

**Proceedings of the Dolores County Board of  
County Commissioners**

**October 31, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held at the Public Service Center meeting room in Dove Creek, Colorado on October 31, 2019. Present for the meeting were Chairperson Floyd Cook, Commissioner Julie Kibel and Commissioner Steve Garchar, County Attorney Dennis Golbricht, County Administrator Margret Daves and Deputy Clerk to the Board Jody Gardner.

The meeting began with everyone standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Guests**

CSU Extension Agent Gus Westerman, Emergency Manger Keith Keesling, Dolores County Assessor Berna Ernst, Dolores County Clerk and Recorder Lana Hancock, Dolores County Senior Services Director Julie Bingham, Dolores County Road and Bridge Supervisor Steve Davis, Dolores County Social Services Director Malynda Evans, Dolores County Payroll and HR Specialist Lenore Johnson, Dolores County Mapping and Addressing Specialist Amber Fisher, Axis Health Systems Representative Haley Leonard, Dolores County Health Association Executive Director Lincoln Pehrson, Kyser Millennium Leavitt Insurance Group Representatives Todd Toner and Heather Brumbach

**Agenda**

Commissioner Garchar made a motion to accept the agenda.  
Commissioner Kibel seconded the motion.  
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

**Department Head Meeting**

**Assessor:** Berna Ernst said her office is thankfully slow right now as they are waiting for recertification and tax roll.

**Maintenance:** Steven Stiasny was not present.

**Road & Bridge:** Steve Davis didn't have anything to share.

Commissioner Kibel thanked Mr. Davis for researching costs associated with painting lines on the shoulders of County Road 38. A resident had requested the lines be painted before winter. Due to the high cost and the fact that the lines will be covered with snow and therefore invisible the project will not be funded.

**Treasurer:** Janie Stiasny was not present.

**Human Resources:** Lenore Johnson postponed her presentation until the employee group insurance presentation.

**Clerk:** Lana Hancock is working through the current election. Approximately 1500 ballots have been mailed out with 435 received as of October 30, 2019.

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**EMS:** Keith Keesling has gotten approval from the federal government to send out Integrated Public Alert Warning System (IPAWS) emergency alert messages for Dolores County.

Two search and rescue missions were conducted as well as one recovery during October.

Mr. Keesling attended the Southwest Colorado training and exercise Tactical Interoperability Communication Plan (TCIP). Percentage wise the local area had the best participation compared to 5 counties.

Mr. Keesling attended a Montezuma County drought workshop. Dolores and Montezuma Counties are again in a drought classification.

**Nurse:** Mary Randolph was not present.

**Extension:** CSU Extension Agent Gus Westerman has had a busy month. It started with the annual apple u-pick that sold out in 1.5 hours.

Mr. Westerman attended the annual forum meeting. Lou Swanson retired and has been replaced.

4-H has had the headquarters moved to Kansas City. National headquarters in Maryland has been closed. New and returning leaders will go through a standardized training.

**Sheriff:** Don Wilson was not present.

**Extension and Weed:** Secretary Oma Fleming was not present.

**Social Services:** Malynda Evans said they are hoping to put out the design assist for local contractors to place bids on the Social Services new building. Ads will be running in the Blanding, Monticello, Dove Creek and Cortez newspapers.

The new hire case worker Rita Fowler will be training for the next 10 weeks.

**Addressing and Mapping:** Amber Fisher has officially completed the West Fork and Rico addressing project with signs installed at all residences. All of Dolores County has been completed.

Ms. Fisher created carry maps for emergency responders in Rico for quicker response times. The West Fork Fire crew requested that the Groundhog area be added to the carry maps for a possible expansion of the fire district.

Mile marker signs have been ordered for the Groundhog/Disappointment Road in Dolores County. Installation will most likely be next spring.

**Special Projects Manager:** Margret Daves wished everyone a Happy Halloween.

A Christmas committee will be assembled with a representative from each department for the planning of the County Christmas party. County Offices will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

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**Senior Services:** Julie Bingham said that the landscaping bark had been removed and has been replaced a future sprinklers installation.

Ms. Bingham traveled to Montrose, Colorado to speak with Region 10 representatives to request reimbursement funding for transportation services provided by the Pioneer Center to the folks from Egnar. An RFP will be completed in the spring when Region 9 contracts are completed.

Ms. Bingham submitted a grant to San Miguel County requesting \$6,000.00 for assistance with services provided to Egnar residents.

Two Pioneer Center part time positions are available. A part time assistant cook and a part time driver position are being advertised through the Dove Creek Press.

There are still warranty issues that need addressed with the dining room doors.

**Attorney Golbricht:** mentioned that he would like to receive all County resolutions and ordinances pertaining to the Sheriff's office, Emergency Management, Road Permitting, Right of Ways, Addressing and Land Use codes to be compiled into a single and easily accessible location.

**Frontier Community Health Clinic Merge with Axis Health Update**

Frontier Community Health Clinic Executive Director Linc Pehrson and Axis Health System Representative Hailey Leonard were present to share that their two entities will be merging together. Ten months of leg work has already gone into the merging. There is still numerous governmental details and processes to complete.

Dolores County Sheriff Don Wilson and Dolores County Social Services Director Malynda Evans voiced concerns and frustrations with the services and response times historically offered by Axis.

**Health Insurance Update**

HR and Finance Specialist Lenore<sup>6</sup> Johnson, Kysar Millennium Leavitt Insurance Agency Representatives Todd Toner and Heather Brumbach were present to discuss with County employees the reasons behind the upcoming increase in insurance costs. Ms. Johnson put together a slide show presentation explaining how the claims in 2019 exceeded funds. Dolores County had 192% more catastrophic claims that totaled over \$500,000.00 compared other similar entities. With open enrollment in November and renewal in December the new plans and coverages were discussed in detail.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**Public Comment**

There was no one present to comment during this period.

**Commissioner Garchar:** attended a CDOT meeting in Durango with the following key points of discussion:

- Highway 141 will be resurfaced from Highway 491 to the intersection of Highway 90 near Naturita in 2020.
- A new push on Colorado highways is for two-foot + shoulders for bicycles and involuntary road exits.
- CDOT is short on funds due to projects and expansion in the San Luis Valley area on roads over due for maintenance and upgrades.

Mr. Garchar attended a CCI meeting where he learned that 40 of Colorado's 64 counties do not allow marijuana sales.

Mr. Garchar also attended a COG meeting in Durango. Montezuma County and the Town of Mancos dropped out of the COG last year due to inactivity on projects. The COG has now stepped up their project efforts with a push in providing affordable housing.

**Commissioner Kibel:** discussed the recent MAC meeting held in Dove Creek. If there is ever a pandemic here there's a CDPHE protocol for giving vaccinations with 5 critical workforce tiers.

The NRCS, the BOCC and fourteen local land owners attended a meeting in regards to sage grouse habitats in Dolores County. Ms. Kibel felt that a true representation of the working force was present. The goal is to keep the Gunnison Sage Grouse endangered species declaration at bay.

**Commissioner Cook:** didn't have anything to share.

Commissioner Cook adjourned the meeting.

The seal of Dolores County, Colorado, is circular with a double-line border. The outer ring contains the text "DOLORES COUNTY" at the top and "COLORADO" at the bottom, separated by small stars. In the center, the word "Seal" is written in a stylized font.

Blayd L. Cook  
Chairman to the Board of County Commissioners

Attest: Jay Lardner  
Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners