

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, March 17, 2009 with the following present:

Linda Joseph, Chair  
Mike Spearman, Co-Vice Chairman  
Sam Pace, Co-Vice Chairman  
Lyn Zimmer, Co-Administrator  
Melinda Myers, Secretary and Clerk to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chair Joseph at 9:00 A.M.

Under Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:

1. Sheriff Norris is at training in Albuquerque and will not be in to give his report.

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

Reading and approval of minutes

**Pace moved to approve the minutes of March 10, 2009. Spearman seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Review of Mail and other correspondence:

1. **State of Colorado Dept of Public Health** sent an important announcement that the March 18, 2009 public hearing meeting will be postponed until June 2009. (3/12/09)
2. **State of Colorado Board of Health** sent the Agenda for March 18, 2009 in Denver starting at 9am. (3/12/09)
3. **American Red Cross** wanted to thank the BOCC for the contribution gift, it is greatly appreciated. (3/12/09)
4. **United States Department of Agriculture** sent a letter seeking comments on a proposal to use prescribed fire & mechanical treatments to reduce the effects upon & susceptibility of forests to insect & disease outbreaks reduce the risk of large & damaging wildfires and to restore fire-adapted ecosystems. (3/11/09)
5. **White, Bear, Ankele Attorneys at Law** sent a letter regarding Baca Grande Water & Sanitation District payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) received by Saguache County from the United State Government. (3/13/09)
6. **Jim McCalpin** sent a letter on encouraging renewable energy projects in Saguache County. You can contact Jim at PO Box 1252 Crestone, Co 81131. (3/13/09)
7. **Jim McCalpin** sent a letter regarding an incident with a Saguache County Sheriff Deputy. (3/13/09)

**Pace moved to publish the request from Moonglow Enterprises for Title III funds. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

8. **Daniel Johnson with Moonglow Enterprises** sent a proposal for reducing the dangers and damages due to wildfires in Western Saguache County. (3/16/09)
9. **Rio Grande Water Conservation District** sent the March 2009 ground water table. (3/16/09)
10. **State of Colorado Public Health Environment** sent a letter to Ms. Diana Allen regarding Hazardous Materials & Waste Management informing her that Specialty Investors, LTD & D Allen Enterprises have failed to comply with the requirements. (3/16/09)
11. **Upper Gunnison River Water Conservation District** sent the Agenda for the Board of Directors on March 23, 09 at 234 North Main St suite 3B, Gunnison starting 6:30 pm. (3/16/09)
12. **Twyla Walker** sent a letter of interest in being part of the tourism council. (3/16/09) Administration will send reply letter. Tourism Council will get together an ad for new members and check on procedures to appointing new members.

**Introduction of Guests:** Matie Bell Lakish - Crestone Eagle; Matt Hilder – Pueblo Chieftain; Teresa Bennis – Center Post Dispatch; Erin Minks – John Salazar rep; Charlotte Bobicki – US Senator Bennet rep; Ron Brink – CO Farm Bureau; Ken Anderson – Farmers Union; Ceal Smith, June Savage, Marty Mitchell and May Enquist - WPC; Kelsey Hauch; Marge Hoglin; Lindy McDaniel; Annie Nielsen; Don Geddes; Bill McClure – Town of Center Clerk; Kathryn Van Note; Kate Vasha; Rick Banders; Lisa Cyriacks - CBPC; Jeff Shook – Planning Commission; Cathleen Ochs; Jim Dawson, Kristy Murphy and Charlie Richmond – USFS; Gene Lietzau and Arden Anderson - BLM.

#### Commissioners Reports

##### **Sam Pace** reported:

- March 11- Attended the Alcohol Prevention meeting at the Moffat School.
- March 13 – Attended the CCI Steering Committee and to lobby against the passage of SB-1250.
- March 16 – Attended SLV Commissioner Meeting. Sometime in April commercial bus service to the SLV will end.
- Received a letter from Elaine Woodard regarding the library.

