINS, WHAT RIGHTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, AND I WOULD JUST RECOMMEND THAT THE ITEM BE CONTINUED. I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE WITH THE PROPOSAL LAID OUT BY THE COUNTY, RICHARD NIELSEN FROM PUBLIC WORKS, IT LOOKED LIKE A VERY GOOD PLAN. I'M JUST WORRIED THAT THE CURRENT PROPOSAL IS RUSHED, HURRIED. I WOULD ENCOURAGE THE COUNTY TO FULLY CONSIDER A CONSERVATION EASEMENT GOING FORWARD BUT THINK THAT MORE TIME IS NECESSARY, AND I WOULD ENCOURAGE THE COUNTY TO CONTINUE THE ITEM. THANKS.**

**LYNN SORENSON - THANK YOU. I'D LIKE TO CONCUR WITH PROFESSOR BRIGHAM DANIELS THAT THE TIME TO DO THIS IS NOW, SO THAT THE FUTURE COMMISSIONS DO NOT HAVE TO ENTERTAIN THIS OVER AND OVER AND OVER AGAIN. AS A NEARLY 30-YEAR RESIDENT OF PROVO, I'M 100% IN FAVOR OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.**

**REBECCA HARDENBROOK – HI, MY NAME IS REBECCA HARDENBROOK. I WANTED TO FIRST SAY THAT I LIVE IN SALT LAKE CITY SO I'M NOT A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY IN UTAH COUNTY. I AM HOWEVER A FELLOW UTAHN AND AM HERE TO SUPPORT MANY OF THE COMMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN WRITTEN ALREADY AND ARE BEING BROUGHT HERE TODAY BY THOSE WHO LIVE IN YOUR COUNTY. BRIDAL VEIL FALLS IS ONE OF THE MANY NATURAL TREASURES THAT WE ARE BLESSED TO HAVE HERE IN UTAH, AND IT IS OUR DUTY AS THE CURRENT INHABITANTS OF THESE LANDS TO BE ITS STEWARDS. FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN THERE HAS BEEN NO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT. WE HAVE NOT SEEN HOW THIS WOULD AFFECT OUR AIR QUALITY, WE'VE NOT SEEN WHAT SORT OF ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION WE COULD EXPECT IN THE ECOSYSTEMS OF PROVO CANYON SURROUNDING THE FALLS AND WE HAVE NOT SEEN WHAT THE EFFECTS COULD BE FROM BOTH THE BUILDING AND CONTINUED FUNCTIONING OF SUCH A CENTER ON THE HEALTH OF THE PROVO RIVER AND UTAH LAKE. ADDITIONALLY, IT IS OUR**



**DUTY TO CARE FOR EACH OTHER. FROM MY UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT, DESPITE IT BEING FOR A REHABILITATION CENTER, IT WOULD DO NEITHER FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. TWO DAYS AGO, I CALLED CIRQUE LODGE AND ASKED HOW MUCH IT WOULD COST TO RECEIVE ALCOHOL ADDICTION TREATMENT. AT THE SUNDANCE LOCATION, A 30-DAY TREATMENT WOULD COST NEARLY \$60,000 AND AT THE OREM LOCATION, THE SAME TREATMENT WOULD COST SOMETHING NEAR \$35,000. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE TREATMENT THAT WOULD BE PROVIDED AT THE PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD BE HIGHLY UNAFFORDABLE. THE CENTER WOULD NOT ONLY SERVE THE ELITE BUT WOULD TAKE AWAY ACCESS TO THE OUTDOORS FROM OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY. TO ADDRESS THE COMMENTS OF COMMISSIONER LEE, THIS PROPOSAL IS INDEED ONE TO LEASE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS THEREBY PLACING THE FALLS UP FOR A TYPE OF CONTINUOUS SALE AND IS INDEED ONE TO PRIVATIZE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. BRIDAL VEIL FALLS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A MAJOR REASON FOR ME TO VISIT PROVO AND TO VISIT THE LOCAL BUSINESSES IN PROVO. I WOULD ASSUME THAT MANY FOLKS WHO DID NOT LIVE IN THE AREA ALSO ARE DRAWN TO PROVO FOR SIMILAR REASONS. HOWEVER, I KNOW THAT MANY MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE PROVO AREA HAVE A VERY CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO THE FALLS AND THAT IT IS A SACRED PLACE FOR MANY OF THEM. I KNOW THIS BECAUSE MANY OF THEM ARE HERE TO SPEAK TODAY AND THEY'VE COME TO ASK THAT YOU OPPOSE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS CENTER AND TO CONSERVE THE FALLS. PLEASE LISTEN TO THEM. THANK YOU.**

**ELIZABETH VAN DERWERKEN – HI, I'M ELIZABETH VAN DERWERKEN AND I'M A RESIDENT OF PROVO, UTAH. I'VE SPENT MOST OF MY ADULT LIFE LIVING HERE IN PROVO. FIRST, I JUST WANTED TO THANK COMMISSIONER IVIE FOR BRINGING THIS ISSUE TO THE AWARENESS OF THE PUBLIC. ALTHOUGH THE PROPERTY IS NOT FOR SALE IT IS CONCERNING THAT COMMISSIONER LEE HAS ENTERTAINED DISCUSSIONS ON A PROPOSED LEASE OF THE PROPERTY WHICH WOULD RESULT IN CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES THAT WOULD IRREPARABLY DAMAGE THE AREA AS WELL AS PUBLIC ACCESS FOR RECREATION PURPOSES. I THOUGHT MAYOR JENNEY REES OF CEDAR HILLS, HER COMMENTS WERE PARTICULARLY COMPELLING REGARDING FREE ACCESS AND HOW THAT'S CRITICAL TO MANY LOW-INCOME FAMILIES. I ALSO THOUGHT BRIGHAM DANIEL'S COMMENTS REGARDING THE TIMELINESS OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT WERE REALLY COMPELLING. SO, I JUST WANTED TO ECHO THOSE THINGS AND JUST THROW MY SUPPORT BEHIND PASSING A CONSERVATION EASEMENT THAT WOULD OFFER PROTECTION IN PERPETUITY AS WELL AS CONTINUED PUBLIC ACCESS IN THE WAY THAT WE ENJOY IT NOW. THANK YOU.**

**GINGER WOOLLEY - I AM THE CHAIR OF THE ROCK CANYON PRESERVATION LAND AND HAVE BEEN FOR 15 YEARS. THIS ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN AROUND FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS. OUR LEADERSHIP CONSISTS OF OVER 20 PEOPLE, BUT WE HAVE OVER 3000 AS MEMBERS. OVER THE TIME WE'VE EXISTED, WE ARE A 501(c)3 NONPROFIT AND OVER THE TIME WE'VE EXISTED THERE HAVE BEEN FOUR MAJOR THREATS TO ROCK CANYON, ANOTHER MAJESTIC, ICONIC LOCATION IN UTAH VALLEY. THESE THREATS WOULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT HAD BEEN IN EFFECT BEFORE WE PUSHED THE**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

Public Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

63 | P a g e

**ISSUE, NOT THAT LONG AGO, THREE YEARS AGO. WE DO HOLD THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT AT THE BASE OF THE CANYON GIVEN TO US BY PROVO CITY. WE KNOW WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT ONE. WE KNOW THAT IT CAN BE NOT JUST A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY WORKING WITH A PRIVATE ENTITY WITH THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING LAND, BUT IT CAN BE SOMETHING NEFARIOUS SUCH AS THE MINING QUARRY THAT WAS A 13-YEAR BATTLE, WHERE PROVO CITY ENDED UP LOSING AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF MONEY AND RESOURCES IN ORDER TO GET THAT PERMANENTLY STOPPED. AND SUCH THINGS CAN HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE. I ECHO BRIGHAM DANIELS IN SAYING THAT IT IS IMPORTANT. BUT NOT JUST FOR THIS PROJECT BUT FOR FUTURE POTENTIAL INVASIVE THINGS THAT TAKE AWAY FROM THE PRISTINE NATURE OF THE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AREA, THAT A CONSERVATION EASEMENT BE PUT IN PLACE. I THINK THAT'S THE RIGHT ENTITY IS UTAH OPEN LANDS'. THANK YOU.**

**ELI KERR - MY NAME IS ELI KERR. I'M A RESIDENT IN OREM CITY. I GREW UP HERE AND HAD ACCESS TO BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AS A YOUNG BOY AND CONTINUED TO ACCESS BRIDAL VEIL FROM ICE CLIMBING TO RIDING BIKES UP THERE, HIKING THE TRAIL WITH MY KIDS. AS A SMALL BUSINESS OWNER AND VERY INVOLVED IN THE OUTDOOR INDUSTRY, AND ALSO SERVING ON THE BOARD PREVIOUSLY FOR THE SALT LAKE CLIMBERS ALLIANCE WHO WE HEARD FROM JULIA GEISLER EARLIER, IT'S VERY, VERY EVIDENT THAT THE PEOPLE WANT TO PROTECT THIS AREA AND THAT PRIVATIZATION TO ANY DEGREE IS NOT OF AN INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY WHATSOEVER. WE HAVE A NUMBER OF NOT ONLY CONCERNED CITIZENS OR RESIDENTS HERE, BUT ALSO LEADERS OF ORGANIZATIONS WHO ARE REPRESENTING THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE A VOICE HERE TONIGHT, WHO WANT TO SEE THIS AREA PROTECTED. THERE'S NO QUESTION THAT WE WANT TO SAVE IT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS THE WAY THAT WE'VE ENJOYED IT. WE DON'T NEED ANY KIND OF COMMERCIALIZATION THERE. THERE'S PLENTY OF PLACES FOR LOSEE AND OTHER PEOPLE WHO WANT TO COMMERCIALIZE BEAUTIFUL AREAS TO GO COMMERCIALIZE THEM. THEY DON'T NEED TO USE THIS SPECIFIC PIECE OF LAND. THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE THAT WILL ACTUALLY BENEFIT FROM IT IS ABOUT AS MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE SPOKEN IN FAVOR FOR IT TONIGHT. AND THAT IS VERY, VERY EVIDENT. THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE WANT TO PRESERVE THIS AREA FOR NOT ONLY US NOW, BUT FOR PEOPLE AND OUR CHILDREN IN THE FUTURE AND WE EXPECT OUR REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION AND REPRESENT US. THANKS EVERYONE FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.**

