

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, October 2, 2012 with the following present:

Mike Spearman, Chair  
Sam Pace, Co-Vice Chair  
Linda Joseph, Co-Vice Chair  
Wendi Maez, Co-Administrator  
Lyn Lambert, Co-Administrator  
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney  
Staci Morfitt, Acting Secretary to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chair Spearman at 9:06 A.M.

**Employee Appreciation Presentation:**

1. Susie Jordan- 15 years of service with DSS
2. Jeanette Ewing- 5 years of service with Public Health
3. Jeanette Garcia- 10 years of service with Public Health

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

**Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:**

1. Randal Arredondo Road & Bridge Supervisor will be absent today.
2. Attorney Gibbons requested an executive session during the first part of his time. Attorney Gibbons will also be out of the meeting from 9:15 am to 10:00 am.
3. Clerk & Recorder Gomez will be in during Review of Mail to address #5.
4. Public Health report is attached with mail.

**Pace moved to approve the minutes of September 18, 2012 as amended. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Reading and approval of minutes of September 18, 2012:**

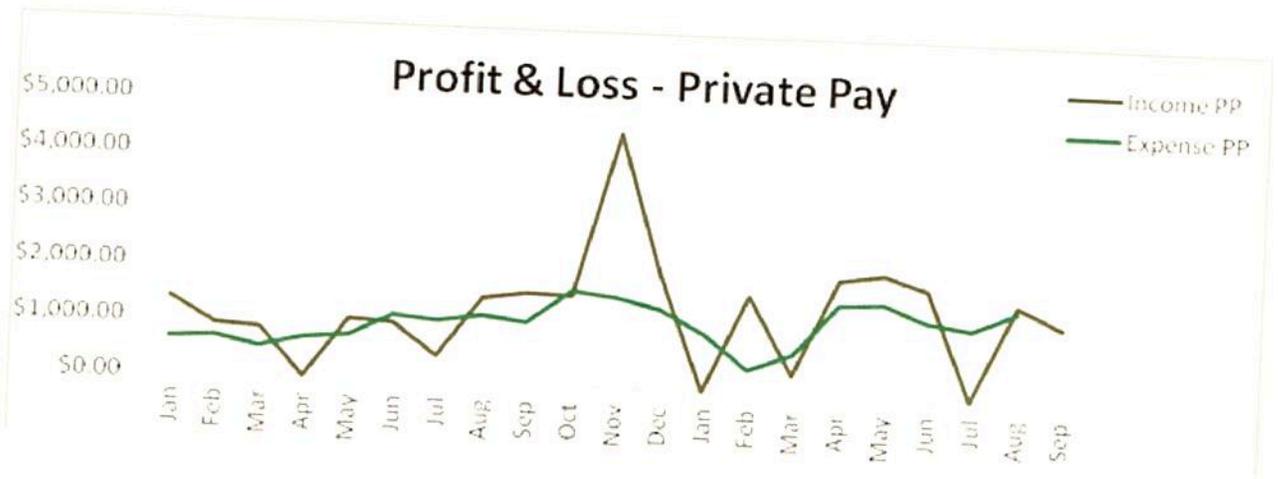
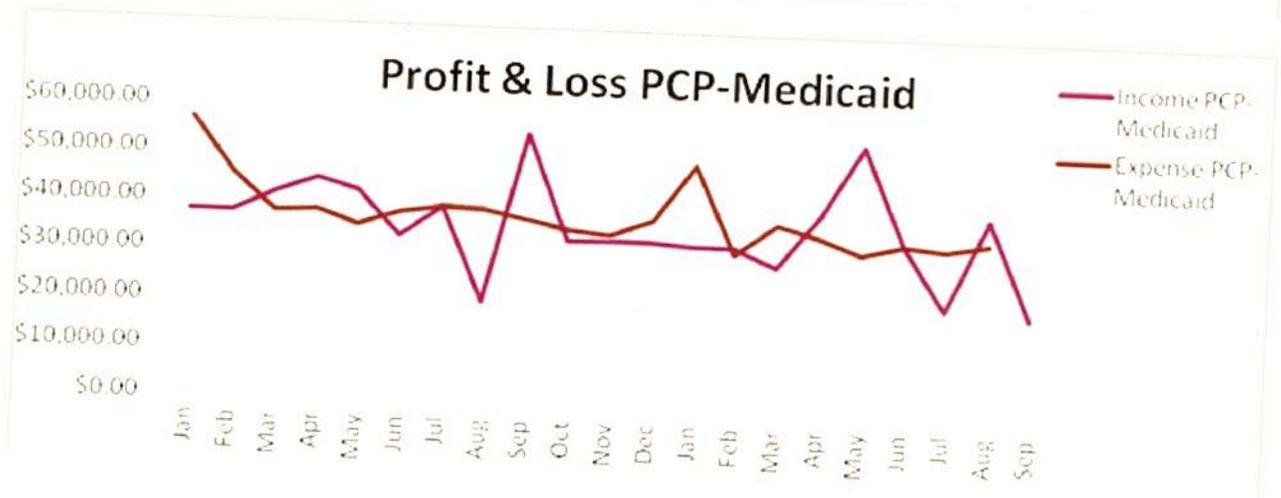
**Review of Mail and other correspondence:**

