



FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW

VOLUME I NUMBER 5

MAY, 2001

New Cannonville Community Center

On Wednesday May 9, 2001, the Steering Committee of the Five County Association of Governments will hold their monthly meeting at the newly constructed Cannonville Community Center.

Cannonville's previous community center/medical clinic building was built with volunteer labor over 20 years ago and was, unfortunately, badly deteriorated. The building was not built with standard materials and had many structural problems,



Old Cannonville Community Center (Photo taken in December 2000)

such as severe settling of the walls and dry rot in the logs holding up the roof. Drainage on the site was very poor and water would frequently come up through the floors, especially in the medical clinic exam

rooms. In addition, the old building had little or no insulation and was not economical to heat during the winter.

It was determined that it would be more economical to construct a new building than to repair and continue to maintain the existing structure. A unique opportunity arose that provided a method to meet both the needs of the Bureau of Land Management and the Town of Cannonville. The BLM was looking for a location to construct a new visitors welcome center for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. They were utilizing a small office in the old community center, and the BLM desired the same location for their proposed new visitors center. The Town negotiated the sale of the old center and property to the BLM and the proceeds from that sale were used by the town to purchase a nearby parcel of ground adjacent to the Town Park where a new Community Center would be built.

The town received a Community Development Block Grant and a Rural Development Fund Board Grant which assisted them in completing a new community center. The "center" truly fulfills this role, in that it contains the town's medical clinic, the town administrative office, a

contract Post Office with P.O. boxes, a town library, and space for town meetings. In addition, the entry vestibule was specially designed to allow school students waiting for bus transport to wait inside during inclement weather. The total square footage of the building is approximately 2,300 square feet and ample, convenient parking is provided.

An exciting feature of the new center is the use of a ground source heat pump system. The ground source heat pump provides an energy-efficient, cost-effective way to heat and cool the building. Through the use of a ground-coupling system, a conventional water-source heat pump design is transformed into a unique means of utilizing the thermodynamic properties of earth and ground water for efficient operation throughout the year. In essence, the ground (or ground water) serves as a heat source during winter operation and a heat sink for summer cooling. The town's Community Center facility was completed in December of 2000.



Completed Cannonville Community Center Building



Artist's Rendering of Proposed National Monument Visitors Center Main Building

The BLM will construct their new visitors center during 2001. The new BLM visitor center will actually be two buildings---the main visitor's building and a second meeting

"hall" where educational seminars and other meetings can be held. The BLM is making that portion of the facility available for use by the town and for local functions. In

addition, the BLM facilities include public restrooms that will be available for use by visitors to the adjacent Town Park.

The Mayor and Town of Cannonville are now enjoying the benefits of a community center facility that meets the town's needs. This is a facility the residents of the town are proud of, and they are excited to have the opportunity to showcase their new facility to the FCAOG Steering Committee.

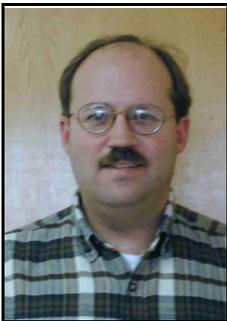
Staff Spotlights: Cedar City Planning Office

The Cedar City Planning Office, located at 88 East Fiddlers Canyon Drive, recently celebrated its first anniversary.

Reed Erickson, circuit rider planner, joined the Five County Association of Governments on January 3, 2000. Reed was born and raised in Delta, Utah.

He has owned his own outfitter/guide business and worked in both Wyoming and Alaska.

Reed obtained a BA degree in planning in 1989. Before coming to Cedar City, Reed was employed in Lyman, Wyoming for ten years as the town administrator and planner.



Reed Erickson

The Cedar City office brings planning assistance closer to local governments. The Cedar City office serves Iron County and each municipality within the county. Reed works at both the county and municipal level because no one jurisdiction employs him. He is able to address issues that transcend

city boundaries and is free to express opinions that take a broad, inter-jurisdictional view of the county. Reed believes that local government planning is the key to effective community development. Planning requires the careful evaluation of concerns for long-term consequences and side effects, plus an interest in devising solutions. Reed thinks that the planning process exists to serve the greater public interest. Planners are required to hold tight to policies and actions that best serve the entire community, now and into the future.

Danna Alvey joined the AOG staff in April to provide secretarial assistance. Danna was raised in Escalante, Utah and has lived in Cedar City for the past twenty years. Prior to coming to work for the AOG, Danna was employed by the Disability Law Center for sixteen years as an administrative assistant and paralegal/advocate.

Currently, the Cedar City office is working on several important issues that hopefully will have a positive effect on

the future development of Iron County. A new agricultural ordinance is designed to address agriculture as a changing industry in Iron County and to provide the County with an adequate mechanism to evaluate locations for new concentrated animal feeding operations, as well as other intensive agricultural uses.



Danna Alvey

Another project currently underway is the development of the Interlocal Agreement county-wide plan for growth. Iron County and the municipalities within the county are working on a county-wide effort to coordinate with each other in planning for their growth and infrastructure needs in the future. This will include evaluation of the following: roads, trails, flood channels, airports, recreation, water, sewer, other utilities, human services, wildlife, wetlands, solid waste, etc. The goal is to identify where conflicts may arise with growth, and how and where growth should or can occur with the least detrimental impacts. A coordinated planning effort, if done properly, can go a long way to avoid future conflicts and provide for more organized and generally better growth. Scoping meetings have been held with most land management and planning interests throughout Iron County. Participants have included county and municipal representatives, state and federal representation, as well as utilities and others involved with the development of infrastructure or other land management concerns. It will surely prove to be a big undertaking given the diversity of interests and the various levels of interest in growth for Iron County.