**JAREM FRYE – OKAY, GREAT. SO, AS A CHILD I GREW UP IN SPRINGVILLE, UTAH. THE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS TRAM WAS ONE OF THE PRIVATE ENTERPRISES THAT CAPTURED MY IMAGINATION THE MOST AND ON TWO VERY SPECIAL OCCASIONS THAT MY PARENTS SAVED UP FOR OVER THE YEARS, MY FAMILY GOT TO RIDE THE TRAM AND GOT TO EXPERIENCE THAT AND THOSE ARE FOND MEMORIES FOR ME. I HAD POSTCARDS BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND THE TRAM ON MY WALL AS A KID AND I'VE ALWAYS HAD FOND MEMORIES OF IT AND BEEN INSPIRED AND CAPTIVATED BY THE VISION THAT IT TOOK TO CREATE SOMETHING LIKE THAT. I'VE OFTEN LAMENTED THAT SUCH INNOVATION AND PIONEERING SPIRIT IS SO RARE NOWADAYS, THAT UTAH LOCALS HAVE REALLY**

**HAVE TO GO TO SWITZERLAND OR THE LIKE ANYMORE TO EXPERIENCE WHAT I GREW UP WITH. IT WOULD BE A NATIONAL TREASURE TO RESTORE THIS HISTORIC VISION TO UTAH AGAIN. WE WOULD ALL BE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE THIS GEM RESTORED AND IMPROVED WHICH I BELIEVE WE COULD DO WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENGINEERING THAT WE HAVE NOW. I HAVE LIVED AT SUNDANCE FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS. I HAVE WITNESSED AND COME TO DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE ABILITY OF PRIVATE CITIZENS TO DO A SUPERIOR JOB IN THE PRESERVATION OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES WITH MY NEIGHBOR ROBERT REDFORD AND WHAT HE'S DONE THERE. I THINK THAT SUNDANCE AND THE AREA IS BETTER MAINTAINED THAN A LOT OF THE NATIONAL PARKS AND DIFFERENT THINGS THAT WE SEE THERE. SO, THERE'S MORE THAT I WOULD LIKE TO SAY, I HAVEN'T HEARD ALL THIS. IT FEELS LIKE WE DON'T ALL HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION ON WHAT'S TRULY BEING PROPOSED THERE, AND I WOULD LIKE TO LIMIT GOVERNMENT SAY IN TAKING AWAY OUR ABILITY TO DEBATE THESE THINGS AND CHOOSE AS A PEOPLE. THANK YOU.**

**JUSTIN SPENCER - MY NAME IS JUSTIN SPENCER. I'M HERE TONIGHT BECAUSE I'VE BEEN IN RECOVERY FOR 10 YEARS. I DIDN'T DO RECOVERY IN A REHAB BECAUSE I COULDN'T AFFORD A FANCY REHAB. AND NEITHER CAN THE OTHER 90 SOMETHING PERCENT OF PEOPLE THAT ARE ADDICTED TO DRUGS CURRENTLY RIGHT NOW BE ABLE TO AFFORD A FANCY REHAB. THERE'S REHABS OUT THERE THAT WON'T EVEN ACCEPT THEM, EVEN IF THEY GET ON MEDICAID, THEY WON'T ACCEPT THEM. WE DON'T NEED A FANCY REHAB OF 1100 FEET ON A MOUNTAIN WITH A TRAM ON THE SIDE OF A MOUNTAIN. WE NEED YOU GUYS TO GOVERN FOR US, THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTY DON'T WANT IT. WE DON'T WANT YOUR POCKETBOOK GETTING FATTER WHILE YOU SELL OFF LAND OR YOU SAY YEAH, WE CAN MAKE THIS HAPPEN. WE DON'T NEED THAT. WHAT WE NEED IS ACTUALLY PEOPLE THAT CARE ABOUT THE CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTY INSTEAD OF YOU SITTING UP THERE SMUG TONIGHT HEARING EVERYBODY ELSE THINKING IN YOUR HEAD NO BIG DEAL, YOU'RE GOING TO PASS IT ANYWAY. NO, YOU'RE NOT. THIS COUNTY WILL NOT LET YOU PASS IT. HAVE A GOOD NIGHT.**

**CARL FISHER – GREAT, THANK YOU FOR HAVING THIS HEARING TONIGHT. MY NAME IS CARL FISHER. I'M EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF SAVE OUR CANYONS. WE ARE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION. WE'VE BEEN AROUND FOR 50, ALMOST 50 YEARS NOW. WE'RE DEDICATED TO PROTECTING THE WILDNESS AND BEAUTY OF THE WASATCH MOUNTAINS. I'VE GOT TO SAY, JUST LISTENING TO A LOT OF THE COMMENTS WE'VE HEARD TONIGHT, IT WARMS OUR HEART TO KNOW THAT THERE IS SUCH A PASSIONATE COMMUNITY ABOUT PROTECTING THE GEMS OF THE WASATCH MOUNTAINS. HATS OFF TO EVERYBODY IN UTAH COUNTY FOR REALLY STEPPING UP TO SAVE SOME OF THE GEMS OF THE WASATCH MOUNTAINS. UTAH IS BLESSED WITH MANY PLACES, MANY SPECIAL PLACES. BUT I FEEL WE'RE PLAGUED BY THIS NOTION OF PROPERTY OWNERSHIP. BECAUSE PROPERTY LINES DON'T, THEY ARE KIND OF ARBITRARY TO THE LANDSCAPE, TO THE ENVIRONMENT, TO THE ECOSYSTEMS AND TO THE MAGNIFICENCE OF THE LANDSCAPES THAT WE'RE SO FORTUNATE TO ENJOY HERE. RIDGELINES; THEY'RE SACRED. PUTTING SOMETHING ON TOP OF A RIDGELINE IS BLIGHT TO THE NATURE OF THE WASATCH MOUNTAINS. OUR**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

Public Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

65 | Page

**ORGANIZATION WAS HIDDEN PEAK. WE SHARE A RIDGELINE SALT LAKE COUNTY AND UTAH COUNTY. UTAH COUNTY CHANGED THE ORDINANCES TO ALLOW A CONFERENCE CENTER TO GO ON THAT. YOU CAN NOW SEE THAT CONFERENCE CENTER FROM ALL OVER THE WASATCH MOUNTAINS. WE DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN, THAT SAME THING TO HAPPEN TO BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT ALLOWS YOU TO MANAGE THIS PLACE COMMENSURATE WITH THE CONSERVATION VALUES THAT THIS COMMUNITY HAS BEEN IDENTIFYING ALL EVENING. SO, TONIGHT'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO ONCE AND FOR ALL PROTECT THIS PLACE. STOP KIND OF PLAYING WHACK A MOLE WITH DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS. NOT PROTECTING IT TONIGHT MEANS YOU'RE OPEN FOR BUSINESS, FOR SOME OTHER PROPOSALS AND I DON'T THINK THE PUBLIC SHARES THAT SENTIMENT. SO, I DO WANT TO ALSO MENTION IF YOU DO HAVE A WORKING GROUP, WE'D BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO SHARE SOME OF OUR EXPERIENCE AND OUR EXPERTISE. SO, IF THAT TAKES PLACE WILL BE THERE AND THANK YOU FOR DOING THE RIGHT THING TONIGHT AND PROTECTING BRIDAL VEIL.**