##### **Linda Joseph** reported:

- March 12 - Attended the San Luis Valley Energy Forum in Alamosa, Colorado, along with Co-Administrator Maez.
- March 13 - Had correspondence seeking a letter of support for a project, Processing of Biochar and Bio-Oil from Bio-Mass, which was forwarded for the Board's review, from: Mary Michels, District Manager, and Rio Grande Conservation District.
- Clarified that the \$2,500 check received from SLV Development Resources Group, was for the targeted industry biomass project, to be coordinated by ScSEED. The steering committee has been formed, and will meet on April 1.
- March 16 - Attended the SLV County Commissioner Association meeting.
- Received a letter from Elaine Woodard regarding the library.

##### **Mike Spearman** reported:

- March 10 – Attended ICS training at Moffat School.

- March 12 – Rules and Regulations regarding wells in the SLV meeting of the State Division of Water Resources.
- March 16 – Attended SLV Commissioner Meeting. Transit Authority is ready to move forward, the agreement has been signed by all counties.
- March 15 – Attended at the Crestone Charter School a meeting for initial planning and for community input on applying for BEST funding.

**Lynn Zimmer and Wendi Maez – Co-administrator report:**

- Received a fax from Costilla County regarding an IGA with Conejos & Costilla County.
- A review of Family Medical Leave Act has been received from CTSI and forwarded to Mr. Gibbons for his review. We will follow up on this in April.
- On the March 3, 2009 meeting it was brought to the Boards attention that nursing has not paid the administration fees billed. Nursing is short on funds, but we just wanted to apprise you of this. On the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting it was recommended by Chair Joseph that a transfer be done, but after reviewing that possibility, it would lead back to the issue that the auditors wanted the county to get away from transferring funds, but would rather see a billing. Administration would like to know how you the board would like to see us go. Transfer of funds monthly or continue billing as we are currently.
- Financial reports have been given to you for your review. General Fund is at 19.6% Revenue and 16% Expenditures, Road & Bridge is at 53% of Revenue and 11% of Expenditures, Library is at 27.7% of Revenue and 14% of Expenditures, Nursing is at 15.6% Revenue and 20% of Expenditures, and Social Services is at 11.7% of Revenue and 9% of Expenditures. (Social Services reporting of Assistant Payments run in a one month lag due to state reporting to the counties.)
- William Saunders has withdrawn his appeal to the State Board of Abatement.
- The letter to Colorado Division of Wildlife stating notice of intent to nominate DAU E-41 and E-43(GMU's 54, 55, and 551) for Total Limited Elk Licensing was signed.

**Wendi Maez - Land Use Administrator report:**

**Pace moved to approve Lot Consolidation for Terry Kennon on Baca Grande Mobile Home Estates, Lots 372, 373 and 374. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Lot Consolidation request for Terry Kennon, Baca Grande Mobile Home Estates Lots 372, 373 and 374. CBPC recommended approval of this request at their regular meeting on March 11, 2009.

**Spearman moved to use the Guidelines and Regulations for Areas and Activities of State Interest of the County of Saguache, State of Colorado (1041) – Adopted September 28, 1990, including Chapter 13: Regulations for Site Selection and Construction of Major Facilities of a Public Utility on solar energy facilities applications above the 50 Megawatt level until adoption of an alternate procedure. Pace seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- . Discussion of use of Solar Facility Regulations vs. 1041 Permit Regulations. Board expressed their support for renewable energy in general and solar specifically and do not want to hinder development with onerous regulation, but at the same time protect the county regarding impacts of large scale development.

**Bill McClure** - Center Town Clerk:

- Presented the Town newsletter, which outlined the outcome of the audits. McClure made a proposal to get 50% return on the interest earned on the funds held by the County. Treasurer Trujillo voiced concerns about setting a precedent on other funds being held by the County.
- Center received a Conservation Trust Grant in 2008 for Community Park. The County was set to resurface the parking lot as part of that and McClure would like to see that work happen soon so they could close out the grant.

**Mike Norris** – Sheriff report postponed to next month.

Adjourned for Lunch at 12:00 P. M.

Resumed meeting at 1:00 P. M.

