

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session
Tuesday, June 3, 2008 with the following present:

Sam Pace, Chairman
Linda Joseph, Vice Chairman
Mike Spearman, Commissioner
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney
Wendi Maez, Co-Administrator
Lyn Zimmer, Co-Administrator
Christa Collins, Acting Secretary to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pace at 9:05 A.M.

Under Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:

1. Pace will set agenda for work session.

Joseph moved to approve the agenda as amended. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Reading and approval of minutes:

Spearman moved to approve the minutes of May 20, 2008 as amended. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three ayes.

Review of Mail:

1. San Luis Valley Water Conservancy has sent a copy of their 2007 Annual Report for the files.(5/22/08)
2. Arbor Water Wastewater & Reuse Engineers have sent there 2008 Spring Newsletter.(5/22/08)
3. The State of Colorado Board of Health Agenda for May 21, 2008. (5/22/08)
4. Rio Grande Water Conservation District has sent the May 2008 Ground Water Measurements. (5/22/08)
5. Crestone Performance sent letter with great thanks for the approval of their Sales Tax Grant. (5/27/08)
6. Painted Sky Resource Conservation & Development Council is submitting an Application for Federal Assistance for Grant/Loan for USDA Rural Development and would like to have any comments you might have on their right. (5/27/08) Will follow up with Jim Metz.
7. Saguache County Sustainable Environment & Economic Development (ScSEED) with an update on progress with their funding. (5/28/08)
8. CCI sending their Summer Conference Business Meeting Agenda for Tuesday June 10, 2008 3:15-4:30 p.m. in Denver CO (5/29/08)
9. SEH In sight sent the Spring/Summer 2008 newsletter. (5/28/08)
10. Home Lake Historic Preservation and Restoration Foundation invites you to an Open House on June 3, 2008 3-5 pm at the Home Lake History Center. (5/28/08)
11. State of Colorado Department of Local Affairs are offering to enter a contract for the

- Saguache County/Town of Crestone Master Plan Project. (5/28/08)
12. San Luis Valley Rural Electric Cooperative Inc inviting you to their Annual Meeting June 10 starting at 5:30 p.m. (5/29/08) BOCC to attend meeting.
 13. Town of Saguache 2008 Drinking Water Consumer Report for the Calendar Year 2007. (5/29/08)
 14. The University of Utah sent their 8-hour or 40 hour Refresher course Registration Form on August 4th & August 25-29, 2008. (6/2/08)
 15. Rio Grande Watershed Association of Conservation Districts want to invite the Board for their annual Farm of the Year Tour: 2008 Farm of the Year Robinson Farms & 2008 Ranch of the Year Cloud Crest in La Garita. accomplishments & goals of our area's five Conservation Districts on June 27th, 2008 at 12:00 pm in Alamosa. (6/2/08) Spearman had previous commitment and can not attend attend. Joseph would like to attend, but has a schedule conflict.
 16. State of Colorado sending a letter to Mr. Felmlee & Mr. McClure for tire stores Center Tire & Gunbarrel Station with information making vendors aware of illegal hauling in the San Luis Valley/ (6/2/08)
 - a. Discussed other problems from illegal dumping of tires in the County.
 - b. County Attorney advised of charging individuals w/ nuisance violations. He will contact State Health Department regarding this matter.
 17. U.S. Department of Agriculture sending information for the 2008 Election for County Committee Members from Northern Saguache and Moffat areas. (6/2/08)
 18. United States Board of Geographic Names in reference to two proposals to change the names of a Geographic featured in Saguache County, in the Sangre de Cristos, near Crestone: (6/2/08)
 - a. to name an unnamed peak Tranquility Peak.
 - b. to change the name of Kit Carson to Crestone Peak.
 - c. A form needs to be completed and returned regarding these requests. BOCC requests notification to inform residents of the proposed changes, and inviting comments. Copy of the letter to be sent w/reporter from Crestone Eagle to be placed in part in her report. Generic paragraph to be generated to go in other publications. Public comments will be received during Land Use time of a BOCC meeting to be scheduled.

Introduction of Guests: Matie Belle Lakish – Crestone Eagle; Andrew Archuleta – USFS/BLM

Commissioners' Reports-Updates of Meetings:

Sam Pace reported:

- Attended South Central Colorado Seniors board meeting. Unofficial notice that Daniels grant was approved and so we approved new budget with meals back to 5 days for ½ year. Also looked at different RFPs from other providers including Costilla County. Need to look at cost analysis for this program and other options for this program.
- 5-25- Attended and Participated Memorial Day parade and Ranching Celebration and Museum opening in Saguache.

