

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, September 1, 2009 with the following present:

Linda Joseph, Chair
Mike Spearman, Co-Vice Chairman
Sam Pace, Co-Vice Chairman
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney
Wendi Maez, Co-Administrator
Lyn Zimmer, Co-Administrator
Melinda Myers, Secretary and Clerk to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chair Joseph at 9:01 A.M.

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.

1. Bids for the sidewalks at Blue Waters Housing.
2. Review solar guidelines under Land Use.

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

Reading and approval of minutes of August 18, 2009.

Pace moved to approve the minutes of August 18, 2009. Spearman seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Review of Mail and other correspondence:

1. Rio Grande Water Conservation District sent the August 2009 Ground water table Measurements. (8/24/09)
2. Akia Tanara with the Town of Crestone sent a letter asking if there are any available funds remaining in the Conservation Trust Fund for tree planting at the Crestone Park. (8/21/09)
3. The State of Colorado Department of Transportation sent an Invitation from the CDOT & the Colorado Coordinating Council for Human Services Transportation for the announcement of the release Notice of Funding Availability. (8/24/09)
4. San Luis Valley Fair Board sent copies of receipts for materials & labor and is requesting supply fund reimbursements. (8/26/09)
5. Gunnison Conservation District sent the summer 2009 vol. XX no.3 Newsletter on the Conservation Stewardship Program Sign up Announced. (8/27/09)
6. SLV Fair Board and Kids sent a thank you card for the BOCC for all the support and contributions for their new rabbit cages. (8/31/09)
7. Mike Horan sent a letter concerning the grading of County Roads 64 & 65 Bladed and also getting New Solar National Grid Intertied Power Stations. (9/1/09) Electronically sent
8. San Luis Valley Citizens Alliance sent a letter on Baca National Wildlife Refuge for Hearing on APDs for Wells #5 and #7. (9/1/09) Electronically sent.

9. Email correspondence from Lisa Cyriacks providing SLVCA updates on their activities addressing the CO Oil & Gas Conservation Commission.

Introduction of Guests: Matie Belle Lakish – Crestone Eagle; Jason Davidson – Town of Moffat; Dean Maes; Nicholas Easley; Mark Lewis Allen – Verizon Wireless; Steve Parker –CDOT;

Commissioners Reports:

Linda Joseph reported:

- August 19 - Attended a preliminary focus group for businesses to discuss creating a Local Currency, hosted by Saguache County Credit Union and ScSEED.
- August 21 - Attended the CCI Southern District meeting in Walsenburg with Commissioner Pace.
- August 22 - Attended a neighborhood barbeque to introduce Orient Land Trust Executive Director, and upcoming OLT plans.
- August 25 - Attended the monthly Villa Grove Area Merchants Association gathering and potluck.
- August 28 - Met with Public Health Director Donna Newsom and interviewed two candidates for her successor in this position.
- Attended a road tour of 38EE with Pace, Maez, Arredondo and Lynn and Virginia Sutherland, to discuss solutions for erosions and road maintenance issues, and their plans to move their fence.
- August 29, 30 - Attended the San Luis Valley Energy Fair, assisting with the Local Currency information booth, and attending sessions including that of Jason Anderson, Saguache County's Energy Auditor, and a demonstration of the County's new audit equipment at the Black Bear Cafe in Crestone.
- Received questions and concerns from citizens unclear about the County's actions with regard to solar regulation, raised by a front page article in the Crestone Eagle. Joseph worked with Editor Kizzen Laki to provide details to better inform readers.
- Received a call from Vince Palermo who with Mary attended the sessions at the Energy Fair presented by Tessera on their solar technologies. After asking many questions at that session, the Palermos wished to express their favorable impression of the company and proposed technologies.
- August 31 - Worked with Emergency Manager Kimberley Bryant on the updated Job Description for her position. And with Kimberley and Sandia Belgrade, on the grant application for State EMTS funds for OEM support for plans, training and exercises for local providers.
- Received a call from Lisa Cyriacks inquiring about the possibility of the COGCC visit. Cyriacks presented comments before the COGCC meeting held in Trinidad in August, and will forward latest correspondence for our information.
- Received and forwarded other mail received on Land Use and Road & Bridge issues.

Sam Pace reported:

- August 19- Attended State Board of Human Services training and budget briefing in Denver.
- August 21- CCI Southern District Meeting in Walsenburg.

