

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, December 18, 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 9:09 A.M.

**Employee Appreciation:**

No employee anniversaries at this time.

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

**Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:**

1. Attorney Gibbons will need to leave meeting early today.

**Joseph moved to approve the minutes of December 4, 2012 as amended. Pace seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to approve the minutes of December 11, 2012 as amended. Spearman seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Reading and approval of minutes of December 4, 2012:**

**Reading and approval of minutes of December 11, 2012:**

**Review of Mail and other correspondence:**

1. **La Puente** sent the Winter 2012 Newsletter. (12/4/12)
2. **Saguache County Combined Courts** sent the Notice of Hearing Petition on the matter of the Crestone Fire Protection District. (12/5/12)
3. **Rio Grande Water Conservation District** sent the December 2012 Ground Water Table Measurements. (12/5/12)
4. **Saguache County Combined Courts** sent a certification of filing proof of publication of Notice of hearing petition for Dissolution for the Crestone Fire Protection District. (12/10/12)
5. **A Saguache County Employee** sent a letter in asking to reconsider Christmas Bonuses. (12/12/12)
6. **Rio Grande Drainage District** sent the 2013 Annual Budget. (12/12/12)
7. **Aileen Litwiller** sent an email that she is happy about the decision made for the salary increase. (12/12/12)

8. **Renee Hazard** delivered a letter to the BOCC that she would like her wage to be justified in 3 working days after the December 18, 2012 meeting. (12/13/12)
9. **Bill Allen** delivered a flyer in regards to Environmental & Economics Global warning. (12/14/12)

**Introduction of Guests:**

Matie Belle Lakish- Crestone Eagle  
Perry Hazard- Land Owner

Dom Spillane- Spillane Land Surveying  
Tim Lovato- Land Owner / Land Use

**Public Comment:**

1. Renee Hazard was present while BoCC discussed her letter. BoCC said it would take time to establish a policy where pay is set to a scale and merit is involved. Joseph stated that Administration is working on a pay scale policy draft that Dept. Heads will review at their first meeting in 2013. No timeline or deadline has been set until Dept. Heads have a chance to review the pay scale draft and advise the new BoCC.
2. Perry Hazard is against the BoCC adopting the 2012-G-7 for the Implementing Agreement for the San Luis Valley Habitat Conservation Plan and feels the BoCC should not be able to pick and choose who is affected by this. BoCC explained that the HCP serves as a Valley-wide permit that allows property owners to continue regular operations. Without this, individual property owners would be required to consult with USFWS to conduct such activities.

**Commissioners Report:**

**Mike Spearman** reported:

1. December 11- Attended the BoCC meeting and work session.
2. December 14- Attended the County Holiday Luncheon.
3. December 16 Attended an appreciate dinner in Alamosa for Sen. Schwartz.
4. December 17- Attended DRG meeting.
5. Working on preparing the final contract for signature on the Leach Airfield. Did an inventory of equipment and evaluation of improvements. Looked into the Airport water rights. Will require going to court to change the use of the water rights.

**Linda Joseph** reported:

1. December 10 – Attended a committee teleconference on the Organizational Structure of the SLV Trails Coalition.
2. December 11 – Attended the BoCC meeting and work session.
3. December 12 – Attended the Annual Holiday dinner of the Villa Grove Area Merchants Association (VGAMA).
4. December 13 – Met with Co-Administrators Maez and Lambert and Clerk Gomez regarding BoCC assistance and County web duty assignments.
5. Attended the County Tourism Council meeting.
6. December 14 – Attended the County Holiday Luncheon.
7. December 17 – Attended a committee meeting in Alamosa on the Organizational Structure of the SLV Trails Coalition.
8. Confirmed expected grant income with Jim Felmler, Emergency Manager regarding OEM revenues. And had an inquiry by Kimberley Bryant, regarding Commissioners DTR.

9. Prepared the comment letter on the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail reroute EA, submitted DEC 17.
10. Connected with Mike Wisdom, Susan Banning and Kairina Danforth regarding SLV Council of Governments appointments.
11. Worked with Land Use Director Maez and Jenny Nehring, Poncha Pass Sage Grouse Working Group Coordinator to complete a Gunnison Sage Grouse Local Government Survey for Colorado Parks & Wildlife.

