

**Special Jefferson County Commissioner Meeting Minutes  
May 3, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 1:03. Those present are Commissioner Farnsworth, Commissioner Hancock, Chairman Raymond; Audrey Moon is clerk of the board. Pledge of Allegiance offered by Chairman Raymond. Prayer offered by Commissioner Hancock. Clerk Colleen Poole is excused.

**Department of Energy – Danielle Miller**

• **Nuclear Reactor Project**

[1:05:00 PM](#) UAMPS Carbon Free Power Project with NuScale - SMR Technology. Have Mike Miller and Chris Colbert with NuScale. Have Ted Rampton with UAMPS. Have Karen Brown, Jared Fryer and Peggy Hindman from Department of Energy. Have Jackie Flowers with Idaho Falls Power.

[1:05:29 PM](#) Ted Rampton is the general manager at UAMPS. Wants to discuss the Carbon Free Power Project.

[1:05:53 PM](#) Ted will go over the description of UAMPS, ways to change the power industry, where the site would be located, and the Idaho National Lab site.

[1:06:24 PM](#) UAMPS is an energy service interlocal agency. Was created under the state of Utah statutes in 1980. Most are municipal electric utilities. Have forty-four members in seven western states. Members are able to choose which projects they participate in or free to develop their own project.

[1:08:18 PM](#) Ted explained that UAMPS Organization is project based and they have sixteen various categories. They assist members in their energy needs. The most important part is they are non-profit so if they make money they refund the margins back to the consumer. Renewable energy is one of the largest resources. Want to be able to take advantage of any renewable source. Need to have the lowest possible costs.

[1:11:44 PM](#) Ted shows the UAMPS resource locations. Also has a graph of the different resource types in 2015. This gives them an idea on the resources that they have available.

[1:12:46 PM](#) **Robin Dunn is here.**

[1:13:31 PM](#) Will be changing electric energy. Significant actions by EPA who have outlawed new coal generation plants or made it mandatory for them to meet a certain standard. Now have a federal power act, clean air act, endangered species act and a migratory bird treaty act. Will have some coal plants that will have to go offline. New ruling on the clean air act is a regional haze ruling. Have to eliminate all pollutants that go into the air with controlled equipment. Most of these old plants were built in 1980. Cannot do this economically. So the question is what they do to replace coal? With the renewables have the same problem under the Endangered Species Act.

[1:17:02 PM](#) Ted said there are growing concerns with load growth. Have about two percent increase each year. Have environmental regulations with carbon. What is the future? A lot of utilities are moving toward natural gas. These still produce carbon dioxide and they know it's a matter of time before the EPA will move toward changing this as well. The price of natural gas is also very volatile. Need something that is more consistent.

[1:19:01 PM](#) Ted goes over there is no place to build a hydro plant. So they have turned to nuclear power and have been looking into this for the last ten years.

[1:20:11 PM](#) Carbon free power project is energy efficient. Have small modular reactors. Another technology is roof top solar. This is putting solar power up on tops of homes. Want to encourage this but they need to remember sometimes the renewable resources cause a problem to the electric grid.

[1:21:38 PM](#) Ted goes over the NRC licensing. Nuclear power requires a combined operating license. They plan to submit this in 2018. Have a 39 month NRC review period where they analyze the impacts of construction and operation. UAMPS is the owner of the power plant. Would work with NuScale who will do the design in mid-2016. This design will have be technology approved and will be under review for around 39 months.

[1:23:15 PM](#) For the Region of Interest had to go through a strategy and take in legal considerations. UAMPS hired a contractor to do this work and look at areas that could be possible sites and locations. Are looking at the Idaho National Laboratory. Reasons are the community in the INL. They have been building and operating reactors now. Have built fifty-two reactors already. They are very supportive and know some of the data that needs to be collected. Have entered into a site agreement in February 2016 with DOE which allows them the site so now they proceed with getting a license.

[1:27:19 PM](#) Today is an outreach activity want to talk with the community so they know what is being planned. Had a meeting with the Shoshone Bannock Tribe since where the INL is located is a historical site. Have also met with Butte County.

[1:28:28 PM](#) Other outreaches will be the Governor's Office, Attorney General's Office, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and other local governments. Looking to come toward closure on the site in the next couple of months. Show their schedule.

Chairman Raymond asked how big of a site this requiring is. The study sites were 2,000 acres. Focused in on a few places. The locations are scattered through the INL area. Have to avoid certain areas.

[1:31:01 PM](#) Mike said the site will probably be around 3,000 acres.