**JULIE NANCE – HI. I AM JULIE NANCE. SORRY FOR THE APPEARANCE HERE. I'M ACTUALLY DISABLED SO I HAVE TO SIT UP IN BED. I HAVE MANY, MANY GOOD MEMORIES OF BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. PROBABLY SOME OF MY EARLIEST MEMORIES, BORN AND RAISED HERE IN OREM AND PROVO AND HAVE CONTINUED ON THE TRADITION OF RECREATION TO MY CHILDREN, BIKING AND HIKING AROUND THE AREA AND HIKING STRAIGHT UP THE WATERFALLS THEMSELVES. MY FATHER WAS A PROLIFIC PHOTOGRAPHER AND I REMEMBER SEEING PHOTOS AND THE TRAM BUILDING AND THE LINES AND THE BUILDING AT THE TOP ARE NOT “SMALL THINGS” AS THE COUNSELOR HAD MENTIONED. THEY MAR THE LANDSCAPE. THE PICTURES I'VE BEEN ABLE TO TAKE SINCE THE TRAM WENT OUT HAVE BEEN MUCH NICER. I AM GLAD THAT COMMISSIONER LEE SAYS THAT IT'S NOT FOR SALE AND THAT HE WANTS TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ACCESS. KATIE OLSON BEAT ME TO IT, BUT I ALSO GOT AN EMAIL THAT HE MUST HAVE SENT THE SAME ONE TO EVERYONE. HE SAID QUOTE “I REJECT ANY PLANS TO SELL SOME OR ALL OF BRIDAL VEIL FALLS PROPERTY. FOR ME THE PRESERVATION OF THE FALLS FOR SAFE PUBLIC USE WILL ALWAYS BE A TOP PRIORITY.” UNFORTUNATELY, PUBLIC REPORTING SAYS OTHERWISE IN REGARDS TO HIM AND POSSIBLY THE NEW INCOMING COMMISSIONER. AND HE KIND OF ACTED AS THOUGH HE HASN'T BEEN TALKING TO LOSEE THIS WHOLE TIME, BUT MR. BUCKLEY, SPEAKING FOR LOSEE, KIND OF PROVED THAT WRONG. THE WAY THAT COMMISSIONER LEE VOTES TONIGHT WILL PROVE FOR US ONCE AND FOR ALL IF HE'S TELLING US THE TRUTH OR NOT. SO, I AM VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT. LET'S SETTLE THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL AND NOT HAVE THIS BE A CONTINUAL PROBLEM FROM HERE ON OUT. THANK YOU.**

**BETTINA CAMERON - HI I'M BETTINA CAMERON AND I WOULD LIKE TO DISCLOSE I'M WORKING WITH UTAH OPEN LANDS' TO HELP PRESERVE A WILDLIFE CORRIDOR IN THE CITY OF EAGLE MOUNTAIN. I TELL YOU THAT SO YOU REALIZE I UNDERSTAND WHAT CONSERVATION EASEMENT IS AND WHAT IT DOES. I URGE THE COMMISSION TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF PROTECTING BRIDAL VEIL FALLS THROUGH A CONSERVATION EASEMENT WITH UTAH OPEN LANDS'. A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IS THE ONLY WAY THIS PRECIOUS AND**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
66 | Page

**BEAUTIFUL LAND CAN BE PROTECTED FOREVER FROM DEVELOPMENT. THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT DOESN'T RESTRICT PUBLIC USE, IT DOESN'T RESTRICT IMPROVEMENT OF TRAILS, TRAILHEADS, RESTROOMS OR PAVILIONS. THE COUNTY WILL STILL OWN LAND, THE EASEMENT WILL ONLY PREVENT DEVELOPMENT FROM HAPPENING. IT WILL PROTECT THE LAND, THE ANIMALS, AND PUBLIC USE. THE NORMAL COST THAT UTAH OPEN LANDS' CHARGES TO STEWARD A PARCEL OF LAND IS A ONE-TIME FEE OF \$6500. I UNDERSTAND THERE'S ADDITIONAL COST THAT THE COUNTY WOULD HAVE TO DO FOR SURVEYING AND STUFF. I JUST WANT THE PUBLIC TO REALIZE THIS IS NOT A HUGE COST FOR THE COUNTY. THIS FEE WILL PROTECT THE LAND AND ENSURE THE LAND IS BEING USED AS THE COUNTY HAS DIRECTED AND THE COUNTY DOES DIRECT THIS. THE PROPERTY IS ONE OF UTAH COUNTY'S MAIN TRAVEL AND TOURISM DESTINATIONS WITH THE SHORT DRIVE FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE CITY. IT IS A PLACE WHERE VISITORS AND RESIDENTS GO TO ENJOY THE BEAUTY OF THE WASATCH MOUNTAINS, A PLACE OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND PERSONAL WELL-BEING, A PLACE TO WITNESS NATURE AND WILDLIFE IN ITS GLORY. WITHOUT A THIRD-PARTY CONSERVATION EASEMENT, A FUTURE UTAH COUNTY COUNCIL CAN VOTE IN FAVOR OF REMOVING A COUNTY HELD CONSERVATION EASEMENT OR APPROVE PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT. THE SMALL COST TO PRESERVE THE SCENIC AND TREASURE PIECE OF LAND FOREVER, IS WELL WORTH IT. PLEASE MOTION TO APPROVE AND VOTE YAY TO PROTECT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS THROUGH A CONSERVATION EASEMENT WITH UTAH OPEN LANDS'. THIS WILL SEND A CLEAR MESSAGE THAT THIS PIECE OF PROPERTY IS IMPORTANT. THANK YOU.**

**BRIAN CHIN - THANK YOU. GOOD EVENING COMMISSIONERS, IT'S GOOD TO BE WITH YOU ALL. SO, I'M A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF UTAH COUNTY AND I'M CURRENTLY RAISING MY FAMILY IN UTAH COUNTY. I'VE ENJOYED THROUGHOUT MY LIFE I'VE ENJOYED PROVO CANYON AND BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, FOR MY FAMILY BE ESTABLISHED. ONE OF THE THINGS THAT I WOULD SAY THAT I WOULD ECHO OF MAYBE WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID. I KIND OF EXPECT THE COMMISSIONERS TO HAVE A FUTURE VISION FOR BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND AS CERTAIN PROPOSALS ARISE, THERE'S NOT A RETHINKING OR REFACTORED OF WHAT THE VISION OF A FUTURE RESOURCE OF BRIDAL VEIL IS. SO, I WOULD SAY THAT'S IMPORTANT AND I THINK THE BEST WAY TO DO THAT IS THROUGH A CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND I THINK THAT ALSO IT'S INTERESTING THAT SOME PROPONENTS USE NATURAL BEAUTY AND TRAM IN THE SAME SENTENCE, AND I THINK THAT THAT'S SORT OF HUMOROUS IN MY OPINION THAT THEY USE THAT. AND THE COMMENT I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE, I KNOW THAT THIS IS NOT AN EASY DECISION FOR ANYONE. I THINK YOU'RE GONNA GET A SPECTRUM OF PEOPLE THAT WOULD WANT TO DEVELOP EVERY INCH OF ANY LAND VERSUS OTHERS THAT WANT IT IN ITS MOST PRISTINE NATURAL STATE. AND I THINK THAT BRIDAL VEIL IS ONE OF THOSE PLACES THAT IS SPECIAL. IT DESERVES TO BE IN ITS MOST NATURAL STATE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND SO THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS CAN ENJOY IT IN ITS NATURAL BEAUTIFUL STATE THAT IT'S IN CURRENTLY. SO, THANK YOU FOR THIS FORUM FOR DISCUSSION. APPRECIATE YOUR TIME.**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

Public Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

67 | Page

**BRADY BILLS – COOL. MY NAME IS BRADY BILLS. I'M A LIFE-LONG UTAH COUNTY RESIDENT. CURRENTLY I'M AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY ONLINE. I DO LIVE IN UTAH COUNTY TEACHING ONLINE FOR SUU. I FORMERLY TAUGHT AT BYU AS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF MUSIC. WITH MY BACKGROUND I ALSO WORK FOR A TECH COMPANY NEAR THE POINT OF THE MOUNTAIN HERE IN LEHI. AND AS FAR AS THE COST OF WEATHER POSSIBLY MAKING THIS DEAL FOR \$2.5 MILLION, SEEMS LIKE A VERY, VERY SMALL COST. FROM A BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE IT SEEMS LIKE THE COUNTY IS GETTING SWINDLED AT \$2.5 MILLION. I THINK IF WE WERE WILLING TO SELL IT FOR THAT, I THINK THE COUNTY NEEDS TO DO SOME RESEARCH ON THAT LAND IS WORTH AND GO TO SOME OTHER COUPLE BIDDERS OF OTHER IDEAS. FOR THE RECORD I'M NOT FOR SELLING THIS SPACE. CURRENTLY THE PLAN IT'S FOR A REHAB FACILITY UP THERE. IT'S NOT PUBLIC, IT'S A BUILDING FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE PROBABLY FROM OUT OF TOWN FOR THESE PEOPLE THAT COME IN TO GET REHAB. THEY ARE USUALLY NOT FROM HERE. THEY'RE COMING FOR A SMALL TIME. IT WON'T BE THE PUBLIC ENJOYING THAT TRAM SO MUCH. I ALSO REMEMBER IN 4TH GRADE, I TOLD MY TEACHER THAT I REALIZED ALL WE ARE MISSING FOR MOUNTAINS TO SPELL "UGLY" WAS AN "L" FOR LINDON. IF WE GO AND START AT SALT LAKE, WE GOT THE "U", MOVING DOWN WE'VE GOT THE "G" FOR PLEASANT GROVE, WE'VE GOT THE "Y" FOR BYU, WE'RE JUST MISSING THE "L" IN BETWEEN TO HAVE OUR BEAUTIFUL SACRED MOUNTAINS HERE SPELL "UGLY" FROM NORTH TO SOUTH. I DON'T WANT US TO DO ANYTHING ELSE TO THESE MOUNTAINS. WE CAN GO PLAY ON THEM, WE LIKE TO LOOK AT THEM, WE LIKE TO SEE THESE PLACES UNTOUCHED BY HUMAN HANDS. IT'S PART OF WHAT MAKES OUR VALLEY BEAUTIFUL. SO, LET'S JUST LEAVE THE MOUNTAINS ALONE. LET'S LET THEM BE THE WAY THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE. WE CAN PRESERVE THEM, MAKE THEM NICE, CLEAN UP THE TRASH, THOSE TYPES OF THINGS. THANK YOU.**