**Sam Pace** reported:

1. December 7- Attended the State Board of Human Services meeting in Denver.
2. December 11- Attended the BoCC meeting and work session.
3. December 12 – Attended the Annual Holiday dinner of the Villa Grove Area Merchants Association (VGAMA).

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

1. Wendi Maez and Lyn Lambert met with Staci Proctor from the State Weatherization Program. Funding is being cut, we will still have a program however, and the Veterans Green Jobs will not be managing the program. The state will be doing a RFP for a nonprofit to manage the program. Proctor was here to meet with the other counties in the Valley for their input on who they believe may be able oversee this program for the San Luis Valley.

**Pace moved to approve the 2013 County Budget. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

2. Review and approve the 2013 County Budget. \$12,479,241.00 for 2013 Saguache County Budget.

**Pace moved to approve the 2013 Mill Levy Certification of Saguache County entities. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

3. Review and approve the 2013 Mill Levy Certification for Saguache County entities.

Break

**Wendi Maez** - Land Use Administrator:

**Pace moved to approve the bid for Mineral Hot Springs Estates Lots 3-6/25-31 Block 11 Area B received from Reginal D. Jensen in the amount of \$350.00. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to approve the bid for Mineral Hot Springs Estates Lots 18-22 Block 10 Area B received from Reginal D. Jensen in the amount of \$400.00. Pace seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to approve the bid for Mineral Hot Springs Estates Tract 1D4 received from Michael D. Royer in the amount of \$300.00. Pace seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to approve the bid for Mineral Hot Springs Estates Tract 9D1 received from Michael D. Royer in the amount of \$300.00. Pace seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to approve the bid for Mineral Hot Springs Estates Lot 28B2 received from Michael D, Royer in the amount of \$250.00. Pace seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to approve the bid for Mineral Hot Springs Estates Tract 1D2 received from Michael D. Royer in the amount of \$250.00. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to approve the bid for Mineral Hot Springs Estates 1D3 received from Michael D. Royer in the amount of \$250.00. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

1. Bid received for:
  - Mineral Hot Springs Estates Lots 3-6/25-31 Block 11 Area B
  - Mineral Hot Springs Estates Lots 18-22 Block 10 Area B
  - Mineral Hot Springs Estates Tract 1D4
  - Mineral Hot Springs Estates Tract 9D1
  - Mineral Hot Springs Estates Lot 28B2
  - Mineral Hot Springs Estates Tract 1D2
  - Mineral Hot Springs Estates Tract 1D3

**Pace moved to approve the Lot Consolidation request from Gerald A & Leanne O Carden for Lots 3422 and 3423C Baca Grande Chalets Unit Two. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

2. Gerald A. & Jeanne O. Carden – Lot Consolidation request to Consolidate Lots 3422 and 3423C, Baca Grande Chalets Unit Two. The CBPC recommended unanimous approval of this request at their regular meeting on December 5, 2012.

#### **Conservation Trust Requests:**

**Spearman moved to approve all the Conservation Trust Requests. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

1. Rio Grande County – Ski Hi Park Complex – to match GOCO grant request for construction of the pavilion, purchase of bleachers, panels and animal wash area. Request amount is \$3000.

2. Northern Saguache County Library District – to purchase and install a circulation desk, paint patch and repair main library room, in floor electrical, built in storage cupboards, bathroom revamp, and storage facility on grounds. Request amount is \$12,640.
3. Town of Moffat – Park upgrades drinking fountain, lighting restroom and park maintenance, sprinkler system for the park. Request amount \$10,000.
4. Town of Saguache – to purchase benches, picnic tables, playground equipment for Town parks and electrical and structural work on pavilion. Request amount \$6000.
5. Saguache County Museum – drinking fountain, fencing supplies for split rail fence, display case, standing display case, mannequins for display of WW1 and WW2 clothing. Request amount \$2600.00
6. Town of Crestone – replacement of three dead trees in Town parks, installation of weed barriers around 23 trees plus labor and materials, park maintenance. Request amount \$5,000.
7. Moffat Consolidated School District – to purchase BOGEN School Intercom System. This was a Sales Tax Grant that was moved to Conservation Trust Funds as the request is an approved expense for CT funds. Request amount is \$10,962.

All of the above requests are approved and can be funded through Conservation Trust funds.

The total amount requested is \$50,202.00 and the available amount at this time is \$46,088.00 and the estimated 2013 funding is \$32,000.00 additional funds.

Board approved the Administrators request that funds must be spent within one year time period.