- 5-27- Saguache County(Alcohol/Drug) Prevention Program meeting at Moffat School with budget review and discussion of new officers.
- 5-28 Sun Station dedication in Rio Grande County.
- 6-2- Bill signing with Senator Schwartz and Gov. Ritter at the Solar plant near Mosca.
- Clerk Myers found a forest service map in her office that she gave me that seems to be the designated segments that the previous board decided on during there RS2477 hearing. Perhaps used for prior meetings. Map needs to be with other materials used for RS2477. Road & Bridge needs to provide documentation that they have.
- 6/2/08 Conversation w/ Joe Horn from CDOT regarding contributions for re-strip and resign County RD T creating turn lane on Hwy 17. Suggests that Randy Arredondo be consulted.

Linda Joseph reported:

- May 21- Attended Gunnison Sage Grouse Conservation Strategic Committee meeting and work session. There are huge issues with the Antler Shed collection season implemented this year. Collectors went in prior to the season, during the sensitive brooding time and stockpiled antlers, bringing out loads, some of over 100 antlers, the day the season began. Other wildlife was stressed as well, following the brutal winter. A local collector and a retailer attended and concurred that the season has backfired and needs revision. A sub-committee was formed to prepare suggestions, to report at the June 11 meeting. The CO Wildlife Commission will hold it's meeting in Gunnison on the same day, and will meet with the Committee to discuss regional issues. Elinor Wilson of Villa Grove is an official monitor for the DOW on the Poncha Pass Lek, and will accompany me on June 11. She recently attended the 2nd Gunnison Sage-Grouse Summit in Montrose, CO, and is interested in next steps for the Saguache County Working Group.
- May 24-25 Assisted Museum and Library benefit activities at the Memorial Day festivities, as a ScSEED volunteer.
- June 1 Prepared a County Ad draft for the 08 Saguache County Guide, for review/revision today. The Museum was also invited to submit materials, and Joseph is assisting in providing an ad and photos. Money should come out of Tourism funds, shortfalls to be discussed. Next year efforts may be combined for a valley-wide guide.
- June 2 Attended Ceremony at Alamosa Solar Power Plant in Mosca for Bill-Signings by Governor Ritter.

Mike Spearman reported:

- May 20, attended MV COOP meeting.
- May 25 attended Memorial Parade and Museum Opening.
- May 28 attended dedication of the Sun Station.
- May 28 attended Mark Udall Function .
- June 2 attended Sun Edison solar plant function.

David Graham - Rio Grande Water Conservation:

- Follow up on information for Sub-District 1, assisting District in getting funds for the District. County assisting with getting the funds from the state for the district. Administration to contact Rio Grande Water Conservation to obtain minutes from meetings. Informed BOCC of Fly Catcher bird issue and discussed snow pack.

Spearman moved to approve sending a letter of support for CREP funds for the Conservation District. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Lynn Zimmer and Wendi Maez - CO-Administrators:

- Follow up on information for Sub-District 1, assisting District in getting funds for the District. County assisting with getting the funds from the state for the district. Administration to contact Rio Grande Water Conservation to obtain minutes from meetings. Informed BOCC of Fly Catcher bird issue and discussed snow pack.

Spearman moved to set the Housing Director salary. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Pay increase for housing director was not decided on at the last meeting. Board discussed the approval.
- Letter of response for the CDOT intersection letter and the county match. Moved to R&B time.
- BLM/FS requested a letter to propose entering into partnership with the BLM/FS to keep Big Springs Picnic Grounds and Storm King Campground open. Spearman to write the letter.
- Vendola Plumbing will be here sometime this week. Pete Garcia will have him look at the systems at DSS when they are here.
- Discussion on health insurance and rates for 2008/2009.
 - a. Premiums to increase \$ 46.00 Plan 1 or \$ 90.00 for Plan 2
 - b. Discussed email from County Treasurer regarding funding of the insurance. Asking the county to pick up \$ 23.00 per month per employee.
 - c. Discussed the difference in coverage between the 2 plans. Discussed the issue of the premium.
 - d. Discussed the additional spending due to the increase (\$13,000.00).
 - e. Discussed the renewal period of the insurance.
 - f. If BOCC does not cover the cost they cannot require employees to continue their plans. If employees drop their coverage the premiums will increase.
 - g. Decision must be made prior to June 30th. The amount must be taken out of the June Payroll.
 - h. Administration to contact Insurance company to see if they can adjust the renewal of the policy to the County's fiscal year.

