

Sept 16, 86

Young leaves commission

Dan Dickson
STAFF WRITER

ST. GEORGE - Washington County Commissioner Kurt Young announced his resignation from the commission effective Thursday, Sept. 11, said commission chairman Jerry Lewis in a prepared statement at Monday's commission meeting.

In a statement by Young later Monday afternoon, he said it was his difference of opinion with his fellow commissioners on the issue of moving the Washington County Fair that led to his resignation.

Lewis said a replacement for Young will be named within the next two weeks, and he said the logical choice would be Garth Last, who recently won the Republican primary for the position and

will run unopposed in November. Lewis said he and commissioner John Whitney will meet with representatives of the Republican Party and make the decision as soon as possible.

In a prepared statement, Lewis said he tried to convince Young to finish out his term, but Young was firm in his decision and said his reasons for resigning are as follows:

Commissioner Young feels that the new commissioner who will take office in January had already been selected by the people and that he should be able to be involved in the budgeting process that begins the latter part of September.

Commissioner Young also had strong feelings about the Washing-

ton County Fair and what should happen with it.

"We are sad he has resigned," Lewis said. "It was his decision. He was a very good commissioner. He has fulfilled his duties and responsibilities with diligence, tireless efforts, and with the wellbeing of Washington County residents as his priority."

Young met with members of the press later Monday afternoon to present a prepared statement and answer questions concerning his resignation.

"My resignation came about after I could see that there was no way to convince my two fellow commissioners that the County Fair had to be moved from Hurricane to St. George," Young read

Continued on Page 3

● Kurt Young resigns post

Continued from Page 1

from his statement. "If there were adequate facilities available to house a growing county fair, I would have supported leaving the fair in Hurricane...and the school board has asked that the fair be moved from the high school not later than the school year of 1988.

"However, starting next year the Dixie Center, a facility owned by the county and the cities in the county, excluding five communities which refused to join the Special Service District that was created to build the center, will be available for use and have more than enough space to house all segments of a County Fair for years to come.

"With the taxpayers already digging into their pockets to pay for the Dixie Center, I cannot understand why a group of people would be so selfish as to insist that the county taxpayer lay out addi-

tional tax dollars to build a fair complex in Hurricane."

Young ended his statement by saying, "Because I cannot and will not support a building program to house a County Fair in Hurricane, I tendered my resignation as a county commissioner on Sept. 11, 1986."

Young said that despite the contracts and commitments to the Dixie Center, he believed it is the intent of Lewis and Whitney to make a decision in the near future to keep the fair in Hurricane, though no official announcement has been made to that effect.

Young stated his loyalties are to the taxpayers of the county and he believes the taxpayers will be getting ripped off if the fair remains in Hurricane. He said he will continue to fight to move the fair to the Dixie Center, and said he will work with any group or individual to accomplish that.