

Clerk's Corner

Property Tax Abatements – We've had a number of calls concerning the Property Tax Abatements for 2017. The forms will be available on the website when the Legislative Session is over – by April 1st. During the legislative session decisions are made concerning how much will be allowed for each abatement. Once it is posted, I'll post the information in another Clerk's Corner so you'll know it's available.

Public Meeting Notices – Would you like to keep up on what's happening in the county? You can receive notice whenever a public meeting (County Commission, Planning Commission, Trails, etc.) is scheduled. Just go to the Public Notice Website <https://www.utah.gov/pmn/index.html> and create an account. You can then indicate which meetings you would like to receive notices for. That's it! You'll receive an email for each one you've indicated.

2017 Legislative Session – There is a lot happening on Capitol Hill this legislative session. Voter turnout was so high during the Presidential Election (yay!) there were some problems. A number of bills are being discussed to fix the problems.

* HB230 requires that return postage be paid on all Vote by Mail ballots. Studies show that the turnout is the same whether voters pay for their own return postage or the county pays for it.

* HB159 would automatically register a person to vote, or update their information if they are already registered, when they renew their driver license. This will help keep voting records up to date.

* HB218 allows changes to be made to polling locations after the 90-day cutoff. Currently the County Commission has to approve polling locations 90 days before an election. This really tied the Salt Lake County Clerk's hands for the Presidential Election where some lines were 4 hours long. She couldn't open any new polling locations to help shorten the lines. This bill allows that.

* SB116 requires County Clerk's to file a plan with the Lieutenant Governor's Office showing what they will do if the election day lines get too long.

May Tax Sale – Each year the county holds a tax sale for properties which are 5 years or more delinquent on taxes. Tooele County's tax sale will be held May 17 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers of the County Administration Building. The list of the property that will be on the sale will be available about the first of May.

Marilyn K. Gillette, Tooele County Clerk/Auditor