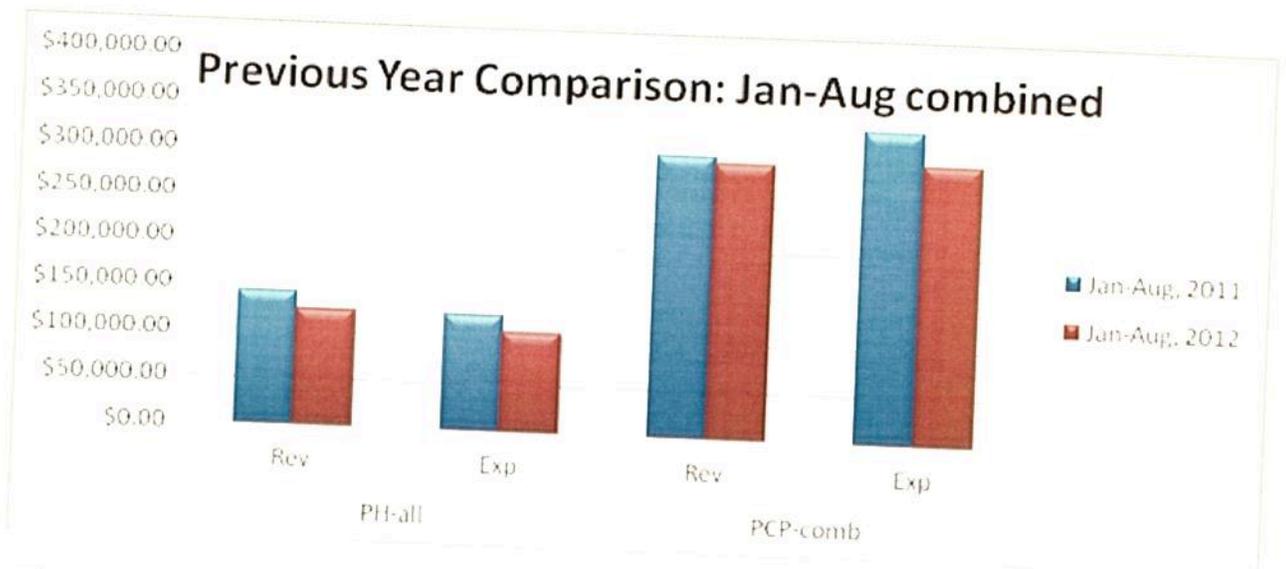
1. **The Fish & Wildlife Service** has released the Final Land Protection Plan for the Sangre De Cristo Conservation Area. Document may be found online at [www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/planning/lpp/co/sdc/sdc.html](http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/planning/lpp/co/sdc/sdc.html) (9/21/12)
2. **Colorado Counties, CCI** started a new Colorado Local Leasing Finance Program to help provide funding for lease purchase transactions often used by local governments to acquire vehicles, heavy equipment, etc. Applications for first deadline are due October 12, 2012 available at [www.coloradodfc.com](http://www.coloradodfc.com). (9/4/12)
3. **La Puente** sent the Fall 2012 Photo Journal Newsletter. (9/26/12)
4. **Charlette Bobicki**, with the SLV Regional Representatives office emailed a letter in regards to Bennet Grant Announcement; CSU Research Center in SLV wins USDA Grant. (9/27/12)