[1:31:32 PM](#) Ted goes over the project schedule. Commissioner Hancock asked if they are looking at multiple reactors. Mike said this is for a pack of twelve modules. Ted said UAMPS is currently only looking at one site.

[1:33:03 PM](#) Ted is submitting the application around 2018. Will have some overlap on this. Will have an idea if NRC will be accepting the design. Plan to be online sometime in 2024.

[1:35:29 PM](#) Commissioner Hancock said it is hard to get licensing. Chairman Raymond asked when they get to where they are providing power how will this affect the power lines. Ted said they will have to do some upgrades on the power lines.

[1:37:37 PM](#) Mike Miller is going to go over the design for this project. Background on NuScale this is the first current small modular reactors. Tech development was started in the mid-2000. This design began in 2008 have put in a lot of effort into this. Not a lot of nuclear startup companies. Department of Energy awarded them a grant in 2014 to help with the costs of the design. 600 people are currently working on this project. Have 240 patents pending/granted.

[1:41:50 PM](#) NuScale Power Module (NPM) operates on natural circulation. Includes the reactor vessel, steam generator, pressurizer and containment in an integral package that eliminates reactor coolant pumps. No pumps in the coolant system. All of this is natural circulation. Generating 50MWew. Each will have its own skid-mounted steam turbine-generator and condenser. There will be twelve of these at 600MWe gross total output. Want to phase out coal plants. These reactors have specialized turbines.

[1:44:42 PM](#) Show size comparisons on the screen.

[1:45:15 PM](#) Coolant flow is driven by physics. Show the cut off modular of the reactor. Standard light water technology. Containment building in a building vessel. This is able to withstand 1,000 pounds of pressure. Convection, Conduction and Gravity.

[1:47:33 PM](#) Commissioner Hancock asked what kind of fuel is used. Mike said this will be a standardized fuel. Goes over the site layout. Have 34.5 acres and it will be a concrete building. Goes over the diagram of the site.

[1:49:44 PM](#) Discuss the systems and components needed to protect the core. Go over the safety of this system.

[1:50:41 PM](#) The barriers between fuel and environment have conventional designs using fuel and pellet cladding, reactor vessel and containment. NuScale's additional barriers include water in a reactor pool, stainless steel lined concrete pool, a biological shield covers each reactor and is enclosed in a concrete reactor building.

[1:52:15 PM](#) With this they are pursuing a smaller emergency planning zone.

[1:55:01 PM](#) This design has no pumps, no external power and no external water.

[1:55:58 PM](#) Licensing Plan - NuScale will submit a design certification by 12/31/2016. Site selection process is in progress in Idaho. UAMPS will submit for construction/operation license in 2018

[1:56:47 PM](#) Construction Plan was developed by Fluor. Starting site work in late 2018 or 2019. Will employ 360 full-time employees to operate the plant. At this point these are still estimates.

[1:58:37 PM](#) Discuss the project schedule and what they have already accomplished.

[1:59:23 PM](#) Commissioner Hancock asked about prototypes in other countries. Mike said they have had some discussions with other countries but they want this to be a U.S. project.

[2:00:26 PM](#) Commissioner Hancock asked how much fuel will be stored out there. Mike discusses the fuel storage.

[2:01:28 PM](#) Ted goes over the spent fuels and the things that have to be implemented.

[2:02:35 PM](#) UM portion would need to be financed for the taxes and municipal. Will examine everything possible. Commissioner Hancock asked about total projected cost. Ted said that the NuScale design is around \$3 billion.

[2:04:19 PM](#) Commissioner Hancock asked about the life span of this plan. Mike said the life is forty years. Discuss the life of the design and the building.

[2:06:42 PM](#) Discussion on the projectors.

[2:07:26 PM](#) Chairman Raymond asked what they need from the Board. Ted said they wanted them to be aware of this and are willing to answer any questions. There will be a lot of community discussion once this gets started. For the most part did not want them to be surprised. Wants to be contacted with any concerns.

[2:09:31 PM](#) Commissioner Farnsworth thinks this sounds high tech. Mike says this is simple this is just a clever rearrangement. This is hopefully the way to replace coal. Ted said they are the guinea pig. Have twenty-five utilities that are watching what they are doing since this is risky. Will have a lot of coal plants out of service. Already have water and transmission if they can take the existing coal site they could place one of these twelve projectors in this location. They think this is the way of the future. Need to jump on this technology because they will be closing down coal plants in the next two years. Appreciates the time taken to have this special meeting since they were already in town.