- Discussion concerning the placement of executive sessions on the agenda – possibly at the beginning of the meeting? Try to have executive sessions at the beginning of the meetings.
- Sign County Building Maintenance Policy.
- Policy for the retention of records needs to be discussed and signed. Auditors have recommended current year plus 4 years, prior auditors recommended current year plus 7 years. We do not have a policy at this time. Administration to create a policy that states records be retained for 7 years.
- Susan Vogel the dental hygienist will come and look at the dental facility June 5th.
- County Attorney reviewed contract for Public Health.

Spearman motioned to approve Public Health Contract. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Items to be published for 6/10/08 work session meeting
 1. Oil & Gas Regulations
 2. Surface Owners Bill of Rights
 3. Continuance of Personnel Evaluation Forms, Joseph will prepare a memo for Dept. Heads, to be reviewed.

Break

Wendi Maez - Land Use Administrator:

- Reminded BOCC of the 8 am meeting time at the Forest Service office, for the all day Weed tour on June 12.
- Old Cow Town application - An adjoining landowner wants to do a conference all during the meeting. BOCC advised Maez to let the landowner know that the County does not have technology to accommodate. Advised commissioners of the length of time involved in this application. BOCC questioned if there were other comments opposing the Old Cow Town project.

Joseph motion to approve DOLA Grant for the Town of Crestone & County Master Plan. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- DOLA Grant signed by BOCC.
- Scoping letter for Mountain Tracts. The BOCC submitted comments earlier in the scoping process, and is satisfied with the previous comments.
- Discussed auctions for county owned lots in Lazy KV & Moffat. The County can only process one additional auction in addition to the annual tax sale. Lazy KV auction will take place July 22. The Moffat auction is next up in 2009. Discussed process lots that are sold. Need to get cost of what the cost will be for Quiet Title Process. Most cost effective process should be followed so Quiet Title fees are recouped.
- County OEM, Kimberly Bryant's Emergency and Temporary Housing documents will be added to the Oil & Gas Regulations as an appendix.

Ben Gibbons – Attorney report:

- Contract for WSB web and IT services was circulated for review. Joseph will review for technical details. The contract will be finalized on 6/10/08 during the Attorney report. Will forward an approved contract for signing to WSB after review.
- Attendance at Oil & Gas hearings. Agendas forwarded to BOCC. Suggested that each BOCC decided where they want to participate. 4 hour web cast of 5/22 meeting available for review. Set to make statement regarding Emergency. 6/23 opening statements 1.5 hours available per county for statements. For the hearing on June 23, 2008, Statements might be made by the County Attorney; BOCC may not be required to be there. Rule No. 503 (Notice & Standing) 6/27, 7/1 NO 521 MOA (Memorandum of Local Governments), and 7/15 Safety Meeting, for which Joseph will testify. More information will be given next week for meetings on Oil & Gas Hearings.

Adjourned for lunch at 12:00 P.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1: 07 P.M.

Randal Arredondo – Supervisor Road & Bridge and Land fill report:

Spearman motioned to approve IGA from Center. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- IGA for road work from the Town of Center to be signed by BOCC

Pace made motion to approve funding 31% of the estimated cost of the Hwy 17 Road project. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Discussed proposal from CDOT regarding turn lane at the junction of County Road T & Hwy 17. Discussed applying for grants to fund. Discussed who will apply for the grant. Randy Arredondo stated that Road & Bridge would apply for the grant in the fall. Matching funds are requested and pledges improve applicants' scores.

Spearman moved to enter into Executive Session at 1:25 P. M. for personnel purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(i) and for legal purposes under CRS 24-6-402 (4)(b). Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Joseph moved to return to regular session at 1:30 P. M. Pace seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Jeannie Norris - Social Services Director:

- There were seven active TANF cases at the end of April, nine child-only cases and forty-five med-only and parent plus cases. There were 383 food stamp cases, 114 old-age pension recipients, and 24 aid-to-the-needy-disabled cases.
- Cheers/Blue Horizon has four TANF clients who require training. The facility continues to produce valuable income which is transferred on a monthly basis for deposit with Saguache County.
- The Child Protection Unit had 16 referrals during the month of April, all of which were accepted for investigation. The Unit has 8 open dependency and neglect court cases and 13 children in placement. The Unit continues to monitor 54 open child protection cases. There are five open adult protection cases, with 2 new referrals, five assessments and four cases having been closed. Susie Jordan, Julie Westerman and Norris attended the Summit on Children, Youth and Families last week in Keystone. We had invaluable sessions with Judges Kuenhold and Swift, and County Judge Pearson. A team has been created for each Judicial District, and the 12th District includes Directors, attorneys, guardians-ad-lidem, and caseworkers. We were privileged to have work sessions and fruitful discussion of cooperative goals, and established a regular meeting schedule to compile a listing of shared resources. This was indeed a groundbreaking session, and we were gratified to receive active input and direction from our Judges.
- Directors met in several sessions to discuss the TANF funding issue and how we might better utilize blended funding sources to achieve our goals and maximize the resources available.
- LEAP season has ended, and effective April 29, our office had issued \$418,904.93 in fuel payments and repairs to heating units. Payments were made for heating assistance to 563 Saguache County households.
- The Child Support Unit caseload remains steady, with an increase of one case to 447. The technicians are at the annual Family Support Conference this week. The State provides the majority of training offered for the year at this event.