Utility Assistance Program

A new Utility Assistance Program is now available to families with children. Funds have become available through the Utah Department of Workforce Services to assist income-eligible families with the high cost of heating and cooling their homes.

The local five-county program is administered by the Five County Association of Governments and will run through the end of September, 2002.

- Eligible families must have a gross income at or below 185% of the federal poverty level.
- Eligible families must have at least one dependent child under the age of 18 living in the household.
- Family must be the party responsible to pay a utility bill necessary to maintain heat/cooling in their main residency.
- Families can receive only one payment during a twelve-month period.
- Families will not have their access to these funds restricted if they have already received utility help through any of the other utility programs available in their community.

Household Size	Monthly Income	Household Size	Monthly Income
2	\$1,798.00	6	\$3,652.00
3	\$2,255.00	7	\$4,117.00
4	\$2,721.00	8	\$4,583.00
5	\$3,186.00	9	\$5,048.00

This is a new one-time utility assistance program, which is separate from the HEAT Program. The HEAT program, which also provides assistance to income-eligible families to help with utility bills, concluded on April 30, 2001, and will resume again on November 1, 2001. This new utility assistance program will run through the end of September 2002, or until funds are exhausted. Eligible households will receive a \$200 payment to their utility company.

Local county residents can participate in this new program by contacting their county intake workers to set an appointment. The following telephone numbers are provided to set appointments or to ask questions. Since the area offices will be open on a part-time basis, residents can also contact the Five County Association of Governments directly for answers to any questions pertaining to the program.

Beaver	435-438-5313	Garfield	435-826-4317
Iron	435-586-0858	Kane	435-644-5250
Washington	435-652-9643	Five County AOG	435-673-3548

Utah Chapter American Planning Association Spring Conference



Zion Park Inn, located in Springdale, Utah

Members of the Community & Economic Development Staff of the Five County Association of Governments organized the Spring Conference of the Utah Chapter, American Planning Association. This year's conference was held at the Zion Park Inn in Springdale, Utah on Thursday, March 29

and Friday, March 30. Events kicked off on Thursday evening with registration and a banquet at the Switchback Lodge Restaurant. The evening was capped off by a keynote address by Brad Barber on the topic of Using the Envision Utah tool boxes in Rural Utah.

At this conference over 80 community planning professionals and citizen planners from across the state

and several out of state attendees and presenters met to discuss and learn new techniques and concepts in community planning.

An update on the effects to planning by bills passed at the recently completed state legislative session was presented. Several concurrent breakout sessions were held on a variety of topics of current interest. Among these topics were agricultural protection areas, the Governor's 21st Century Communities Program, and Affordable Housing planning.

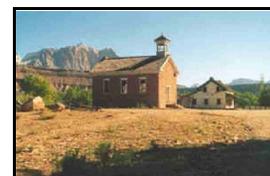


(L-R) Russ Martin, Wes Curtis, Curt Hutchings

Curt Hutchings, Senior Planner at the Five County Association of Governments participated as a presenter on the 21st Century Communities Program, giving information and an overview of the process and successes in implementing this program in southwest Utah. Curt was joined as a presenter with

Wes Curtis, Center for Rural Life, and Russ Martin, Community Planner with the Six County AOG.

Following the afternoon breakout sessions buses were provided to transport conference participants to one of two chosen destinations. Some of the participants chose a tour of the historic Grafton town site.



Grafton, Utah

This location was made famous to a large degree by its appearance in several Hollywood produced movies, most notably a scene in Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. An effort is underway to preserve this area and increase its benefit to the region from a tourism and economic development perspective. Washington County has been successful through application for Community Development Block Grant funding in stabilizing and making repairs to the publicly owned one-room Grafton Schoolhouse/Church building.



(L-R) Glenn Hill, Tom Haradan, Marty Ott

The other participants were welcomed by Glenn Hill, City Manager of Springdale, and Marty Ott, Superintendent of Zion National Park, when they boarded one of the new Zion National Park Shuttle buses for a tour of Zion Canyon.

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This is the second year that during the busy spring through early fall months the Zion Canyon portion of the Park has closed to private vehicular traffic. Instead visitors park in the town of Springdale or at the new Zion National Park Visitors Center and board shuttle busses that run regular trips up the canyon to the



Tom Haradan discussing the new shuttle system during a stop on the tour

terminus at the Temple of Sinawava. Visitors can exit and board at all of the traditional points of interest as well as the Zion Lodge. Gone are the parking headaches of years past and focus can be placed on the destination and visiting experience rather than the aggravation of lack of vehicle parking. All of the buses are wheelchair accessible. Along the excursion the conference participants were able to ask questions of Tom Haradan, a Ranger at the Park who

accompanied the group for the tour.

The famous Dixie weather participated wonderfully with the conference and the feeling was evident that the conference experience was beneficial to all who participated. Next year the spring conference will be held in Moab.

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail: diamoreaux@fcaog.state.ut.us or in writing to: P.O. Box 1550; St. George, Utah 84771-1550. For other information or services, visit our web site at: <http://www.fcaog.state.ut.us>

Steering Committee Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday, May 9, 2001, 1:00 p.m.
Cannonville Community Center
50 Red Rock Road, Cannonville, Utah

Wednesday, June 13, 2001, 1:00 p.m.
Kane County Courthouse, Commission Chambers
76 North Main Street, Kanab, Utah