**IAN DALTON – CAN YOU ALL HEAR ME? I AM A PROVO RESIDENT. I'VE BEEN LIVING IN PROVO SINCE 2014. I FELL IN LOVE WITH PROVO THROUGH PROVO CANYON, MY TIME WORKING UP AT SUNDANCE MOUNTAIN RESORT AS A RIVER GUIDE, ON THE TRAIL, BIKING THE CANYON ALMOST EVERY WEEK IN THE SUMMERTIME, DIPPING MY GROSS FEET IN THE WATER AT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS, AND CHILL OUT ON THE HOT SUMMER DAY. BRIDAL VEIL FALLS IS AN ICONIC AND NATURAL AND BEAUTIFUL PUBLIC GREEN SPACE THAT WE HAVE HERE IN PROVO, AND I'M SO VERY MUCH IN SUPPORT OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT. WHEN I HAVE PEOPLE COME IN FROM OUT OF TOWN, WHEN I TAKE PEOPLE SKIING OR I TAKE THEM PADDLE BOARDING ON UTAH LAKE, THE NEXT THING I SAY IS WE NEED TO GO CHECK OUT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. I THINK THE NOTION THAT NATURE CAN BE IMPROVED UPON WITH THINGS LIKE TRAMS IS – SOMEONE ELSE USED THE TERM DERANGED – I WOULD SAY THAT'S DERANGED. I WOULD SAY THAT THE IDEA THAT WE CAN MAKE A GREEN SPACE BETTER BY ADDING THESE KINDS OF AMENITIES AND SYSTEMS IS NOT SOMETHING THAT WE WANT. IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT UPLIFTS THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF THE AREA. AND I AM EXCITED FOR THE FUTURE OF THESE GREEN SPACES THAT WE HAVE. I'M HAVING MY FIRST KID IN THREE WEEKS AND I'M TERRIFIED, BUT I'M ALSO REALLY EXCITED TO BIKE UP THE PROVO RIVER TRAIL WITH THAT KID AND GO UP TO BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND LOOK AT THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF THAT GREEN SPACE. SO, I WHOLE HEARTEDLY ENCOURAGE THE**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
68 | Page

**COMMISSIONERS TO VOTE FOR A CONSERVATION EASEMENT TO PROTECT THIS GREEN SPACE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, FOR MY CHILDREN, FOR THEIR CHILDREN'S CHILDREN FOR THE FUTURE OF PROVO. TO SET A PRECEDENT OF CONSERVATION THAT CAN REALLY CHANGE, THAT CAN REALLY UPLIFT AGAIN WHO WE ARE AS "PROVONIANS" AND AMERICANS. ALL I GOT LEFT I GOT 10 SECONDS SO.**

**COMMISSIONER AINGE – JOSH, AS WE'RE WAITING, I WOULD JUST ENCOURAGE YOU, I THINK YOU'VE TAKEN A LIST. I THINK WE SHOULD BE OPERATING ON A CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM AT THIS POINT. NOT NEW ADDITIONS, OR NEW HAND RAISES.**

**JOSH DANIELS – CORRECT.**

**COMMISSIONER AINGE - WE DO NEED TO KIND OF GET THROUGH THIS.**

**JOSH DANIELS – RIGHT, WE HAVE CAPPED IT. THERE'S SOME THAT HAVE TRIED TO COME IN TOWARDS THE END, BUT WE CAPPED IT A FEW MINUTES AGO.**

**COMMISSIONER AINGE – OKAY. GOOD.**

**ALEXIS SULLIVAN – HI, THANK YOU SO MUCH. I HOPE Y'ALL CAN HEAR ME OKAY. I'M ALEXIS SULLIVAN. I'M A SALT LAKE CITY RESIDENT SO I'M NOT RESIDING IN UTAH COUNTY CURRENTLY. I'M AN ECOLOGY PHD STUDENT. I'M PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH THE ECOLOGICAL IMPACT OF THE TRAMWAY, SO NOT SO MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT THE ECONOMIC IMPACT. I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SURVEY, AND THIS FEELS VERY SIMILAR TO WHAT HAPPENED TO ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO WITH THE SNOWBIRD EXPANSION INTO MINERAL BASIN WHICH WAS ALSO FAIRLY SHADY. THIS AREA IS HABITAT TO RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS, SPECIFICALLY BIRDS. IT IS A HABITAT FOR A BIRD I CAN'T RECALL THE NAME OF, AND IT IS VERY IMPORTANT. I THINK THAT IT FEELS VERY IRRESPONSIBLE TO WANT TO DEVELOP ON AN AREA THAT HAS SUCH AN IMPORTANCE FOR HUMANS AND FOR VEGETATION AND FOR ANIMALS BECAUSE DEVELOPMENT IS IRREVERSIBLE, BUT A CONSERVATION EASEMENT ISN'T. IF WE DO A CONSERVATION EASEMENT, YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND LATER ON, BUT YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE DIRECTION OF A TRAM. YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE IMPACT OF A FOUNDATION. SO, I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL HAVE AND IF THERE HAS BEEN ANY SURVEYS OR ANY CONCERN ON THAT BY ANY OF THE COMMISSIONERS, BECAUSE FROM MY PERSPECTIVE THERE HASN'T BEEN, AND THIS CONTINUES TO BE A PATTERN AMONG THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN UTAH COUNTY. AND IT'S REALLY CONCERNING BECAUSE UTAH COUNTY AND UTAH IN GENERAL IS AN ECOTOURISM ECONOMY. THAT IS ALL I HAVE. THANK YOU.**

**NORM JONES - THANK YOU. FIRST OF ALL, I'D LIKE TO THANK THE COMMISSION FOR ALLOWING US TO CHIME IN ON THIS. I KNOW IT'S BEEN A LONG MEETING AND I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE FEEDBACK. I'M A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF UTAH COUNTY, PROFESSOR AT BYU. BRIDAL VEIL FALLS IS A**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
69 | Page

BEAUTIFUL, UNIQUE AND PRICELESS NATURAL TREASURE. I WAS THRILLED A FEW YEARS AGO WHEN I HEARD THAT UTAH COUNTY HAD PURCHASED THE FALLS. I GUESS I NAIVELY THOUGHT THAT THAT WOULD ENSURE THAT IT WOULD BE PRESERVED FOREVER, AND I WAS QUITE SHOCKED AND DISMAYED TO LEARN ABOUT THIS PROPOSAL TO DO THIS DEVELOPMENT. I THINK THE ISSUE HERE IS RATHER SIMPLE. ADDING A TRAM DOES NOT BENEFIT THE PUBLIC. WE WANT TO, OVERWHELMINGLY, WE WANT TO ENJOY IT IN THE NATURAL STATE. WE DON'T WANT TO SEE A CABLE, A TRAM, A BUILDING AT THE TOP. I KNOW THE CURRENT PLAN FEATURES A HELIPAD, A HELICOPTER GOING IN AND OUT WHILE WE'RE TRYING TO VIEW THIS WOULD DETRACT FROM THE EXPERIENCE. BASICALLY, THIS IS A NATURAL TREASURE, IS NOT A THEME PARK. WE DON'T NEED A TRAM TO ENJOY IT. OUR MAXIMUM ENJOYMENT WOULD BE IN ITS CURRENT STATE, IN A PRISTINE STATE. SOME HAVE SAID THAT HAVING THE TRAM WOULD REDUCE FALLS, INJURIES PEOPLE HAVE EXPLORING THE FALLS. I DON'T BELIEVE THIS TO BE TRUE. PEOPLE ARE STILL GOING TO CLIMB UP ON THE ROCKS, THOSE THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN. OTHERS HAVE SAID THAT THE PUBLIC DOESN'T TRULY UNDERSTAND THIS. WE DO UNDERSTAND IT AND WE DON'T WANT IT. EVERYBODY I KNOW IS NOT ONLY AGAINST THIS, BUT PASSIONATELY AGAINST IT. SO I WOULD BEG YOU TO GRANT THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND PRESERVE THE FALLS PERMANENTLY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. THANK YOU.

ROBERT ANDERSON - WELL I'VE LIVED IN PROVO MY ENTIRE LIFE, 40 YEARS. I'M PRETTY FURIOUS WITH THE COMMISSION RIGHT NOW. I'M FURIOUS THAT WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS, THAT WE HAVE TO TAKE TIME AWAY ON A BEAUTIFUL WEDNESDAY NIGHT, WHEN I SHOULD BE WITH MY FAMILY IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON. I HAVE TO DEAL WITH OUR ELECTED LEADERS, BASICALLY TRYING TO SELL US OUT. AND LIKE A THIEF IN THE NIGHT, THEY COME IN WHILE WE'RE DEALING IN OUR MOST VULNERABLE STATE, HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS ARE DEAD. HUNDREDS OF UTAH COUNTY CITIZENS ARE DEAD. AND WHAT ARE OUR LEADERS DOING? THEY ARE TRYING TO SELL OUR LAND FOR PEANUTS. IT'S ABSURD. LOOK AT YOUR STEWARDSHIP. OUR AIR IS BROWN. OUR LAKE WATER IS BROWN. OUR CHILDREN CAN'T BREATHE. IT'S THE MIDDLE OF DECEMBER AND IT'S 50 DEGREES AND THERE'S NO SNOW OUTSIDE. WE ARE DYING AND OUR ELECTED LEADERS ARE SELLING US OUT FOR THE BENEFIT OF OLD RICH JET SETTERS WHO FLY IN. THEY WANT TO HELIPAD SO THAT THEY DON'T HAVE TO DRIVE NEXT TO ANY OF US COMMONERS, ANY OF US UTAHNS'. WHO CAN LOOK AT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND THINK IT NEEDS A HELICOPTER PAD? IT'S THIS BEAUTIFUL WATERFALL THAT GOD CREATED, AND WE NEED A PARKING LOT? A CABLE TOWER? IT'S DISGRACEFUL. THIS IS OUR LAST GOOD CHANCE. INCOMING COMMITTEE MEMBERS HAVE HAD THEIR POCKET LINED BY LOSEE AND HIS ACOLYTES. THEY WILL NOT VOTE TO CONSERVE THIS LAND. WE HAVE TO CONSERVE IT NOW. I'M BEGGING YOU TO VOTE TONIGHT WITH A TWO- THREE MAJORITY. THANK YOU.