Pace motioned to approve Notice of Cancellation of Contract with Red Willow. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- The SLV Directors will be meeting on June 16 to consider the transportation contract, and hopefully we will have a document for your consideration after that session. As a matter of process, the existing contract with Red Willow

needs to be cancelled. Red Willow will respond to the RFP for the new contract.

- Alamosa, Conejos, Rio Grande and Saguache Counties will jointly sponsor a “Foster Parent Appreciation Celebration” on Saturday, June 7 at Inn of the Rio Grande.
- Norris and Director Newsom attended the certification training for public information officers entitled “When Colorado Speaks, the World Listens”. We worked together with fire departments, law enforcement agencies, medical departments and State agencies. Hopefully, we will never have a critical incident requiring these skills, but we brought valuable information back for use within our departments. Most useful were the opportunities for shared resources that we discovered during the sessions that will benefit our departments, and Saguache County.

Andrew Archuleta – U. S. Forest Service/Bureau of Land Management:

- DOLA Grant signed by BOCC
- Reminder of noxious weed tour start 8:00 am @ Saguache F/S Office, June 12
- Anderson Ditch - approval from Washington to add to the land trade.
- Questions for BOCC about road 5300. No decision made at this time. Archuleta explained that in order for the residents to have year-round road access, they must apply for a right of way grant. Once they file the right of way grant permit and they get approval, they then have to take the responsibility of maintaining the road beyond the agency’s 5 yr maintenance schedule. The cost of the right of way grant permit is \$150-\$200; the annual renewal fee is \$50-\$100. If a homeowners association existed the fee would be paid once. Many of the responses that Archuleta has received back are from property owners that do not live here and didn’t care either way if the road was closed or not. Road is back up to a maintainable level. No legal action was taken for the damages that were caused. But will be taken in the future if damage is caused again.
- Randy Arredondo was brought back to the meeting to discuss the matter of road 5300.
- Road Closures are based on conditions.
- BLM Travel Management will be coming out with first decision on the EA after comments have been addressed.
- Cow Town update - concerns of intent. Trail Rides require a special use permit and no such permit has been acquired. Watershed is a concern. Concerned with information that has been provided. Does not have rights for a commercial use. Water will have to be augmented. Wendi stated that Myron was going to bring water from another location (augmenting process). Business sounds like a business worth trying but does have concerns. Have received a few calls from adjacent landowners. Will contact Myron for clarification on the use.
- Liberty Gate and the parking lot. Has received several calls on this. Once the Forest Service road and parking lot are available for hiker and equestrian

access inside the Park, the Liberty gate will be used for foot access only, and the enlarged, temporary parking area near Liberty Gate will be removed.

- Timber sale going on in McClintock Gulch Beetle Kill area.
- Controlled Burn was done at Mill Creek. Pretty much done with the controlled burns in this area. Was anyone in our area notified of the burns? If they are notified this could assist with the comfort level of the residents locally.
- Discussed cooperating agencies policies. Discussed the letter from Sally Wisely, BLM State Director, inviting the County to become a cooperating agency in a national solar EIA, and suggested joining efforts with the SLV Public Lands Center. The BOCC should respond to Dan Dallas, to discuss further.

Break

Personnel Evaluation forms discussion:

- Request Dept. Heads review their current job descriptions and make any changes that are necessary to update them, and them to April Quintana to be filed.
- The new personnel evaluation form for the BOCC to use with Dept. Heads was approved. The Goals page will be given to Dept Heads at their meeting June 30, 2008, with a BOCC request that they be completed. Sharing of goals would be a good exercise to keep Depts. informed of one another's efforts.
- Since Administration interacts with all Departments, comments from the Dept. Heads would be useful at evaluation time, as is done with the Maintenance Supervisor, who services County Depts.
- Discussed the Health Insurance issue further. Discussed employees dropping the insurance. Insurance committee has requested that the county pays \$23 dollars of the increase and the employees pay the remaining \$23.00. Admin needs to find out what the premium will be if the participation falls below 75% before any decision is made.

Bill paying

Spearman moved to adjourn at 4:00 P.M. Joseph seconded. The vote was three Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted

Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved June 10, 2008

Chairman of the Board

Attest

Commissioner

Commissioner