- August 24 - Regional planning meeting with CDOT in Alamosa. Greyhound will be canceling bus service in the San Luis Valley on September 14, 2009. Other options are being looked into.
- August 28 - Public Health Director interviews and Road inspection tour in Saguache.
- August 28 & 29 - SLV Energy Fair in Crestone.
- August 31 - Tessera Solar open house in Saguache

Mike Spearman reported:

- Attended several water issue meetings, Rules committee meeting on Thursday
- Worked with Samora from Housing Department concerning bids for the sidewalks.
- August 27 - Attended a meeting of Valley Commissioners with Secretary of Interior, Ken Salazar. Salazar recommitted to the Northern Access road into the Sand Dunes Park. Also he is proposing a large public land buy to preserve from the Sand Dunes into New Mexico.

Pace moved to convene as the Housing Board at 9:53 A.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Bids for sidewalks at the Blue Waters Apartments were discussed.

Joseph moved to adjourn the Housing Board and return to regular meeting at 9:56 A.M. Pace seconded. The vote was three Ayes.

Lyn Zimmer and Wendi Maez – Co-administrator report:

- Jackie Stephens – Preliminary County Abstract has been completed and sent to the state.
- Assessor Stephens mentioned that the taxable value of property with solar facilities will be set by the State and on the amount of energy produced. This formula has yet to be finalized, but it should increase tax revenues to the County.
- The duty sheet for the Emergency Manager positions has been finished and posted. Several interested parties have picked up applications.

Break

Wendi Maez – Land Use Administrator report:

Pace moved to approve the Variance Request for Barbara Jones, landowner and Dean and Angela Maes, applicants for a 1984 mobile home on Tract 1 Antelope Meadows with recommendations from the Planning Commission. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was two Ayes and one Nay.

- Variance request for Barbara Jones, landowner, Dean and Angela Maes, applicant. This request is to place a 1984 mobile home on Tract 1 Antelope Meadows. The location of this request is just east of Lazy KV Estates on the north side of Co. Rd. CC. The applicant had to move this mobile home from Chaffee County in May 2009. The Board of County Commissioners gave approval to set the MH in Saguache County with the

stipulation that a variance application be applied for and approval given. If approval is not given the MH must be removed from Saguache County. The Saguache County Planning Commission recommended approval of this request as presented with a 5 year time limit to complete the project.

Pace moved to approve the Variance Request for Nicholas Easley for a remodeled mobile home on Tract 19 Gold Basin High Country Ranch with recommendations from the Planning Commission. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was two Ayes and one Nay.

- Variance request for Nicholas Easley – landowner, Tract 19 Gold Basin High Country Ranch. This is a violation request. When Easley brought this trailer into the county he understood that it was a semi trailer not a residence, therefore did not apply for a variance. The Gold Basin High Country Ranch Homeowners Assn. has expressed concerns for the time limit for the trailer to be changed to a residence. Saguache County PC recommended approval of this request with a 2 year time limit, with any State and County permits be approved within that 2 year time limit. Axels on the mobile home must be removed immediately.

Pace moved to approve the Conditional Use Permit Modification for Verizon Wireless for an upgrade of a 79 inch dish on their existing tower with recommendations from the Planning Commission. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Mark Lewis Allen – Modification CUP request. This request is to upgrade the existing Verizon Wireless tower located directly east of the Town of Saguache. This request will be to add a 79 inch microwave dish to the tower. Saguache County PC recommended approval of this request if the dish can be set on the pole so an additional carrier can place a dish on the existing pole.
- Richard Laurie made a motion that the policy concerning appointments to any Saguache County Planning Commission be either a property owner or a resident of Saguache County to be appointed to any planning commission. Appointments be varied to allow for property owners and renters. No board to be composed of all renters or property owners if possible. The existing rule is “A property owner or manager of a property within Saguache County.” Board asked for research on how other Counties set up their Planning Commission.
- The Solar Facilities Guidelines -language concerning permit process and wattage were clarified as previously approved, and posted.

Ben Gibbons – Attorney report:

- The Drenan property has not been cleaned up and the alleged buyer has not communicated with Attorney Gibbons or Maez. The court date of a hearing is Tuesday, September 1, 2009. Board decided to continue it for three weeks.
- Jamie Ireland has communicated with Attorney Gibbons and has approved the removal of the dead trees along County Road T at the entrance of the Baca Grande Subdivision by the Road Department.

- Presented an information packet from the Library for the Board to review. The options for the Board are to pass a resolution to create a Library District or require the proponents to bring in a petition to put the question of creation of a Library District on the 2010 ballot. The formation of a Library District would be one question and the request for funding through a mil levy would be a second question on the ballot.

Lowell Forbes sent correspondence on changing a name of a mountain to Padre Mountain. The Board's vote remains one Aye and two Nays.

Adjourned for Lunch at 12:00 P. M

Resumed meeting at 1:00 P. M.