SA JATAH BOYLE - THANK YOU SO MUCH. MY NAME IS SA JATAH BOYLE. I WAS BORN IN OREM AND HAVE GROWN UP MY WHOLE LIFE IN UTAH COUNTY. I'VE NEVER ATTENDED A COMMISSION MEETING BEFORE, BUT I HOPE THAT CONFESSING THAT DEMONSTRATES HOW STRONGLY I FEEL THAT BRIDAL VEIL



**FALLS SHOULD BE PROTECTED AND PLACED IN A CONSERVATION EASEMENT. I HAVE VERY FOND MEMORIES, AS I'M SURE MANY PEOPLE FROM UTAH COUNTY DO, UP THE FALLS. I VISITED THEM AS A CHILD WITH MY PARENTS. I WENT THERE ON DATES AS A TEENAGER. I HAVE BEEN THERE FOR MANY MAJOR EVENTS IN MY LIFE AND I'M CONCERNED. I THINK AS A COMMUNITY WE NEED TO CONSIDER THAT ONCE WE SELL ANY OF THIS LAND, THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT WE WILL EVER GET IT BACK. JUST LIKE OUR SKI RESORTS OR OTHER PRIVATIZED NATURAL WONDERS, THEY CAN CHANGE HANDS, THEY CAN BE SOLD TO OWNERS OUTSIDE OF THE STATES OR EVEN OVERSEAS. THIS IS A RARE OPPORTUNITY FOR UTAHNS' TO RETAIN OWNERSHIP AND PRESERVE A BEAUTIFUL SLIVER OF OUR WILDERNESS THAT IS WITHIN OUR REACH. AS OUR COMMUNITY GROWS, I UNDERSTAND WE'RE GOING TO NEED REHABILITATION CENTERS FOR OUR CITIZENS, BUT WE CAN BUILD THESE IN MANY LOCATIONS. WE CANNOT BUILD WATERFALLS. THESE ARE A PARTICULAR RARITY THAT CREATED BY NATURE, THAT I DO FEEL STRONGLY, AND I BELIEVE ALL OF US FEEL SO STRONGLY THAT WE NEED TO PRESERVE THESE WONDERS. WE NEED TO RETAIN OWNERSHIP OVER THEM WHENEVER WE CAN. CONSERVING VIRTUALLY ALL OF THAT LAND IS NOT THE SAME AS CONSERVING ALL OF IT. AND I HOPE THAT THAT IS WHAT YOU WILL VOTE TO DO. I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK.**

**WHITNEY BATIM – HI, I'M WHITNEY BATIM. I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN OREM AS WELL. I LOVE IT HERE. ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ABOUT UTAH COUNTY IS OUR NATURAL LANDSCAPE AND OUR OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES. IN FACT, I THINK THIS PAST YEAR HAS MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR HOW VALUABLE FREE ACCESSIBLE OUTDOOR SPACES ARE TO OUR COMMUNITY. AND IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE PROPOSAL BY MR. LOSEE AND COMMISSIONER LEE THAT THIS DEAL THAT'S BEING TALKED ABOUT IS IN THE INTEREST OF MAKING THE FALLS MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC IS MISLEADING AT THAT. MR. LOSEE'S PROPOSAL IS TO TAKE AN AREA THAT IS CURRENTLY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND WALL IT OFF FOR EXCLUSIVE USE OF ONLY THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD AN ELITE FACILITY AS HAS ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED. AND IT'S A COMMERCIAL ENDEAVOR TO MAKE MR. LOSEE MONEY, A PROPOSAL THAT WILL COME AT THE EXPENSE OF THE TAXPAYERS AS THE COUNTY HAS ALREADY SPENT A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF MONEY TO ACQUIRE THIS LAND AND TO CLEAN IT UP FROM THE PAST PRIVATE ENTITY THAT WAS THERE THAT FAILED BECAUSE OF THE AVALANCHE AND OTHER THINGS THAT HAPPENED. AND AS OTHERS HAVE SAID, ENTERING INTO A PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP COULD OPEN THE COUNTY UP FOR POTENTIALLY EVEN MORE OF A COST. ANY DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAND AROUND BRIDAL VEIL FALLS SHOULD BE FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING THE PUBLIC ENJOYMENT OF THE FALLS. ADDITIONALLY, THE DEVELOPMENT BY THE COUNTY SHOULD PLACE AN EMPHASIS ON PRESERVING THE EXISTING LANDSCAPE, ECOLOGY AND NATURAL BEAUTY. AND IT SEEMS TO ME LIKE THE COUNTY ALREADY HAS A SOLID PLAN AND THE MONEY TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. IN MY MIND, DOING ANYTHING ELSE TO AIM TO SELL OR LEASE EVEN PART OF THE COUNTY OWNED LAND WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE AND SO THIS PLAN SHOULD BE PRESERVED FOR EVERYONE. THANK YOU**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

Public Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

71 | Page

**MICHELLE HUFF – OKAY, I JUST WANT TO SAY I'M FROM SPANISH FORK AND I HAVE BEEN BY BRIDAL VEIL FALLS MY ENTIRE LIFE. I HAVE SEEN IT AND IT IS SUCH A COMFORT, A SPIRITUAL PLACE TO ME, THAT IF YOU NEED TO GET AWAY AND RELAX, CALM DOWN, JUST THINK ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR LIFE OR WHAT YOU NEED TO DO, IT IS A BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL PLACE AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN. AND I'VE HAD SO MANY WONDERFUL EXPERIENCES FROM HIKING IT WHEN I WAS YOUNGER. AND GOING UP TO THE FALLS AND LOOKING DOWN, IT GIVES YOU THAT ENERGY TO GO OUT AND BE PHYSICAL AND EXERCISE. AND I JUST CANNOT IMAGINE A HELICOPTER LANDING ON THE TOP OF THERE. AND THE NOISE THAT IT WOULD MAKE. THEY COME OVER MY HOUSE NOW AND THEY'RE NOISY. A LOT OF TIMES THEY'RE GETTING WATER FOR A FIRE OR SOMETHING, WHICH I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND THAT. BUT TO TAKE IT AND HAVE A HELICOPTER PAD AND HAVE IT JUST BELONG TO, I JUST FEEL LIKE IT NEEDS TO BE PRESERVED. WE NEED TO PRESERVE THIS.**

**MERRITT NORTON - THANK YOU COMMISSIONERS. YOU HAVE A LOT OF PATIENCE TO LISTEN TO ALL OF OUR COMMENTS, WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS TO LISTEN TO THESE THINGS. I'M A LIFELONG RESIDENT PROVO, UTAH. I'M A SMALL BUSINESS OWNER ALSO AT TIMES A SMALL-TIME REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER. I'M NOT AGAINST ALL DEVELOPMENT, BUT I HAVE FOUR ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF IMMEDIATE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. AND ARGUMENT NUMBER ONE, IS THAT WE HAVE A NEW COMMISSIONER COMING IN, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE COUNTY ARE CONCERNED THAT HE'S ALREADY TAKEN A LOT OF MONEY FROM THE POTENTIAL DEVELOPER AND THAT HE'S NOT GOING TO BE SOMEONE THAT'S IN FAVOR OF PRESERVATION, SO WE NEED TO DO IT NOW, WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME. NUMBER TWO, WE KNOW ENOUGH ALREADY ABOUT THIS SITUATION. THERE'S A BUILDING ON TOP OF THE FALLS, THERE'S A HELIPAD, THERE'S A TRAM. I SPEND A LOT OF TIME ON CASCADE, WASATCH POWDER BIRDS ALREADY OPERATES A LOT OF HELICOPTERS IN THE WINTERTIME ON TOP OF THAT MOUNTAIN. IT'S FUN THE FIRST COUPLE OF TIMES YOU SEE IT, THEN IT GETS REALLY BORING WHEN YOU CAN'T TALK, YOU CAN'T HEAR, THERE'S A LOT OF WIND, A LOT OF NOISE, IT'S NOT VERY CONDUCIVE TO ENJOYING THE FALLS AT ALL. THOSE THREE OPTIONS THAT WE'VE ALREADY HEARD FROM THE ATTORNEYS, WE DON'T WANT IT. WE DON'T WANT IT. WE WANT IT PRESERVED FOREVER. NUMBER THREE, WE ALREADY PAID A LOT OF MONEY TO TEAR DOWN THE LAST TO DEBACLE UP THERE THAT MY TAX DOLLARS WENT TO TEAR IT DOWN. I DON'T WANT TO SPEND MORE TAX DOLLARS TEARING DOWN THE NEXT DEBACLE IN 30 OR 40 YEARS. ARGUMENT NUMBER FOUR IS THAT THE FOREST SERVICE OWNS A KEY PIECE OF LAND ON TOP OF THE FALLS THAT THE DEVELOPER NEEDS. IT'S GOING TO BE WORLD WAR THREE OR FOUR OR FIVE OVER THAT PIECE OF LAND WITH THE FOREST SERVICE FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS, BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO FIGHT IT TO THE BITTER END. THERE'S A LOT OF OBSTACLES HERE, NOT WORTH THE EFFORT. LET'S PRESERVE IT NOW AND BY THE WAY, LET'S GET THE OTHER 30 ACRES YOU OWN IN PROVO CANYON AND LET'S THROW THAT IN THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. WE TRUST YOU COMMISSIONERS TO GET THE EASEMENT CORRECT. WE TRUST YOU TO OPEN LANDS'. THANK YOU, LET'S DO IT AND GET IT DONE. THANKS VERY MUCH.**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
72 | Page