[2:18:30 PM](#) Pat Scott suggests taking a tour of the INL site. She toured and it was fascinating. Discuss that they had gone to three different sites.

[2:20:57 PM](#) Recess until 2:30

## Open session 2:30

### Commissioners

- **Winter Yard Damage**

[2:31:15 PM](#) Chairman Raymond states for the record they had received some yard damage during the snow plowing season. Had spoken with Dave about this. The damage is within the right-of-way of the county. There was a verbal mention from Stacey to repair the yard from the damage. This is like a 4x4 piece. This is platted and dedicated as a right-of-way. Stacey said he had apologized to the homeowner. Had told him to put flags around this so they could see this in the future. Stacey did offer to fix this because he had done some damage.

[2:33:25 PM](#) Chairman Raymond said this is something that happens. Will allow Dave, Jerry and Stacy to see to the repair since this was promised but will not fix anything in the future. Commissioner Farnsworth said there are yards 6 inches above the black top. Chairman Raymond said may have to work on some of these because issues may arise. Will have Rebecca put out a letter in the paper stating the county has to have drainage and that the county has a sixty foot right-of-way.

[2:37:04 PM](#) Commissioner Hancock goes over the roads and how close the mailboxes are in the roads. Chairman Raymond said to take these on a case by case basis. On this particular issue will need a motion to give authority.

[2:38:07 PM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Farnsworth to give Road & Bridge authority to repair Todd Grant's yard as they said they would. Second by Commissioner Hancock. Roll call taken. Commissioner Farnsworth – aye, Commissioner Hancock – aye, Chairman Raymond – aye. Motion passed.**

- **Probation Lease Agreement**

[2:39:18 PM](#) Commissioner Hancock said in the last meeting Chairman Raymond was not in attendance they did have a motion to approve moving Probation into this location. Robin said the lease is good but does not cover contents. This is a year lease and then month to month thereafter. Robin said everything else is fine assumed they would do a one year lease. Chairman Raymond fills in the blanks on the contract.

[2:42:28 PM](#) Rebecca and Robin discuss the contract with the Probation building.

[2:43:34 PM](#) Chairman Raymond fills in the contract will do a lease for each location. Commissioner Hancock said they will start getting things inside and move the network over.

[2:45:47 PM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Hancock to accept the terms of the lease for location E with Gene Purser for the Probation building. Second by Commissioner Farnsworth. Roll call taken. Commissioner Farnsworth - aye, Commissioner Hancock – aye, Chairman Raymond – aye. Motion passed.**

### Assessors – Cody Taylor – Debbie Finn – Jessica Tate

- **Site Exemption**

[2:46:53 PM](#) Chairman Raymond asked Robin if he had reviewed the site exemption application. Commissioners had read the state statute last meeting but wanted some legal counsel. Commissioner Hancock said that one of the statutes was about releasing parcel numbers. Chairman Raymond said they had two state statutes included in the application. The other was to release costs and trade secrets. Commissioner Hancock said the whole thing is they did not want to list the costs of improvements they may have made. The appraisers do have a basic way to determine costs. Cody said they can use 75% which is allowed in code. But everyone else who has applied for this exemption have listed their expenses. Robin does not think the code is applicable. Debbie asked if they have to list their expenses to receive this exemption. Robin reads information about the site exemption.

[2:52:31 PM](#) Cody said the exemption comes off once someone else buys this property or a home is built. Cody was unsure if they had to provide the costs of improvements to qualify for this exemption. Robin said in his opinion they shouldn't receive the exemption. Chairman Raymond said if they use 75 percent equation, this goes off of market value. So if they have improved these lots then they would not be assessing the correct price. Commissioner Farnsworth said the plain lots are worth less than a lot that has the infrastructure brought in. Cody said they did not want to disclose the improvements and so they do not know what has been done. They can appeal this and bring in the costs. Commissioners review the site application.

[2:57:22 PM](#) Jessica mentioned these lots used to be ag and they were able to receive the ag exemption.

[2:58:44 PM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Farnsworth to deny the site exemption on Hailey Creek Subdivision. Second by Commissioner Hancock. Roll call taken. Commissioner Farnsworth – aye, Commissioner Hancock – aye. Chairman Raymond – aye. Motion passed.**

[3:00:09 PM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Farnsworth to adjourn at 3:00. Second by Commissioner Hancock. All in favor – aye. Motion passed.**

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*Chairman of the Board*

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*Date*

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*Clerk of the Board*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

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*County Clerk*

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*Date*