

RESOLUTION NO. 2875

A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE HISTORIC DEWEY BRIDGE RESTORATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Dewey Bridge was a Utah Department of Transportation facility for many years and played a key role in the development of southeastern Utah, subsequent to the construction of the State Route 128 Bridge over the Colorado River; and

WHEREAS, Grand County assumed maintenance of the structure and, through the leadership of Grand County's Historical Preservation Commission, completed a major restoration project on the bridge in 1998-99; and

WHEREAS, the Dewey Bridge is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and continued to serve as a major gateway to southeastern Utah as a significant visitor destination and as part of Kokopelli's Trail between Loma, Colorado and Moab; and

WHEREAS, a human-caused fire destroyed part of the Dewey Bridge structure in April of 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Dewey Bridge fire was widely reported in the media, and many individuals have lamented the damage to a unique structure that was the West's second-longest suspension bridge when it was constructed in 1916; and

WHEREAS, following direction from the Grand County Council, the Dewey Bridge Restoration Committee (a sub-group of the Grand County Historical Preservation Commission) oversaw a feasibility study on restoring the historic Dewey Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the feasibility study performed by Don Pettygrove, a professional engineer experienced in both modern bridge construction and historic bridge renovation, provided preliminary construction drawings and a cost estimate of \$850,000 to restore the historic Dewey Bridge; and

WHEREAS, based upon this estimate, and the important role played by the historic Dewey Bridge during the development of the region, the Grand County Historical Preservation Commission believes that it is feasible and appropriate to restore the bridge;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand County Council hereby supports the Historic Dewey Bridge Restoration Project by:

1. Authorizing the Grand County Historical Preservation Commission and the Dewey Bridge Restoration Committee to begin raising the funds needed to

complete the restoration project. Funds raised shall be accounted for by the Grand County Clerk/Auditor, and the County shall not contribute any funds to the restoration project other than in-kind services; and

2. Hosting the restoration campaign on the Grand County website, including the use of programming time already authorized for website development and maintenance in the annual Grand County budget; and
3. Authorizing the assistance of the Grand County Engineer's Office to advise the Grand County Historical Preservation Commission and Dewey Bridge Restoration Committee from time to time on technical matters regarding the project and to prepare and supervise contracts relating to the restoration of the bridge subject to availability.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the Grand County Council in open session on this 20th day of January, 2009 by the following vote:

Ayes: Greenberg, Ballantyne, Conrad, Baird, Ciarus, Holyoak

Nays: Graham (abstain)

Absent: _____

ATTEST:

Diana Carroll
Diana Carroll, Clerk/Auditor

GRAND COUNTY COUNCIL

Robert Greenberg
Robert Greenberg, Chair