**MATT MATTSON - HEY THANKS SO MUCH TO THE COMMISSION. MY NAME IS MATT MATTSON. AND IT'S BEEN REALLY GOOD TO HEAR EVERYONE'S COMMENTS. I RECENTLY WENT VIRAL WHERE I PARODIED THE COUGAR VIDEO. I PLAYED THE COUGAR, SO AS AN HONORARY WILDLIFE, I'M WITH THE MAJORITY OF UTAH COUNTY RESIDENTS TO SAY I'M FOR 100% CONSERVATION EASEMENT OF THE LAND SURROUNDING AND INCLUDING BRIDAL VEIL. NATURE IS NATURALLY, IT'S NATURALLY A REHABILITATION AND IT'S A PLACE WHERE WE CAN ALL GO AND BE REHABILITATED. AND THE EXPERTS AGREE, THAT'S THE PROFESSORS, THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT, AGREE THAT 100% CONSERVATION IS THE BEST THING. AND THIS WOULD BE LAUGHABLE IF IT WEREN'T SO SAD THAT IT'S LIKE THE BAD PLOT TO EVERY SINGLE CONSERVATION FILM. AND A GENTLEMAN KIND OF MENTIONED EARLIER THAT YOU GOT TO THINK ABOUT THIS IN GEOLOGIC TIME, IN THE LONG TIMEFRAME, THAT'S MILLIONS OF YEARS AND WE DON'T WANT TO LEAVE MORE SCARS ON THAT BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE. AND THIS IS AN ALL OR NOTHING BECAUSE IT'S A SLIPPERY SLOPE, PARDON THE PUN, IF WE EVEN ALLOW A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THAT ACREAGE TO BE MARRED. PLEASE JUST DO THE RIGHT THING. I KNOW YOU CAN. I KNOW IT WAS WORTH A TRY, IT'S WORTH AN AT BAT TO GET ALL THE BENEFITS OF GETTING PAID FOR THIS, BUT LET'S JUST DO THE RIGHT THING AND THANK YOU SO MUCH. I KNOW, WE ALL KNOW WHAT THE RIGHT THING IS IN OUR HEARTS AND I JUST SAY LET'S DO THAT AND MAKE IT HAPPEN SO WE CAN ALL ENJOY BRIDAL VEILS UNMARRED. THANK YOU.**

**COMMISSIONER LEE – I'VE GOT A QUESTION FOR YOU SINCE I DON'T KNOW YOU.**

**MATT MATTSON – YES.**

**COMMISSIONER LEE - AND YOU'RE THAT GUY THAT DID THE VIRAL VIDEO WITH THE COUGAR ON THERE.**

**MATT MATTSON – YES, I DID.**

**COMMISSIONER LEE - HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU KEEP FILMING ON THAT BESIDES JUST TRYING TO GET OUT OF THERE? THAT'S MY QUESTION. I WOULD HAVE BEEN CAMERA DROPPED AND...**

**MATT MATTSON - WELL I ACTUALLY PARODIED THAT VIDEO. I WASN'T THE GUY WHO THE ACTUAL COUGAR, I DRESSED UP LIKE A COUGAR.**

**COMMISSIONER LEE – OH, OKAY.**

**MATT MATTSON - YEAH, WE GOT 15,000,000 VIEWS AND IT WAS JUST KIND OF A SILLY THING BUT THANK YOU GUYS FOR YOUR TIME. THANKS EVERYONE.**

**COMMISSIONER LEE – ALRIGHT.**

**JOSH DANIELS – OKAY, GREAT. NEVER A DULL MOMENT HERE. WE'RE GOING TO GO TO...**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2020  
73 | P a g e

**COMMISSIONER IVIE – I’LL KEEP LISTENING TO PUBLIC COMMENT EVEN THOUGH I’M TEMPTED TO GO TO YOUTUBE RIGHT NOW.**

**ASPEN DALTON – OKAY, PERFECT. MY NAME IS ASPEN DALTON. I LIVE IN PROVO, UTAH AND I’M SORRY I’M IN A CLASS RIGHT NOW FOR SCHOOL. I’M GONNA GRADUATE FROM BYU FROM THE RECREATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. I’M A CURRENT SUU STUDENT GETTING A MASTERS’ IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. I WORK FULL TIME FOR A LOCAL MUNICIPAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT, I’M A MEMBER OF THE UTAH RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION YOUNG PROFESSIONAL NETWORK. I HAVE ALSO WORKED PRIVATELY FOR SUNDANCE. I TEACH NORDIC SKIING THERE ON THE SIDE AND I ALSO VOLUNTEER COACH FOR SEVERAL TEAMS FOR PROVO PARKS AND REC. IN SHORT, I ABSOLUTELY LOVE PARKS AND RECREATION AND PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION. WITH THAT BEING SAID I AM IN FAVOR OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT. ULTIMATELY, I HAVE A LOT OF TRUSTS IN PUBLIC GOVERNMENT OF LANDS AND OF RECREATION. IF WE HAVE LEARNED ANYTHING FROM THE PANDEMIC WITH ME AND MY COLLEAGUES ACROSS THE STATE, ITS THAT OUR WORK IS SO ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. WHEN EVERYTHING SHUT DOWN, WHAT WAS LEFT? IT WAS OUR PARKS, IT WAS OUR GREEN SPACES, AND I THINK PEOPLE GOT A LOT OF COMFORT FROM THAT. WITH THAT I FEEL LIKE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS IS GOING TO BE BEST MANAGED IN PUBLIC HANDS. EVEN IF THERE WAS, I’M NOT IN FAVOR OF TRAM, BUT LET’S SAY THERE WAS IN A FAVOR THAT THERE WAS ONE, I WOULD SUPPORT A TRAM BEING PUBLICLY OWNED AND MANAGED BECAUSE I REALLY DO BELIEVE THAT RECREATION PROFESSIONALS ARE THE ONES THAT ARE MOST PASSIONATE ABOUT THESE JOBS AND REALLY HAVE THE PUBLIC INTERESTS AT MIND. WHILE A PRIVATE ENTITY CAN SAY THAT THEY HAVE PUBLIC INTEREST AT MIND, I MEAN THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION IS TO MAKE MONEY, AND THEY HAVE DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS THAN PUBLIC SERVANTS DO. I GUESS IN SHORT, LET’S KEEP BRIDAL VEIL IN PUBLIC HANDS UNDER PUBLIC MANAGEMENT BECAUSE WE ARE THE PEOPLE THAT ARE BEST SUITED TO DO IT, IN THE MOST PASSIONATE TO DO IT CORRECTLY. THANK YOU.**

**SAMUEL TEW - THANK YOU. I JUST WANT TO START BY THANKING THE COMMISSIONERS. THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TONIGHT, THIS IS BEEN QUITE A LONG MEETING SO APPRECIATE IT, WE ALL APPRECIATE YOUR PATIENCE HERE. MY NAME IS DANIEL TEW, I’M A CURRENT RESIDENT OF PROVO AND I ABSOLUTELY LOVE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. IT WAS THE FIRST NATIONAL SPOT I WENT TO WHEN I MOVED TO PROVO ABOUT THREE YEARS AGO. IT’S THE FIRST SPOT I BROUGHT EVERY SINGLE ONE OF MY FAMILY MEMBERS WHO’S COME TO VISIT ME AS WELL TO SEE. IT’S JUST A VERY BEAUTIFUL NATURAL SPOT THAT ALL THE RESIDENTS OF UTAH COUNTY AND PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE UTAH COUNTY REALLY APPRECIATE AND LOVE. AND I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I AM IN SUPPORT OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT FOR ALL THE PROPERTY THAT’S CURRENTLY BEING DEBATED RIGHT NOW AND ALSO, I DID START A PETITION WHEN I LEARNED ABOUT THIS ISSUE BACK LAST MONDAY. I STARTED PETITION THAT I HAVE INCLUDED THE EMAILS OF ALL THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE SEEN THAT HOPEFULLY THAT PETITION HAS ABOUT 9,500 SIGNATURES RIGHT NOW. I LOOKED AT THE LIST OF PEOPLE WHO SIGNED IT AND NEARLY 7,000 ARE FROM UTAH, ARE RESIDENTS OF UTAH AND**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