**Mike Norris-** Sheriff report:  
No new report at this time

**Ben Gibbons-** County Attorney:

**Pace moved to approve the Resolution Adoption for the Habitat Conservation Plan. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

1. Resolution Adoption for the Habitat Conservation Plan. Tim Lovato addressed BoCC and stated that most people on the Planning Commission members Committee are not in favor of this Plan. Presented a letter from Rebie Hazard and stated that he and his wife would write a letter as well. Discussion between Tim Lovato, Perry Hazard and BoCC.

**Pace moved to approve the new Advertising and Hiring Policy. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

2. Advertising and Hiring Policy presented for BoCC to review.
3. Ron Briggs case still going on. CTSI is handling case; there was a hearing last week. Briggs is claiming property damage due to the approval of the Solar Reserve Project. It has gone from small claims court and is now at the County Judge. Ron Briggs is attempting to do a breach of contract claim, hearing set for February 23, 2013.
4. Mr. Hollenbeck has not applied to vacate the road under the past mitigation. Maez has sent the RS2477 road vacation application at the end of October to Mr. Hollenbeck and his attorney.

BoCC advised Attorney Gibbons to send another letter and application to Mr. Hollenbeck and his attorney.

**Joseph moved to convene as the Housing Authority Board at 10:57 A.M. Pace seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Evan Samora-Housing Director:

**Pace moved to return to regular session at 11:13 A.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

### **Northern Saguache County Library District:**

1. This past year, the two libraries of the Northern Saguache County Library District served over 29,000 visitors, offering public computer access; free Wi-Fi; free interlibrary loan services; VHS, DVD, book, audiobook cassette, audiobook CD, and large-print book checkouts; meeting space; LCD projector and screen checkouts; and copy, fax, scan, and print services. Additionally, next year the NSCLD will have a District Programming Specialist who will be offering children and adult programming in both Saguache and Crestone. An existing staff member is filling this position; no new position is being created.
2. At the January 28, 2012 Special Meeting, the NSCLD Board of Trustees created a mission statement and goals for the 2012 year.

Mission Statement: We enable the people of our community to pursue lifelong learning through our responsive collections, electronic resources, and innovative services. Our welcoming public libraries are cornerstones of our diverse communities where children and adults can experience personal enrichment and connect with one another.

Operating Principles: The District is guided by the principles of Public Librarianship, First Amendment Rights, and Colorado Statutes for Libraries and Special Districts.

We seek innovative ways to:

- Respond and reach out to serve the current and evolving information needs of our diverse community.
- Create a sense of community by providing a welcoming, inviting, secure environment for our public and staff.
- Provide excellent customer service that is both timely and confidential.
- Develop a well-trained, knowledgeable, courteous and professional staff.
- Communicate with our public and staff to ensure vital, relevant and effective library services.
- Manage our resources effectively and be accountable to our funding sources.

We celebrate our accomplishments, learn from our mistakes and take pride in serving our community.

Additionally, the NSCLD Board agreed to work through one of the Colorado Public Library Standards monthly in order to ascertain the NSCLD is meeting all Public Library requirements and is adopting key policies. This strategy worked well: in January through November the Board adopted or ratified 22 policies, resolutions, and statements. There is more work to be done, but the most important policies are now in place. In January 2013, the NSCLD Board will hold a special meeting to determine the strategy and goals for the year.