**Pace moved to approve Clerk Gomez to forgive the Crestone Fire Protection District Election Debt. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

5. **Crestone Fire Protection District** emailed a letter and Court order in regards to intent to file a plan for debt Election Debt forgiveness. (9/27/12) Clerk Gomez would like to forgive the debt.
6. **The Baca Grande POA** sent notice of the Annual Members Meeting to be held November 9, 2012. (10/1/12)
7. **The Center Headstart** sent an invitation to attend the dedication of the new childcare facility October 12, 2012 from 11-2. (10/1/2012)
8. **Public Health Admin. Report:**
  - a. Reminder that PH Director will be on vacation from 9/27/12-10/15/12.
  - b. Final 2013 budget and 2012 end-of-year estimates submitted to Administration 9/26/12.
  - c. PH Director attended annual CPHA conference 9/19-9/21, and received awards plaque for NACCHO recognition of Emergency Preparedness Plans.
  - d. One of two PH vehicles is in for repairs, at the cost of \$900; we expect diagnostics and possible repairs to the second vehicle later this month.
  2. Immunization.
    - a. Flu vaccinations have started, and will continue throughout the month of October. Most County employees who desire vaccine have received it, and PH Office Manager is working with Admin to bill CTSI directly for reimbursement. Several clinics have been scheduled in both Saguache and Center. PH has both adult and pediatric vaccine on hand, and the PH Nurse is conducting a community clinic at the Saguache Office today from 1:00-3:00pm.
    - b. SCPH conducted school immunizations at the Center School Open House on 9/19/12; we expect to hold a school-based clinic in September at Moffat School.
  3. Environmental Health.
    - a. PH is currently working on three reports/complaints, together with Land Use office. Wendi Maez should be available at this reading for updates and questions.
  4. Healthy Communities.
    - a. Information on health coverage enrollment was presented at the Center Schools Open House on Sept 19, and PH staff was on-hand to answer parents' questions regarding affordable healthcare options for their families.
  5. Prevention Partners Coalition.
    - a. Coalition members conducted their annual survey of parental attitudes toward substance use/abuse in their community at the Center Open House (25-30 surveys were done); surveys were also conducted at the Saguache Fall Festival (14 surveys were done).
  6. PCP Program.
    - a. As of 9/21/12, 39 clients have transferred from caseload to Ravenswood, 3 have opted for alternatives (Home Care Allowance or Private Pay arrangements).
    - b. Of the 39 who have transferred, half have had their PCPs transfer with them. The other half are either receiving Ravenswood PCPs, or their PCPs from Saguache County PH have not yet applied and been hired.
  7. Financial reports.
    - a. Full revenue & expenditure reports are available here for August; September only reflects revenues--expenditures have not been completed at this writing.
    - b. Note: PCP Medicaid revenues are lower than typical; this is in part due to a \$6,600 deposit that will not be registered until Friday – we may be seeing a shift downward toward our new

revenues for a Saguache County-only caseload. We should see further trends downward by our Nov. mtg.





**Introduction of Guests:**

Matie Belle Lakish- Crestone Eagle  
 Jason Anderson- self

Charlette Babicki- Sen. Bennet  
 Mark A. Swinney- BLM

**Public Comment:**

No public comment at this time.

**Commissioners Reports:**

**Mike Spearman** reported:

No report at this time.

**Linda Joseph** reported:

**Joseph moved to approve the AquaTar contract for water well testing and two monitoring wells at the Landfill. Pace seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

1. Sept. 21 - Met for a Landfill tour and meeting with Randy Arredondo, Davis Engineering reps and Eric Jacobs, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Mr. Jacobs subsequently provided details of the Landfill status and options and contacts for models in other counties.
2. Sept. 23 -Tourism Council follow-up re: orientation for new members; review of Council budget. Request on behalf of the Council for a Tourism grant stipend to research grant opportunities.
3. Sept. 25 - Consultation with Sean Caffrey, EMS System Development Coordinator, Dept. of Public Health & Environment, EMS Section on support for agencies in rural/frontier sectors.
4. Sept. 26 - Consultation with Commissioner Nancy Stuart, Grand County in preparation for bringing the issues and needs of Rural and Frontier Colorado regions before the State Emergency Medical & Trauma Advisory Council (SEMTAC) this week. Follow-up
5. Sept. 27 - Consultation with Jon Montano, SLV Regional Emergency & Trauma Advisory Council, to present the opportunity for a visit by Mr. Caffrey and or Ms. Bakehouse the Grants Program

Director, presenting a State Grants Workshop. This would be immediately preceding the regular RETAC meeting, Nov. 29, 2012.

