



September 3, 2009

Brain Bellamy
Interim County Manager
Summit County Government
PO Box 128
Coalville, UT 84017

Dear Brain Bellamy,

I am writing in regard to the bridge in Coalville located at 100 South that crosses the Weber River. This bridge as you are aware is in a state of needing immediate replacement. The County Council at a meeting with Coalville City Officials and concerned citizens on June 3rd 2009 directed that I, Mayor Schmidt should meet with Brian and review our options. I have met with Brian and he placed the decision back onto the Council. This letter is an effort to get some cooperation on the County's part to willfully accept responsibility for damages resulting from the County's action in approving a conditional use permit that allowed heavy trucks and equipment to cross the bridge. Furthermore, the County has collected all the revenue generated from the gravel operations homes and land on the west side of this bridge.

On October 10 of 1995, Summit County issued a Conditional Use Permit to Rees Stone Quarry to operate a gravel pit located west of the Weber River Bridge just outside the Coalville City Limits. Over the course of time the heavy load traffic which has caused the bridge to deteriorate into a condition of unacceptable structural integrity. Coalville City has engaged the service of an engineering firm, JUB and their report called for a total reconstruction of the bridge. Coalville currently has placed weight limit restrictions on this bridge of 2 tons until funding and construction of a new bridge can take place.

There is a real concern that the limited weight restrictions cause potential public safety concerns and undue hardship to Summit County residents and land owners as this bridge services no property or landowners within Coalville City. With a 2 ton weight restriction, both fire and ambulance services legally can't cross this bridge. Rocky Mountain Power can't service customers, propane deliveries for heating homes along with the

Mayor
Duane S. Schmidt

Council
Ron Boyer
RaNae B. Crittenden
Andrea Hewson
Steven Richins
David Vernon

PO Box 188
10 North Main Street
Coalville UT 84017

P: 435.336.5981
F: 435.336.2062
coalvill@allwest.net
www.coalville.utah.gov

ranch operations can't be made and the farmers can't get their harvested alfalfa and products over this structure. All of these homes and ranch operations are Summit County Taxpayers.

I believe that the unique nature of this bridge is unmatched anywhere else in this county. The bridge serves exclusively one purpose and that is the sole use of Summit County taxpayers. Coalville City does have a water source on the west side of this bridge. The bridge is 1200 linear feet from the City County line. This brings to questions, "Why should Coalville City taxpayers bear the full burden of approximately \$200,000 for a bridge that brings revenue to another governmental entity?" Summit County collects 100% of all the taxes generated from where this bridge leads, yet you want no responsibility for the cost of replacement?

When anyone talks about the rift between East and West sides of the county it is easy to point out situations of this nature that further the divide. North Summit has no representation at the Summit County Council and the continued neglect from our County Council is shameful. Both the County Council and Interim Manager have repeatedly said that we have no money. I believe it is that you have no money for North Summit. If this bridge were anywhere on the west side of Summit County the argument would be over the art work that was being placed on the structure.

Summit County is currently spending over 6 million dollars building a trophy building in Quinn's Junction for a supposed satellite branch office for the County health Department so that you can move the Health Department in Kimball Junction out of the Sheldon Richin's Building and expand the library in Snyderville Basin. I have no problem with the library expansion in Snyderville Basin. The library in North Summit sits in the Coalville City Hall building and occupies over 1/3 of the space and contributes \$200.00 per month to the City of Coalville for rent. The City of Coalville subsidizes the county library and is the only municipal entity in Summit County to do so. The library in North Summit is not much bigger than a bookmobile and while there has been discussion about finding a new location, nothing ever happens. There seems to always be an excuse.

The new health department building that costs 6 million dollars has leased half the building to the Peoples Health Clinic which is a non-profit that was started by John Hanrahan, chair person of the Summit County Council. This lease is for a \$1.00 per year cost which has an appearance of a \$3 million dollar gift. While I'm a supporter of the work of the Peoples Health Clinic you have got to ask how the County can give a non-profit such a sweet heart deal and continually turn a cold shoulder to the County Seat located in Coalville.

The Health Department Administration offices located in Coalville which is still the Summit County Seat is located in a double wide trailer. The common belief is that once this new trophy building is complete the Health Department is headed to its new home and the entire Health Department will be moved to Quinn's Junction, other than maybe a skeleton Health Department which continues the systematic dismantling of the Summit County Seat in Coalville.

The old hospital in Coalville sits empty and over and over I have been told there's no money to do anything with the building. To me it's a question of priority and there is never a priority in North Summit given by the Summit County Council.

When you say this is just irrational or rhetoric, as an individual who has only lived in Utah for 6 years from my perspective the actions of the County are unconscionable. When the Justice Center was built it was represented that court would be held at least once a week in Coalville and to my knowledge that had happened only one time. Coalville deserves County investment as the Summit County Seat and the representation of its County Council People regardless of what your individual Council person Zip Code may be. This representation has been extremely zip code bias.

We are not asking for anything more than any other community, but we have been participants in the success of this County and deserve equal treatment.

Our annual Pig Roast in June of this year extended an invitation to each Council Person, all of whom RSPV that you would show. One Council Person, Sally Elliott showed and a table reserved for the County Council sat empty at a community event that drew 2300 people and was a noticeable absence to all. During the County Fair Parade which was the 100th anniversary of the Fair only two Council People showed. This type of non-support from the Council demonstrates to North Summit that lack of support from the County. After all it was your event...I wonder how many County Council people made it to Park City's celebration the evening of our Pig Roast?

You may ask yourself how effective is the County Council in dealing with east side issues when you currently have 5 communities incorporated into cities and two other communities interested in separating themselves from Summit County. I am of the opinion that this is strong evidence of a real separation in east side constituents and the representatives who are supposed to represent them.

I am asking that the County Council take a hard look at the facts surrounding this bridge and become willing participants and not just dismiss the needs of Coalville like so many times before. The unique circumstance of this bridge justifies the County's assistance in resolving this issue that directly affects their county tax payers. Summit County has set precedence in a similar situation. Recently a bridge was reclaimed in Morgan County and traffic was diverted to Summit County's East Henefer Road. Damage to the road was caused by heavy truck traffic and the County insisted in Morgan County and Devil Slide Cement Plant assistance. What's good for the goose is good for the gander. Everything is not based on population. Why is this any different than the situation concerning the bridge located at the Weber?

The days of Coalville sitting idly by and allowing actions to this nature to happen are over. We can and will not longer tolerate being viewing as second class citizens.

Recent history has had a lot of rhetoric from the County in there wanting to help the East side, but the actions do not watch the words. It is sad when a Mayor of any City has to write a letter of this nature to get the Council's attention.

I am always available for questions, comments, or concerns.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Duane S. Schmidt

Cc:

Coalville City Council

Cindy Gooch Coalville Community Development Director

Sheldon Smith Coalville City Attorney

Mayor Dana Williams- Park City

Mayor Randy Ovard- Henefer

Mayor Blake Frazier- Oakley

Mayor Lew Marchant- Kamas

Mayor John Burgen- Francis

Melvin Brown

Governor Gary Herbert

Mountainlands Association of Governments