1. In 2012, the NSCLD received grants from several organizations.

- Saguache County Sales Tax Grant: \$7,500 to purchase all new staff and patron computers for the Baca Grande Library.
  - Anschutz Foundation: \$5,000 for general operating purposes. Part of this grant will purchase e-books for our patrons.
  - El Pomar: \$2,500 for technology upgrades throughout the District. This will purchase Barnes & Noble Nooks preloaded with content for the NSCLD patrons to check out.
  - Library People: \$500 for Summer Reading Program supplies.
  - Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA): \$9,840 to migrate all our information to a new cataloging service created in the state of Colorado. Aspen Cat is a union catalog, where the Libraries of the NSCLD will join 42 other Colorado Libraries in sharing our materials. It will increase patron borrowing options 21-fold. Additionally, patrons will be able to download 3M e-books to their e-reader devices through the NSCLD website.
  - Additionally, the NSCLD received the ERate grant, which paid for 80% of the telephone and Internet bills.
2. The libraries of the NSCLD have both experienced some challenges in the past year. The Baca Grande Library has felt the loss of Crestone Charter School being next door, and has seen numbers drop off a bit. The reality of being isolated four miles out of town has created a very dedicated group of library users who are willing to travel to use the Library's services, a fact that has been to the District's advantage: A core group of these patrons have formed a Friends of the Baca Grande Library to work with the District on moving the Baca Grande Library into town in the future. In the meantime, the NSCLD expects the addition of the brand-new patron computers will increase the door count.
  3. In January, a building inspector discovered damaged floor joists in the Saguache Public Library. The necessity of replacing floor joists created the impetus to do a face-lift on the entire Library. The Friends of the Saguache Public Library had been raising money for several months to replace the carpet in the Library, and it was decided that since the shelving would have to be removed to do the flooring, the Library could be rearranged into a user-friendlier setup. Additionally, the Friends of the Saguache Public Library received a \$10,000 grant from the Coors Foundation to renovate the Reading Room in the Library. This meant that all the furnishings (including the player piano and two barrister bookcases) and materials (player piano rolls, scrapbooks, book collections, hundreds of LPs) from that room have been temporarily stored in the Library's main room. Thanks to the efforts of the Friends of the Library, this room is complete with the exception of the new furnishings and shelves, which are being completed by a San Luis Valley builder. Once the room is complete, it will house the Colorado History collection and will serve as a meeting space for community organizations.
  4. Although it is not clear at this point what the County Sales Tax reappraisal process will mean financially for the NSCLD, the expectation is that once the reappraisal process is complete, the NSCLD will have room in the 2014 budget to further improve the libraries in the District for the good of all Saguache County residents.

Lunch

**Randy Arredondo-** Road and Bridge Supervisor report:

1. Proposal for the Town of Moffat IGA will be sent.
2. Water monitoring wells are in at Landfill.
3. Still comparing and investigating which new liner to install.
4. Aviation web sites state that Leach Airport has fuel available at the airport; Arredondo is trying to get it updated to state that Leach Airport does not have fuel.

**Pace moved to convene as Saguache County Social Services Board at 1:39 P.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Jeannie Norris- Social Services Director:**

1. TANF cases decreased in November from 37 to 33 cases. Food assistance cases dropped from 680 cases in October, to 669 in November. There continued to be 22 aid-to-the-needy-disabled cases, and old age pension cases rose once again from 90 to 93 for the month of November.
2. The Child and Adult Protection Unit had 19 referrals during November, 11 of which were accepted for investigation. The Unit has 4 children in placement, and currently has 43 open child protection cases. Adult protection had 4 new referrals, closed 2 cases, and has 3 open cases at the close of the month. There are 5 open dependency and neglect court cases. The Department has 12 youth in post-adoption cases.
3. The first LEAP payroll in the amount of \$52,869.60 has been released. The goal of DSS staff is that no Saguache County family is without heat or food. TEFAP commodities were distributed during November, and December 18 and 19 will have a distribution of senior commodities. Many of our seniors are eligible for both programs, thereby keeping an even supply of supplemental food in their homes. DSS is cooperating with the Saguache County Sheriff's Office to ensure their Christmas Sharing program is capable of serving the list of recipients, as donations had been lagging.
4. CDHS Audit Division has absorbed many of the duties formerly performed by State Field Staff. We were able to attend a day-long workshop with three of the auditors, who then visited each county in the Valley to address specific issues for each agency.
5. The Child Protection Unit received a note of recognition from Lloyd Malone, Director of the Colorado Div. of Child Welfare. The Department also received a certificate of recognition for our Medicaid program timeliness in processing medical applications and redeterminations. Saguache County DSS operates with six fewer employees than we had on staff eight years ago. We have taken additional programs and opened an outreach program in Crestone because the need exists. These individuals make a difference on a daily basis in the lives of approximately twenty percent of Saguache County residents. They are a dedicated, compassionate and hard-working group of people of whom Saguache County can be very proud.

**Pace moved to adjourn as Saguache County Social Services Board at 2:04 P.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Bill Paying

**Spearman moved to adjourn at 2:07 P. M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Adjourn

Bill Paying

**Spearman moved to adjourn at 2:07 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 January 3, 2013



Carla Grommy

Attest

Michael Spearman  
Chairman of the Board

Wanda Joseph  
Commissioner

Al Pa  
Commissioner