Public Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

74 | Page

**ALL THE OTHERS ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE VISITED UTAH, VISITED BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AND REALLY LOVE THIS SPACE A LOT. AND ALL OF THEM HAVE SIGNED IN FAVOR OF THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT TO PROTECT THIS NATURAL BEAUTY. LIKE WAS SAID BEFORE, ASPEN JUST TALKED ABOUT IT, PRIVATE DEVELOPERS, THEY JUST ARE REALLY, THEY'RE INTERESTED IN MONEY. THEY MAY, SOMETIMES THAT ALIGNS WITH PUBLIC INTEREST BUT SOMETIMES IT DOESN'T, AND SO I BELIEVE THAT THIS REALLY SHOULD BE KEPT IN PUBLIC HANDS, SHOULD BE PUT INTO THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND THAT WE SHOULD DECIDE THIS ISSUE FOR NOW AND FOREVER. LIKE THIS IS AN ISSUE THAT'S GOING TO KEEP COMING UP IF WE DON'T JUST MAKE A DECISION RIGHT NOW, AND I THINK A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IS A WAY FOR US TO BE ABLE TO GUARANTEE THAT THIS IS PRESERVED FOR THE FUTURE, FOR EVERYONE, FOR CURRENT RESIDENTS, FUTURE RESIDENTS, AND VISITORS ALIKE. SO PLEASE, I ASK YOU COMMISSIONERS TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT.**

**LINDA ROPER – OKAY, I THINK MOST OF THE PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN COMMENTING DID NOT HEAR AT THE VERY BEGINNING WHAT BILL LEE HAS SAID. HE SAID HE WAS NOT INTERESTED IN SELLING THE PROPERTY, HE WASN'T INTERESTED IN IT AT ALL. JUST BECAUSE THEY CAME AND ASKED TO BUY IT DOESN'T MEAN HE WAS WILLING TO SELL IT, HE WANTS TO KEEP IT. THE ISSUE HERE THAT WE SHOULD BE TALKING ABOUT, IS THERE ARE MORE THAN JUST ONE OPTION OF WHAT TO DO ABOUT CONSERVING THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE. THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT PEOPLE, THEY ARE EXTREME. AND WE WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE ANY FREEDOM AT ALL. WE'LL BE AT THEIR AT THEIR WILL OF WHAT THEY WANT TO DO AND FOREVER IS A LONG, LONG, LONG TIME. WHO KNOWS WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN 20, 30, 40 YEARS? MAYBE SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE THERE AND WE WON'T BE ABLE TO DO IT. AND HOW MUCH ACCESS WILL WE HAVE TO IT WITH THIS CONSERVATION EASEMENT? THERE'S OTHER OPTIONS TO DO TO CONSERVE IT. BILL WANTS TO KEEP THE COUNTY OWNING IT AND MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING LIKE THEY COULDN'T DO, WHAT'S THE WORD, THEY COULD MAKE A MONUMENT, A STATE MONUMENT AND THAT WOULD MAKE IT PRESERVED AND BEAUTIFUL AND PUT IT IN THE HANDS OF PUBLIC SERVANTS, JUST LIKE IT IS NOW. WE'RE NOT LOOKING AT THE RIGHT ISSUE HERE AT ALL. EVERYONE'S ALL UPSET ABOUT THE LIES THAT HAVE BEEN SPREAD THAT SAY BILL LEE WANTS TO SELL THIS PROPERTY. HE NEVER WANTED TO SELL THIS PROPERTY. HE'S BEEN LIED ABOUT. I WISH PEOPLE WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT AND GIVE BILL LEE A CHANCE TO SAY EXACTLY WHAT HAS BEEN LIES THAT HAVE BEEN SPEWED ABOUT HIM ALL OVER THE MEDIA. THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY.**

**ELDA BENSON – OKAY, I APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HERE ON THIS CALL. THIS IS VERY MUCH LIKE A DEJA-VU THAT HAPPENED TO US AS WE WORKED WITH PROVO CITY AS WE TRIED TO SAVE A PARK THAT WAS PURCHASED WITH FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE LWCF LAND WATER CONSERVATION FUND WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IT WAS TO BE A PARK THAT WAS PURCHASED DECEMBER 12, 1967, TEN ACRES HERE IN THE TIMP VIEW AREA ADJACENT TO TIMP VIEW HIGH, WHEN AT THE TIME THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS USING EMINENT DOMAIN TO TAKE PROPERTY AWAY FROM THE RESIDENTS HERE. 10 ACRES WERE USED, THEY USED EMINENT DOMAIN TO**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UTAH COUNTY, UTAH

Public Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

75 | Page

**TAKE PROPERTY FROM OUR NEIGHBOR HERE AND THE AMOUNT OF \$57,166. INSTEAD HE SOLD IT TO THE PARK OR EXCUSE ME TO PROVO CITY. THAT PARK WAS TO REMAIN INTO PERPETUITY. WHEN I HEAR THESE WORDS GOING ABOUT PARKS INTO PERPETUITY, THAT CONSERVATION EASEMENTS, WE WENT THROUGH ALL OF THAT AND IT WAS ALWAYS A LEGAL DEED, THOUGHT THAT THIS PARK WOULD REMAIN INTO PERPETUITY. PROVO CITY STILL WAS ABLE TO GET AROUND ALL OF THAT LANGUAGE AND SOLD THE PARK. AND AT THE TIME THAT THEY SOLD THAT, THEY SOLD IT FOR \$2.2 MILLION DOLLARS. IN 10 YEARS, THAT IS WHAT IT INCREASED IN VALUE. IF YOU'RE BEING OFFERED \$2.5 MILLION DOLLARS TODAY, GIVE IT 10 YEARS, 10 YEARS AFTER THAT, 10 YEARS AFTER THAT. YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO REPLACE IT. I SAY VOTE ON IT TONIGHT. STOP THIS PROCESS FOR MOVING FORWARD. I'VE SEEN HOW GOVERNMENT WORKS. IT DOES NOT WORK SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE. THANK YOU.**

**TIM HALL – YES, I'M ACTUALLY TIM HALL. I'M USING MY WIFE'S ZOOM ACCOUNT. I'M A UTAH COUNTY EMPLOYEE. I'VE LIVED IN UTAH COUNTY MY WHOLE LIFE UP TO ABOUT A YEAR AGO WHEN I MOVED UP TO HEBER. I DRIVE THAT ROUTE DAY AND NIGHT. I APPRECIATE THE VIEW. I CAN SAY I DON'T SPEND A LOT OF TIME AT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS BUT WHETHER YOU'RE A FISHERMAN, A HUNTER, ICE CLIMBER, JOGGER OR BIKER ON THE PATH, I THINK THE BOTTOM LINE IS WE DON'T WANT OUR MOUNTAINS TOUCHED ANYMORE. THEY DON'T NEED TO BE, REGARDLESS OF WHAT THE BUILDING IS, IF IT'S A REHAB CENTER, ANYTHING. ENGINEERS CAN DO AMAZING THINGS AND IT'S COOL THEY CAN BUILD THE THINGS THEY DO BUT WE DON'T NEED THIS HERE. TO SAY IT'S NOT A MONEY MARKET THING, IT'S JUST FOR A REHABILITATION CENTER THEN LET'S BUILD THAT IN THE VALLEY TO WHERE IT CAN SERVE MANY PEOPLE TO BENEFIT FROM AND NOT HAVE THIS HEFTY PRICE TAG IF IT'S NOT ABOUT MONEY. I AGREE OUR MOUNTAIN STRETCH IS JUST BECOMING TOO POLLUTED WITH STUFF. AS FAR AS BEING EXTREMIST, CONSERVATIVES FOR LANDS, I DON'T SEE THE PROBLEM WITH THAT. WE NEED TO CONSERVE AS MUCH AS WE CAN FOR OUR FUTURE KIDS AND THAT TO BE ABLE TO ENJOY WHAT WE ENJOY. THAT'S ALL I GOTTA SAY.**

**SANDY CROW – OH GOOD. FIRST OF ALL, THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY OPINION IN THIS PUBLIC FORUM, I APPRECIATE IT AND APPRECIATE THE WORK YOU DO. MY NAME IS SANDY CROW. WE LIVE IN A VERY BEAUTIFUL STATE HERE IN UTAH, THAT HAS MANY, MANY NATURAL PLACES THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC EITHER VIA ROADS OR TRAILS AND FOR THAT I AM VERY GRATEFUL. WHAT I DON'T GET IS THE OBSESSION WITH MONETIZING AND COMMERCIALIZING EVERY BEAUTIFUL PLACE THAT EXISTS. AND BRIDAL VEIL FALLS IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THAT. I'M AN AVID ICE CLIMBER AND I'VE ENJOYED BRIDAL VEILS FALLS FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES AS WELL AS TO THE SOLACE THAT BEING IN NATURE PROVIDES. AND I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO DO SO WITHOUT THE BLIGHT OF DEVELOPMENT AROUND ME. THE FALLS CAN BE ENJOYED BY NON-CLIMBERS AND TOURISTS AND RESIDENTS ALIKE FROM THE BOTTOM AND I WOULD DEFINITELY SUPPORT THE DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE OF TRAILS TO PROVIDE THAT PUBLIC ACCESS BUT PUTTING A BUILDING AND A TRAM AND A HELICOPTER HELIPAD ON THIS BEAUTIFUL AND ICONIC LANDMARK, WOULD**

