

**Dolores County
Board of County Commissioners**

March 1, 2021

A regular meeting of the Dolores County Board of County Commissioners was held at the Public Service Center in Dove Creek, Colorado on March 1, 2021. Present for the meeting were Chairperson Floyd Cook, Vice Chair Julie Kibel, Commissioner Steve Garchar, Attorney Dennis Golbricht, County Administrator Margret Daves and Deputy Clerk to the Board Jody Gardner.

The meeting began with everyone reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests

Emergency Manager Keith Keesling, HR Specialist Lenore Johnson, Mapping and Addressing Specialist Amber Fisher, Road and Bridge Supervisor Steve Davis, Clerk and Recorder Lana Hancock, Assessor Berna Ernst, Extension and Weed Board Secretary Oma Fleming, CSU Extension Agent Gus Westerman, Social Service Director Malynda Evans, Senior Services Director Julie Bingham, DCTV Manager Kendra Cook, Community Voice Representative Anita Fernandez, Treasurer Janie Stiasny, T-Mobile Representative Nicholas Romano

Payroll for February 26, 2021

The following is a list of total payrolls by Department:

County Commissioners:	\$7,710.60	7 Employees	
Commissioner Other	\$365.80		1 Part Time
County Clerk:	\$3,100.20	3 Employees	
County Treasurer:	\$2,769.84	2 Employees	
County Assessor:	\$4,050.18	4 Employees	
GIS:	\$1,206.83	1 Employee	
County Maintenance:	\$1,414.98	1 Employee	
County Sheriff:	\$14,042.74	10 Employees	2 Part Time
County Coroner:	\$371.30	1 Employee	
EMA:	\$1,441.67	1 Employee	
Extension:	\$1,242.90	2 Employees	
DCTV:	\$1,628.00		5 Part Time
Veterans Office:	\$480.22		1 Part Time
Senior Services:	\$9,161.14	3 Employees	13 Part Time
Health & Nurse:	\$3,642.32	2 Employees	1 Temp
Mandatory Weed:	\$2,058.41	2 Employees	1 Part Time
R&B Administration Other:	\$23,255.16	19 Employees	
Social Services:	\$6,545.87	5 Employees	1 Part Time
TOTAL:	\$84,488.16	63 Employees	24 Part Time 1 Temp

Proceedings to the Board of County Commissioners Meeting on March 1, 2021

Agenda

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

Minutes

There were no minutes presented for approval.

Expenditures

Commissioner Kibel made a motion approving the expenditures.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Department Head Meeting

Assessor: Berna Ernst said there have been a lot of sales. They are not sure if property values will change due to the sales. This is a reappraisal year.

Treasurer: Janie Stiasny said today is the first half tax deadline. As of this time last year, 10.10% of taxes had been collected. The current and concerning collected amount is 5.67%. Books for February are being closed out today as well. The Homestead files were accepted by the state without issue. Public Trustee releases have increased; however, we do not have a moratorium on foreclosures.

Nurse: Mary Randolph was not present.

Human Resources: Lenore Johnson is finalizing up insurance changes. Kroger RX is a great alternative to low prescription refills. Flyers are available.

Sheriff: Don Wilson said that beginning March 10 the Courthouse security officer will begin tending to Town Ordinance issues on Wednesdays and Thursdays when Court is not in session.

The Cahone County shop will be used for evidence processing and storage, for the time being. Lighting may be added. Locks will be changed.

Clerk and Recorder: Lana Hancock will attend a call with the Secretary of the State with Census results to review voting and redistricting line changes.

Arc-a-Search training was attended by Ms. Hancock and Deputy Clerk Taylor Funk for recorded deeds that were scanned and will soon be available online.

There are possible upcoming Legislative changes that are concerning.

DCTV Manager: Kendra Cook said the tower was offline last Friday.

The local interview format was brought back to provide more local coverage.

Proceedings to the End of the Month BOCC Meeting on March 1, 2021

Road and Bridge: Steve Davis said all product has been removed from the Bartley pit and it can be closed.

Road grading is being conducted as the moisture allows.

Maintenance: Steven Stiasny was not present.