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

**Spearman moved to enter into Executive Session at 1:00 P. M. for personnel purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(i) and for legal purposes under CRS 24-6-402 (4)(b). Pace seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Spearman moved to return to regular session at 1:19 P. M. Pace seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Met with Steve Harrel from Baca Grande Water and Sanitation District about concerns by their lawyer that they would not be able to retain the rights to their pipes in the County road right of way. Arredondo will send a letter assuring the BGWS the ownership of their infrastructure.
- Contract with Dillon Construction Company for gravel crushing was signed.
- Sold the old hot plant for \$50,000 to Las Vegas, NM less 10% commission.
- Will research the Center Conservation Trust grant as to what work the County had agreed to do on the Park parking lot.
- Arredondo will be out of town for a week.
- Spearman mentioned that quite a few stop signs in the Crestone area had some stickers on them. Arredondo said the Road and Bridge staff scrape them off when ever they see them.

**Donna Newsom - Nursing Director:**

- Senate Bill 194 the Colorado Public Health Reauthorization Act was signed into law in 2008. The law stipulates that counties will by resolution establish a county public health agency or participate in a district public health agency by July 1, 2009. Saguache County Nursing Service is the legal description utilized by the contract department at CDPHE. In order for our contracts due to come out in April and May 2009, by resolution the name change to “Saguache County Public Health” needs to be completed as soon as possible. The Saguache County Board of County Commissioners’ can remain serving as the Board of Health and do not need to name a new Board of Health until such a time they should choose to do so. This alternative in the law is offered to counties with less than 100,000 people if they have historically had the board of commissioners serving as the board of health. The remaining items that require resolution can be completed prior to the July 2009 deadline. This includes the naming of a Public Health Director and Medical Officer. The Director of Public Health will be meeting with district and state leaders to assist Saguache County in determining our options for Public Health under the new law.
- The wellness departments’ arthritis classes will start on April 14th at the public health office. The announcement has been posted in the newspapers and flyers will be placed. Two staff members obtained scholarship funds to be certified in the Colorado State University “Strong People, Strong Bones” program. These classes will begin in April as well and will be offered to men and women. These classes meet three times per week.
- Staff received scholarship funding to attend the two day Colorado Physical Exercise and Nutrition Program regarding fighting childhood obesity in Colorado. This will be a focus in the county along with the chronic disease program. SCPH has given a stipend to support a nutrition expert participation in a Wellness Day at Mountain Valley on May 7.
- The Director has been meeting with a regional TB task force in order to be more prepared for potential TB cases coming for the growing season. Mitch Garcia has been most helpful in keeping us informed about the new laws etc pertaining to migrant workers.
- The PCP Agency is prepared for an audit from Medicaid should they come in April. Every chart audit is completed and all clients have been contacted and surveyed. The agency will apply for licensure prior to 2010. We have started this process and will be monitoring any changes/rules that relate to SB153.
- Director attended a regional Colorado Prevention Partners meeting in Alamosa last week. Saguache County was well represented by Director of Social Services, Public Health and Center Schools. The emphasis in the meeting was preparation for working together regionally on mutually beneficial projects.
- SCPH will begin hosting monthly educational programs within the county called “Lunch and Learn”. These will focus on wellness and prevention topics. The March meeting will be offered to the county employees discussing the benefits of colorectal screening to prevent colon cancer.
- PH Director is hosting an in-service for the social service staff in order to educate them on services provided within the county.

- Epidemiology Report: Influenza is wide spread within Colorado and the SLV. SCPH is still offering flu shots in Center and Saguache clinics.
- An outbreak of chicken pox has occurred in Center elementary schools and Headstart. An investigation is ongoing and the children have been taken out of class. A letter was sent out to all schools and parents. The outbreak occurred in non immunized individuals.
- SCPH continues to receive notices daily from FDA regarding the nationwide peanut recall. We have no reports of salmonella in the SLV related to peanuts and all retail establishments are monitoring their stock.