**IRREVOCABLY AFFECT IT AND IN MY OPINION IN A NEGATIVE WAY, FOR GENERATIONS TO COME. AND UTAH COUNTY'S GROWING EXPONENTIALLY. AND AREAS THAT WERE FOR MANY YEARS NATURAL PLACES HAVE BEEN BULLDOZED AND DEVELOPED AND COMMERCIALIZED FOR HUMAN INHABITANTS AND I'M NOT SAYING THAT'S GOOD OR BAD, I'M JUST SAYING LET'S ALLOW SOME OF THESE PLACES TO REMAIN BEAUTIFUL AND UNDEVELOPED. FOR THAT REASON I SUPPORT A CONSERVATION EASEMENT IN PERPETUITY. THANK YOU.**

**TAYLOR MONNEY - YES SIR, THANK YOU. GOOD EVENING, MY NAME IS TAYLOR MONNEY. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ADD MY VOICE IN URGING THE COMMISSION TO VOTE FOR A CONSERVATION EASEMENT TO PROTECT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN OREM AND THE FALLS HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE OF MY FAVORITE OUTDOOR PLACES. THIS PLACE IS TOO UNIQUE TO BE MARRED BY AN AERIAL TRAM AND TREATMENT CENTER. IN HER COMMENT LINDA ROPER REFERRED TO EASEMENT PEOPLE AS EXTREME AND PERSONALLY I APPRECIATE THE COMPLIMENT. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT THE CRISIS FACING OUR PUBLIC LANDS IS EXTREME IT SHOULD BE MET WITH A NO LESS EXTREME RESPONSE. UTAH COUNTY HAS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING POPULATIONS IN THE COUNTRY AND OUR PUBLIC LANDS ARE UNDER ATTACK BY PEOPLE WHO WANT TO MONETIZE THESE SPECIAL PLACES. THE PUBLIC WANTS THIS AREA TO BE PROTECTED. WE CAN ALL ENJOY IT NOW FOR FREE. WHY SHOULD WE HAVE TO PAY SOMEONE ELSE TO DO IT WE CAN DO ALREADY. I FIND LOSEE'S PROPOSAL INSULTING TO THE RESIDENTS IN UTAH AND DISRESPECTFUL TO THE LAND AND ACCEPTING THIS PROPOSAL IS CONTRARY TO THE STATEMENTS AND SENTIMENT THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE EXPRESSED. LIKE KATIE OLSON AND JULIE NANCE MENTIONED, I ALSO RECEIVED THAT KIND OF FORM LETTER THAT COMMISSIONER LEE SENT, IN WHICH HE STATED "I REJECT ANY PLANS TO SELL SOME OR ALL OF BRIDAL VEIL FALLS PROPERTIES. FOR ME, THE PRESERVATION OF THE FALLS FOR SAFE PUBLIC USE WILL ALWAYS BE A TOP PRIORITY. I VIEW BRIDAL VEIL FALLS AS ONE OF THE CROWN JEWELS OF UTAH COUNTY AND I WILL CONTINUE TO DO WHAT I CAN TO PROTECT IT FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF ALL". WHEN I READ THAT I WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE COMMISSION WOULD VOTE TO PROTECT THE EASEMENT AND I HOPE THAT THEY STILL WILL ABIDE BY THE WORDS THEY HAVE EXPRESSED. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME THIS EVENING. I AGAIN URGE YOU TO VOTE FOR A CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND PROTECT BRIDAL VEIL FALLS.**

**JACKIE PROWS - HI I'M JACKIE PROWS. I'VE BEEN A RESIDENT OF PROVO AND OREM FOR ABOUT 30 YEARS AND I WOULD LIKE TO NOTE THAT I HAVE ALSO IN THE PAST RIDDEN THE OLD TRAM BEFORE IT WAS TAKEN OUT BEFORE THE AVALANCHE AND WHILE IT WAS FUN I GUESS, I DON'T MISS IT. IN MY OPINION WATERFALLS ARE MOSTLY BETTER LOOKING FROM THE GROUND ANYWAY, SO THERE'S NOT THAT MUCH OF A VIEW PERK OR WHATEVER FROM GOING ON THE TRAM. I AM IN FAVOR OF THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT. I NOTICED THAT A LOT OF INDIVIDUALS SPEAKING IN SUPPORT OF THE LOSEE PROPOSAL SEEM TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT WOULD BE REALLY NICE TO HAVE A TRAM OR OTHER DEVELOPMENT FOR ACCESSIBILITY, BUT I WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE SUGGESTION THAT OUR CHOICES ARE JUST BETWEEN COMMERCIALIZATION WITH DEVELOPMENT OR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP AND**

ACCESSIBILITY WITH NO DEVELOPMENT, THAT'S JUST A FALSE DICHOTOMY. WE CAN HAVE THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT AND STILL DEVELOP THE LAND IN A WAY THAT IS SENSIBLE. AND I'M JUST NOT CONVINCED THAT EVEN THOUGH LOSEE SAYS HE'S NOT GOING TO LIKE MAR THE LAND OR THAT HE'LL STILL KEEP IT ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC, THAT'S NOT ANYTHING NEW THAT HE'S OFFERING. THERE'S NOTHING UNIQUE THAT HE'S OFFERING TO THE PUBLIC THAT WE CAN'T DO WITH THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT ANYWAY. AND IT SEEMS LIKE GENERALLY SPEAKING PEOPLE SUPPORT MAKING THE FALLS ACCEPTABLE WITHIN REASON AND PEOPLE ARE GENERALLY AWARE THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO DEVELOP THE PATHS AND TRAILS AND KEEP THE FALLS IN GOOD CONDITION WITHIN THE EASEMENT. WE DON'T NEED A PRIVATE COMMERCIAL ENTITY TO DO THAT. AND IT'S BEEN MENTIONED THAT UTAH IS ESSENTIALLY 75% PUBLIC LAND AN HONESTLY THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT IT AND WHY I STAY HERE, IT'S WHY PEOPLE VISIT WORLDWIDE, BECAUSE THE WILD SPACES THAT ARE SO ACCESSIBLE TO PEOPLE. AND IF WE BUILD AN EXPENSIVE PRIVATE REHABILITATION CENTER THAT'S NOT GOING TO HELP US. WE NEED ACCESSIBLE AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE AND DRUG REFORM AND HOUSING AND THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT OR WITH MAINTAINING OUR WILD SPACES. AND IF YOU WANT A PRIVATE ENTITY WITH A NICE VIEW, GO TO SUNDANCE, IT'S RIGHT THERE DOWN THE CANYON ALREADY.

TAYLOR MCDONNELL – OKAY, I'M TAYLOR MCDONNELL. I'M A PROUD RESIDENT OF UTAH COUNTY. I HAVE A LOT OF FAMILY IN THE COUNTY AND I'VE ENJOYED VISITING BRIDAL VEIL FALLS MANY TIMES. I FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THE COUNTY SHOULD NOT YIELD THE CONTROLLING INTEREST IN THE BRIDAL VEIL FALLS PROPERTY TO ANY PRIVATE ENTITY. THE VALUE THAT THE PUBLIC DERIVES FROM THE FALLS IS FAR MORE THAN ANY PRIVATE ENTITY COULD EVER AFFORD TO PAY FOR IT. SO THE ONLY REASON I SEE TO SELL THE FALLS WOULD BE IF SELLING THE FALLS WAS WITHIN THE PUBLIC'S INTEREST. HOWEVER, IN THIS CASE PROFIT IS THE MOTIVATOR FOR THE INTEREST IN THE FALLS. RICHARD LOSEE HAS LITTLE TO NO MOTIVATION KEEP THE FALLS BEAUTIFUL, IT'S JUST NOT PROFITABLE FOR HIM. EVEN HE DOES PRESERVE THE BEAUTY OF THE FALLS, WHAT STOPS HIM FROM SELLING IT TO ANOTHER DEVELOPER, WHO CARES EVEN LESS ABOUT PRESERVING THE FALLS FOR THE PUBLIC. THE INEVITABLE RESULT OF SELLING THIS PROPERTY WILL BE THE EVENTUAL DEGRADATION OF PROPERTY. OWNERSHIP OF THE PROPERTY AROUND BRIDAL VEIL FALLS SHOULD REMAIN WITH THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT, BECAUSE IT IS ONE OF THE FEW ENTITIES THAT CARES ABOUT THE LONG-TERM OUTCOMES AT THE FALLS. I SUPPORT THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT BECAUSE IT WILL DISCOURAGE SELLING THE PROPERTY TO PRIVATE ENTITIES THAT PRIORITIZE THEIR OWN WEALTH OVER THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC. PUTTING THE PROPERTY IN THE CONSERVATION EASEMENT WOULD HELP PREVENT FUTURE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM GIVING IN TO PRIVATE PRESSURE AND ACTING AGAINST THE GREATER GOOD OF UTAH COUNTY CITIZENS BY SELLING THE PROPERTY TO ENTITIES THAT PUT PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE. I THINK THIS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT SINCE ONE ONLY NEEDS TWO VOTES FROM THE COUNTY COMMISSION IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHAT HAPPENS IN UTAH COUNTY, ESPECIALLY SINCE PROP 9 FAILED AND THAT'S IN PART BECAUSE OF RICHARD LOSEE'S CAMPAIGN