EMS: Keith Keesling has acquired approximately \$10,000.00 worth of equipment through contacts from the state search and rescue. A trailer was acquired for the emergency porta potty.

Areas in Colorado that had avalanche snow safety warnings have now been changed to fire concerns.

Mr. Keesling has been assisting Community Voice with the June OHV event.

Grants for businesses are available through COVID 19 funds.

A local emergency planning committee meeting is coming up for Tier II emergency planning.

Remote PC has now instituted a remote meeting function. If interested, contact Keith.

Mr. Keesling has been invited to be a presenter for the National SARS Title III conference.

Senior Services: Julie Bingham did not have anything to share.

Extension and Weed: Secretary Oma Fleming said the weed district is doing some upgrades on equipment in preparation for the upcoming season.

The Fair Board has gained some ground with the water leak.

Parameters will be set for participants at the upcoming Jr. Rodeo's.

The trap shoot date is set for the VFW's fund-raising event.

Social Services: Malynda Evans is now back to work full time.

The Department will hopefully be moving into the new building in the next couple weeks. An open house is being planned.

A Motivational Interview training will be held on March 8. Everyone is welcome to attend virtually.

Youth mental health vouchers are available for any youth up to the age of 21.

Addressing and Mapping: Amber Fisher said the Census deadlines for Commissioner redistricting has been extended.

Ms. Fisher has been working with Mary Martin on platting the West Dolores Cemetery District plots. She would like to offer community service hours to high-school students for GPS-ing headstone locations.

Proceedings to the End of the Month BOCC Meeting on March 1, 2021

Extension: Gus Westerman has been conducting online virtual tree pruning workshops.

Four consecutive Forage and Grower's workshops are planned.

4-H has 21 members this year. Mr. Westerman is trying to get approval from CSU for in person meetings.

The annual Cat and Dog clinic is coming up. It will be drive thru style.

A Community Needs Assessment is being worked on. Mr. Westerman is concerned with accuracy of the data being used that is 5 years old and currently in the process of being updated.

Commissioner Kibel: mentioned the recent visit with Congresswoman Boebert. Boebert's visit with the students at the high school went great. Boebert offered support of the NCA and the Degett Bill.

Commissioner Kibel attended several Sage Grouse meetings including one through CSU Restore at the request of CSU Agent Gus Westerman. Commissioner Kibel felt that information from the meeting ties in well with the Gunnison Sage Grouse vegetation environment.

The Sage Grouse Summit was great, as well was the Catalyst Group discussion with Fish and Wildlife. The threatened Sage Grouse may help in the battle with the proposed introduction of the wolves.

AAA is going well. Area Aging Funding is available. Local efforts may be allowed to open up in the near future at the Pioneer Center.

Cirrus MD offers a counseling department for mental health services that may be offered at the high school.

Commissioner Garchar: has been participating in several meetings. A CDOT meeting will be held on March 24, 2021 to address issues.

A Greenhouse Gas initiative is pushing for only green vehicles in Colorado.

Commissioner Garchar recently attended the Cattleman's Association meeting where the reintroduction of wolves was discussed and is receiving major pushback. Also discussed was the need for wider Forest Service roads for permittee's use and the concern with mitigating the grasshoppers that are putting a dent in the feed sources.

Commissioner Cook: has been busy attending numerous Colorado County meetings. Numerous legislative issues are being discussed with some being very concerning.

Social Services Update

Ms. Evans presented for approval the Record of Proceedings for January 2021, as well as the Reconciliation Statement and Budget versus Expenditures for January 2021.

Commissioner Garchar made a motion approving the above-mentioned documents.

Commissioner Kibel seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

T-Mobile Rico Antenna Upgrade Discussion and Possible Approval

T-Mobile requested permission to conduct upgrades at the wireless station west of the Town of Rico. The upgrades will enhance service operations in the area. Radios will be changed out and new ones will be added. There will be some minor electrical upgrades. Two of the four antennas will be changed. There will be no change to footprint on the ground. Attorney Golbricht asked about the new antenna size differences. The BOCC was ok with the changes in sizes.

The BOCC agreed to remained with FCC requirements with no special permit changes.

The town of Rico had been invited and did not join the meeting with concerns.

