

**IRON COUNTY, UTAH  
RESOLUTION 2014-22**

**A RESOLUTION OF IRON COUNTY, UTAH DENOUNCING THE ACTIONS  
OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, BLM STATE DIRECTOR JUAN  
PALMA, US ATTORNEY CARLIE CHRISTENSEN WITH REGARD TO THE  
PROTEST OF RECAPTURE CANYON IN SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH**

**WHEREAS**, Iron County is a political subdivision of the State of Utah;

**WHEREAS**, over 63% of land in Iron County is managed by the federal government, either the BLM or USFS;

**WHEREAS**, On May 10<sup>th</sup> 2014 hundreds of protestors gathered in Blanding Utah and Recapture Canyon near Blanding Utah for a peaceable protest against the BLM's illegal closure of the Recapture Canyon Road / Trail;

**WHEREAS**, the BLM and the US District Attorney's office have selectively chosen 5 individuals out of hundreds to charge with Conspiracy and riding ATV's on a closed trail;

**WHEREAS**, no resource damage was done and no charges were filed for resource damage;

**WHEREAS**, one of those charged, Commissioner Phil Lyman is an elected official who was acting on behalf of his oath of office and on behalf of the citizens of San Juan County;

**WHEREAS**, BLM State Director Juan Palma, the BLM and US Attorney Carlie Christensen chose to charge an elected official directly vs. challenge San Juan County directly through court proceedings;

**WHEREAS**, the BLM has had an extremely heavy handed approach to dealing with these types of issues and has been untruthful in many of their claims, findings and dealings with regard to the road closure;

**WHEREAS**, Iron County believes this is an attempt to squelch the voice of Elected Officials and Citizens who are willing to take a stand against wrongdoing by federal agencies;

**WHEREAS**, the first amendment of the US Constitution guarantees the right to free speech and the ability to peaceably assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances;

**WHEREAS**, the road driven on May 10<sup>th</sup> is a pipeline maintenance road and right of way was granted to the Water Conservancy District and permission for the protest ride was granted by the Water Conservancy District;

**WHEREAS**, BLM documents state they do not claim the road, yet the BLM claims they can close a road that they admit is not theirs to close;

**WHEREAS**, the road driven during the protest is a historic road which has been in use over 100 years and has received the scrutiny of archaeological clearance after clearance;

**WHEREAS**, the CFR that created the road closure stated it was a temporary and emergency closure and many attempts have been made to negotiate a solution with the BLM yet the temporary and emergency closure has remained in place since September of 2007;

**WHEREAS**, it appears in the mind of the BLM, Juan Palma and US Attorney Carlie Christensen, Political Resistance to the BLM constitutes Criminal Conspiracy;

**WHEREAS**, the BLM has issued an order for San Juan County to rescind a resolution asserting their claim that the Recapture Canyon Road is a valid and existing road is liken to the King dictating to the peasants;

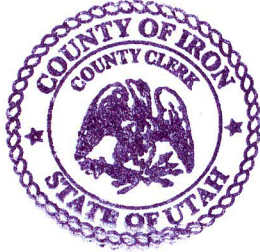
**WHEREAS**, isolating 5 out of hundreds of protestors and criminally charging those 5 individuals rather than a civil suit against the county is wrong, unjustifiable, and an act of intimidation and bullying;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Commission of Iron County calls upon BLM State Director Juan Palma, the BLM, and US Attorney Carlie Christensen to drop all charges against the 4 protestors and Elected Official Phil Lyman.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the BLM needs to lift the administrative closure of Recapture Canyon immediately; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, the BLM needs to address internally their heavy handed manner in which they deal with issues like this; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, the BLM needs to embrace the position of Local Governments as they are the elected officials representing the citizens, unlike the BLM which is an overbearing Bureaucratic agency that acts without respect to the citizens or local governments.



**IRON COUNTY COMMISSION**

David J. Miller, County Commission Chair  
October 27, 2013

ATTEST:

David I. Yardley  
Iron County Clerk