

# ***P&Z discuss Bear River water pipeline, impact on groundwater Proposed resolution to limit lot size sparks debate***

*Posted: Tuesday, Apr 28th, 2009*

BY: ERIN BULLER, Herald Editor

The Uinta County planning and zoning commission discussed the impact on groundwater and a proposed resolution to limit lot size on any new subdivisions in the Almy and Bear River area after the new Bear River water pipeline is completed sometime this year.

County planner Kent Williams said the county began looking at limiting lot size to protect the groundwater in the area serviced by the North Uinta County Water and Sewer District when the idea of a pipeline first came up a few years ago.

Now that the water pipeline is becoming a reality, which will undoubtedly bring about growth in the area, Williams said at a March County Commission work session that he believes it's time to address the issue of lot size again.

"With increased growth we need to institute some new subdivision procedures," Williams said. "The process of subdividing in this area would be more involved, but it would only affect the subdivisions that come about after this resolution is passed."

At a public input hearing last Wednesday during the regular P&Z meeting, Williams stressed that the resolution is not set in stone.

He said he sent a draft of the resolution to any residents living within the area to solicit input from those that would be affected by any new regulations regarding subdividing land.

With more than 15 residents and land-owners present at Wednesday's meeting, Williams said any potential decisions on the resolution will be "well in the future."

The proposed resolution would make the minimum lot size for any new subdivisions no less than two acres. Williams said that is an "arbitrary number."

"It can go up or down depending on public input," he said.

Williams thanked those present for their comments and said he would put his notes together and revise the resolutions where he can.

"There were some good points made tonight and we need to take all of this into consideration," Williams said. "I think Uinta County is the best kept secret there is in Wyoming. We want to do this right and we're not going to do anything that is not out in the open."