Confirmation of the upcoming upgrades will be sent from the BOCC via email. Modifications will be confirmed upon completion closeout and provided for record keeping.

West Dolores Cemetery Discussion

The West Dolores Cemetery District Board and Secretary Joan Thompson were present to discuss the lack of funds and income available to the district to operate for the upcoming year. A ballot initiative was put to the voters in November 2020. The District owns and operates the Peel and the Dove Creek Cemeteries. The District has historically been underfunded. However, in 2015, the oil and gas severance tax rules changed, resulting in a significant decrease in already short mill levy funding. That decrease in tax funding, together with increased costs, the need to address deferred maintenance, as well as the need for improvements and expansion due to the aging population, has resulted in a significant shortfall. The current caretakers of the cemeteries have managed to operated and maintain both properties with that shortfall. The ballot initiative failed, leaving the District in a compromised position.

Dolores County has provided monetary support in previous years. The Town of Dove Creek has been approached and asked to assist with monetary support for the 2020 year. The immediate need for By-Laws, updated plot pricing and rules and regulations was also discussed.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion to continue to provide monetary support to the cemetery district in an amount up to \$10,000.00 via certain bill-pay, to seek a match from the Town, and to assist the District with the creation of By-laws, rules and regulations, with the attempt to prepare for a second ballot initiative.

Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

New Business

Rico Recycling Letter of Support: Commissioner Kibel read the proposed letter of support for the Town of Rico.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion approving the signing of the letter.

Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

30 x 30 Land Program Discussion: Commissioner Cook shared a recording from a recent CCI Legislative meeting that discussed the 30x30 program. The 30 x 30 program appears to be a plan advanced by radical environmental activists to permanently restrict 30% of America's land and waters by 2030. The program was adopted by the Biden Administration through Executive Order 14008. "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad." (January 27, 2021). Proponents argue that climate impacts are human-caused, and permanently preserving 30% of America's land and oceans is necessary to reverse climate change. This action must be taken immediately to avoid impacts on the ecosystem and wildlife. However, the science and data do not justify these extreme policy measures.

30 x 30 is a concerning policy shift, apparently moving us from a nation founded on private property principles to one controlled by the administrative state.

With large amounts of Colorado and more specifically, Dolores County's land and water already owned by the USFS, BLM and in Conservation Easements, the BOCC feels that 30 x 30 is unfair and unjust. After discussion, the BOCC directed County Administrator Daves to draft a resolution against the 3 x 30 program.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion directing County Administrator Daves to draft a resolution against the 30 x 30 program.

Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Adopt Appendix B for the Personnel Manual: Attorney Golbricht and HR Specialist Lenore Johnson presented for approval the Appendix B for the Personnel Manual. Appendix B addresses paid time off for part time employees as per a recent state employment mandate.

Commissioner Garchar made a motion approving signing Appendix B and adding it to the Dolores County Personnel Manual.

Commissioner Kibel seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

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Stateline Liquor License Renewal: Presented for approval was the Stateline Liquor License renewal application. Sheriff Don Wilson had previously been contacted and had no concerns with the renewal.

After a discussion concerning the State of Colorado and the Town of Dove Creek's decisions to waive license renewal fees, the BOCC decided to also waive liquor license fees through December 31, 2021.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion approving the license approval.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Executive Session

Attorney Golbricht requested an Executive Session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b) for the purpose of discussing a motor vehicle accident.

Commissioner Garchar made a motion to enter into the Executive Session.
Commissioner Kibel seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Chairperson Cook entered into executive Session at 11:26 am.

Attorney Golbricht also requested that the Executive Session allow an HR issue to be discussed. A recording would be kept for 90 days and then destroyed.

The Executive Session ended at 12:11 pm.

Following executive session, the BOCC directed the attorney and administrator to proceed with attempts at resolution of the potential litigation matter as directed.

Eat Meat Holiday Discussion

Colorado Governor Jared Polis recently declared March 20 as a statewide meat-free holiday throughout Colorado. In opposition to the holiday the BOCC declared March 20 as Eat Meat Day in Dolores County.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion declaring March 20 as Eat Meat Day in Dolores County.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Cook closed the meeting



Chair to the Board of County Commissioners



Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