**Penny Bruce** - Library Administrator:

Programs:

- Beginning next week, the children enrolled in Little Learners daycare, which is housed in the Headstart building, will be joining us for the weekly story hour, which will dramatically increase attendance. We welcome this opportunity to connect more (and even younger) children with the Library and its great resources for kids.
- Computer classes taught by the Adams State Library staff have continued and we hosted 6 more in Feb. and March, all but one class having maximum attendance. The topics have included digital photography, email, and Internet access, and they will continue as long as there is community interest.
- After the success of our Open House in February, the Friends of the Library chose to host a similar event every month, calling them Fourth Friday Celebrations. Our next event will be Mar. 27, from 6-8pm and plans include entertainment by a local Celtic performer, refreshments, and an opportunity to step up to the “open mike” and share music, poetry, comedy or other talents.
- Our volunteer tax adviser has had people waiting in line every week and will continue to offer his services until the tax deadline. Once again, the new computers at the Library have proven their worth, as we’re able to download any required forms from the state and federal websites as needed (quickly!).
- The Saguache Community Garden committee continues to use the Library for their meetings. This month, Bruce volunteered to be a judge in their logo design contest and helped pick the winner among lots of creative entries.
- Every third Wednesday of the month, in its role as an active partner in the Saguache Town Revitalization, the Library is hosting a brown bag lunch for those wanting to network about small business ownership, as well as providing a venue for Donna Wehe to share business advice one-on-one with interested locals.
- We have begun preparations for this year’s Summer Reading Program for children, which will have the theme “Get Creative@Your Library” and will feature programs about art, music, and poetry as well as more hands-on gardening. We hope to add a third raised bed to the Library garden in time for planting, and have located a source that will donate seeds.

#### Fund-raising:

- The Friends of the Library have donated \$500 toward the cost of the Summer Reading Program which was deposited with the County Treasurer using a new spreadsheet that will allow all to track how and when these funds are used. Reading prizes have already been ordered using this money.
- Saguache Library was awarded the Libri grant, which provides \$1,500 to buy new children's and young adults' books, once the Friends supply the matching funds. The group plans to use the money raised at this year's Memorial Day celebration for this purpose. No money will pass through the County with this grant, but it means that more of our budgeted program and book funding can be used for other things.
- The Library's grant proposals to the ICMA and the Anschutz Foundation were both denied. Bruce spoke with a representative from Anschutz, as a follow-up, and was told that our application was not at fault, but the requests for funds have grown while the money available has decreased, forcing them to reject even some worthy applications.
- Grant writer Kim Smoyer has assisted us in applying for a grant from the Daniels Fund, which was mailed out last Thursday, and we're hoping for more success with this one.
- Friends co-chair, Marge Hoglin, accompanied Bruce and Mondragon on a visit to the Carnegie Library in Monte Vista to meet with Carol Lee Dugan and discuss library issues. The meeting was very informative, as their library has continued to thrive, more than doubling in size and constructing a new branch in South Fork. Among her many helpful suggestions was the creation of a mill levy to provide the library with money for basic operations, and the Friends has started investigating what this process would entail. We hope to continue making visits to neighboring libraries, Center and Crestone being next on our list.

#### Other News

- The Department of Education requires the Library to submit an annual report detailing all of our operations and staff has just submitted this on-line and on time, a big project that we're always glad to complete.
- On Saturday, Mar.6, after closing, we invited any interested patrons to come to the Library to learn how to run the basic operations, should the need arise. Four volunteers showed up and each received a printed hand-out to keep, which details how to open and close the building and do the basic checking in and out of books. Bruce walked everyone through the procedures until they felt comfortable taking the responsibility of operating solo and now there is even less reason for the Library to be closed, even if both staff members are unavailable.
- Bruce and Mondragon both attended the latest quarterly meeting of County department heads. The group focused on discussing our stated goals for each

department and we were proud to point out that our department had already met a majority of the goals we had set ourselves for the year.

Break

**Pace moved to convene as the Housing Board at 2:40 P.M. Joseph seconded. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to adjourn the Housing Board and return to regular meeting at 3:10 P.M. Joseph seconded. The vote was three Ayes.**

Arden Anderson – BLM Gunnison District Office

- Gunnison Basin Travel Management Draft EIS was presented. The options for the plan differed in percentage of roads closed and designated for each use. Many of the wildcat routes created by rouge ATV operators will be closed, but with many other appropriate areas specifically designed for ATV recreation.

**Pace moved to adjourn at 4:30 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved April 7, 2009

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Chairman of the Board

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Attest

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Commissioner

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Commissioner