6. Sept. 26, 27 - Attended Candidate Forums of County Commissioner candidates.
7. Completed and submitted: the comment letter for the Crestone Peak Community Alliance application for a USDA grant; letter to Senator Udall regarding features in Saguache County relevant to the creation of the SLV Historical Park; letter to the US Fish & Wildlife, regarding protective measures in Saguache County for the Gunnison Sage Grouse.

**Sam Pace reported:**

1. October 1<sup>st</sup>- talked with Todd Stewart, John Baxter/ Solar Garden, will touch more on this during Land Use time.

**Wendi Maez & Lyn Lambert– Co-administrator report:**

1. Christine Stodder will be in on Wednesday and Thursday to work with Lambert on audit adjustments etc.
2. Marge Hoglin and Lindy McDaniel were in to meet with Lambert last week concerning the possibility of the BOCC granting the Visitors Center monies from the Tourism funds. Lambert explained to them that they needed to apply for those funds through the Tourism Board.
3. NACO Prescription Drug Discount Card Program; no use of the card in August 2012. Average usage has been about 2 people a month.
4. Lambert will be meeting with the State and Center Head Start, on October 19<sup>th</sup> to go through the new building and paperwork to make sure everything is complete to finish the grant process.

Break

**Wendi Maez- Land Use Administrator:**

**Pace moved to approve the Conditional Use Modification request with the restrictions proposed by the Saguache County Planning Commission for GHG, LLC.. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

1. GHG, LLC – One acre within the E1/2 Lot 7 2-43-8  
Conditional Use Modification request for a second cultivation License and Kitchen license for infused products manufacturing.
  - a. This request is to add an additional grow location for a new store in Alamosa County and to add a license to manufacture infused products.
  - b. No comments received from adjoining landowners. An adjoining landowner attended the SCPC meeting and had no comments or concerns about the new request or the existing grow area.
  - c. Water will be hauled from the Town of Crestone as before.
  - d. SCPC recommended approval of this request with the provision that the Alamosa County application be given approval; in case that does not happen the additional grow area will not be needed. This was a unanimous vote.
2. I have received a CUP draft application from John Baxter/Solar Gardens for a 500kw solar garden located ¼ mile west of Hwy 285 on County Road T. The applicant and Solar Power Financial have requested a draft proposal review that needs a preliminary review approval before

October 15<sup>th</sup> due to financing from Xcel. They were advised that Land Use needed the application two weeks before the SCPC meeting for them to review but it was not received until September 27<sup>th</sup>; therefore the SCPC has not looked at the application yet. The Board did not see any indication of a "fatal flaw", based on preliminary information submitted. This does not guarantee approval of the full application if submitted. But, does reflect that the application has nothing to disqualify it from proceeding to full application.

**Pace moved to approve plan to start advertising for bids for tire clean up. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

3. Land Use needs to advertise for bids from State certified companies for the tire clean up.
4. Leach Airport update- Title Company is going back through the history of the property.

**Ben Gibbons**– County Attorney:

**Pace moved to enter into Executive Session at 10:45 A.M. for legal purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4) (b). Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to adjourn Executive Session and return to regular meeting at 11:05 A.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to enter into Executive Session at 11:23 A.M. for legal purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4) (b). Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to adjourn Executive Session and return to regular meeting at 11:40 A.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to approve the settlement agreement in the Marilyn Marks lawsuit for the following reasons: while the county's position is that it did its best at the time to comply with all CORA request it has come to our attention that some documents were not released and that due to recent court decisions in other where similar suits have been brought and won it is the best interest of the county to settle this matter at this time. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to set amount of \$100,000.00 to be processed by Administration and Treasurer. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

1. Discussion of policy on advertising and/or promotions in County job positions. All County employee positions are to be advertised. Continue discussion with Department Heads regarding staff levels, training, and promotion pathways. Definition of Contract staff, differentiating it from part time employee positions needed.