Randal Arredondo – Supervisor Road & Bridge and Land fill:

- Presented spreadsheet on Title II and Title III allocations.
- Outlined projected equipment expenditures, and possible accusation of a gravel crusher.
- Jason Davidson, Moffat Town Trustee inquired about a ditch, Ron Briggs, a property owner has dug alongside the pavement on 5th Street and Lincoln in Moffat. The Town has complained several times to the Board to have it filled in. Arredondo has spoken to Mr. Briggs and informed him that the ditch would need to be on to his private land. Arredondo will get the ditch filled.
- Applied for additional funds for the North entrance access road to the National Park.
- Mr. Hollenbeck wants to lock gates on his property and does not understand that those are public roads. Arredondo instructed him to contact the Board to get clarification. The Board's position is that the gate should not be locked.
- FASTER funds will increase Road and Bridge fund by 19%. Arredondo has adjusted the R&B budget to reflect the changes.
- John Kinsley, the buyer has closed on the Drenan property in Villa Grove and the clean-up will be this weekend. Road and Bridge will bring trucks to help haul off the blight.

Jeannie Norris - Social Services Director:

- There were 13 active TANF cases during July, with 6 cases pending and 8 child-only cases. Food assistance cases climbed from 421 to 435. There were 28 aid-to-the-needy-disabled cases, and old age pension cases held steady at 107. The CHEERS training center has 8 TANF clients in the facility.
- The Child Protection Unit reported four new referrals in July, all of whom were accepted for investigation. There continue to be eleven children in placement; nine dependency and neglect court cases in progress, and there are 157 children in open cases. We now have two adults for whom we have guardianship.
- IV-D collections are down by four percent with yearly collections at \$292,332.88 as opposed to \$302,976.08 at the same time last year. Only two medium counties showed a small increased collection rate at this time. We will be pleased to see four percent hold up for the rest of the year.
- The San Luis Valley Directors combined to sponsor a training presented last week by the Butler Institute for Families at the University of Denver, concerning interviewing skills for caseworkers and law enforcement. The training was well attended by law

enforcement, caseworkers, and three directors. The attempt was to further cooperation between agencies that children do not have to be interviewed multiple times. Agencies in attendance learned what each need in order to accomplish their mission.

- The Governor's budget presentation to the Joint Budget Committee did not cut as deeply to Human Resources as initially feared. Employee reductions at the State level are severe, as are training programs. The annual Child Welfare/Judicial/Director to be held at Keystone next June is cancelled, as well as scheduled statewide trainings, and numerous smaller trainings. The CICP program, administered through Health Care Policy and Financing was significantly reduced. There were reductions to the child welfare program, although the impact seems more likely to be felt at closeout than a direct reduction to budgeted line items. County tax base relief remains intact at this point. We are requested by the Southeast Directors to lobby whenever we can for tax base relief to remain in effect. We have been conservative in budgeting, and already reduced several items. If we can maintain the current projections, Saguache County will continue to be able to serve our clients and care for our staff.

Steve Parker –CDOT:

- Presented the Region 5 Annual report.

Andrew Archuleta – USFS/BLM report:

- Secure Rural School/Resource Advisory Committee(RAC) choices have been sent to Washington. Could take months to come back, in the mean time USFS/BLM continues to work on setting up the RAC.
- North Crestone and Poso Campgrounds have been revamped and look good.
- Another blow down has occurred near Miner's Creek which will be put up for sale.
- Baca Mountain Track Agreement expected in a few weeks.
- Saguache County Road crews have been careful not to spread weed seed when grading roads. The BLM complemented Saguache on not spreading the weeds.
- Stone Cellar Cabin is available for rent.

Steve Sanchez – report on the Kerber Creek Restoration project:

- Presented a printed report including a list of the partnerships developed to do the clean-up.
- Mathew, the Americorps volunteer work on the clean-up was introduced.
- Many more tailing piles have been identified along the 19 mile stretch.
- Have hired several local contractors to complete some stages of the work, and is working with ScSEED as fiscal agent to access non-profit grants.

Break

Pace moved to convene as the Board of Health at 3:23 P. M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Pace moved to offer Della Vieira the job of Public Health Director, at current budgeted salary level through 2009, and with accrual of three weeks vacation per year. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Public Health Director hire discussion
- Term for the 2010 Public Health Director salary are agreed to be at the level stated in the 2010 budget.

Pace moved to adjourn the Board of Health and return to regular meeting at 3:50 P. M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Review of Solar Guidelines –

- Language was updated and Guideline ready to post on line.

Bill Paying

Pace moved to adjourn at 4:03 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved September 8, 2009

Chairman of the Board

Attest

Commissioner

Commissioner 