Lunch

**Pace moved to convene as Saguache County Social Services Board at 1:11 P.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Jeannie Norris- Social Services Director:**

1. There were 37 TANF cases for the month of August. Food assistance cases decreased by 22 cases, for a total of 647. This represents the first decrease in food assistance in over two years. There were 23 aid-to-the-needy-disabled cases, and 84 old age pension cases.
2. The Child and Adult Protection Unit had 13 referrals during August, 10 of which were accepted for investigation. The Unit has 5 children in placement, and currently has 38 open child protection cases. Adult protection did 3 assessments, closed 2 cases, and has 1 open case. There are 5 dependency and neglect cases in progress.
3. IV-D collections continue to lag slightly behind. Collections for the month total \$32,419, which is 8 percent below the same period for last year. Economic challenges are clearly the chief factor in these statistics, as intercepts together with downward modifications of child support orders are reflected in lower collections.
4. Luis Garcia from the State TANF division, and Mitchell McKee from State Accounting, met with SLV counties regarding the overall status of the program, as well as TANF funding and reserve issues. Congress has granted an extension for the program several times during the past few years rather than approving a new program, and has once again declined to reapprove TANF. A temporary six month extension was approved to move past election and into 2013 before approving the block grant. Mitch McKee was most helpful in examining how best to allocate year-end transfers, as well as going through the closeout process and explaining the order of State transfers which cure county program overages. They were also interested in hearing from counties what challenges we have, and how the closeout process might benefit county needs going forward.
5. Remodeling for the Center office is almost complete, and we expect to be settled within two weeks. DRC has scheduled a site visit for Thursday, and will then be able to move our computers so that staff can begin to work in the south side of the building. After the move is complete, the existing office space will be converted to meeting rooms so that representatives from TuCasa, LaGente, CSU Extension, etc. as well as our caseworkers will have confidential space to work with clients. Training space will be available as well.

**Joseph moved to adjourn as Saguache County Social Services Board at 1:30 P.M. Pace seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Public Lands:**

1. Geothermal Leasing Environmental assessment is complete. This will lead to a RMP (Resource Management Plan) amendment revision. No lease proposals at this time.
2. Solar EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) is complete. One site in Saguache County, decision on that site should come out this month.
3. In spite of the drought this year, weed control was very successful. Southwest Conservation Corp helped with weed control this year in various places around the County.
4. BLM only has 6 range permits. Not enough water or forge for full numbers of livestock. Forest Service permits were not able to put out full numbers. Drought is affecting springs, creeks, forge, and the number of permits and the number of livestock.

Break

Bill Paying

**Spearman moved to adjourn at 2:15 P.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

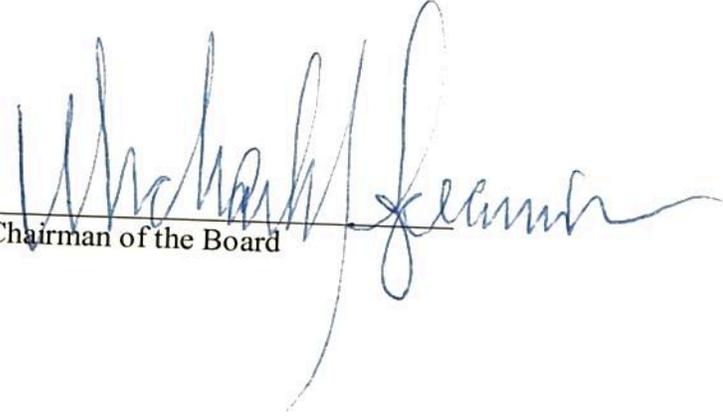
Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

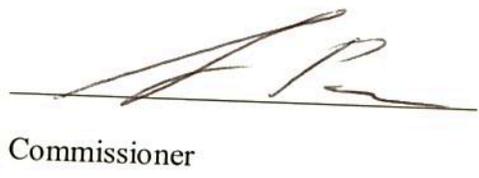
Staci Morfitt Acting Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

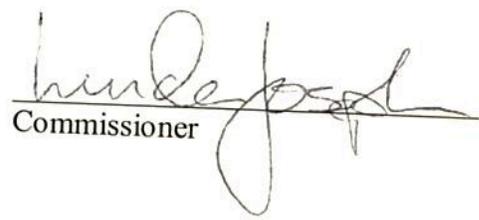
Minutes Approved October 15, 2012



  
Chairman of the Board

  
Attest

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner