

**Dolores County
Board of County Commissioners**

July 29, 2021

A regular meeting of the Dolores County Board of County Commissioners was held at the Courthouse in Dove Creek, Colorado on July 29, 2021. Present for the meeting were Commission Chair Floyd, 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

Road and Bridge Supervisor Steve Davis, Maintenance Supervisor Steve Stiasny, CSU Extension Agent Gus Westerman, Social Service Director Malynda Evans, Sheriff Don Wilson, Deputy Assessor Amber Blackmore, Clerk and Recorder Lana Hancock, HR and Payroll Director Lenore Carhart, Emergency Manager Keith Keesling, DCTV Manager Kendra Cook, Septic Inspector Jeff Carhart, Extension Secretary Oma Fleming, Property Owner Patrick Thielen, West Fork Fire Representatives Tommy Johnson and Toby Hamilton and Road and Bridge Employee Jack Ayers

Agenda

Commissioner Garchar made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of an opioid update and possible action.

Commissioner Kibel seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Minutes

No minutes were presented for approval.

Department Head Meeting

Treasurer: Janie Stiasny was not present.

Nurse: Mary Randolph was not present.

Assessor: Berna Ernst was not present. Deputy Assessor Amber Blackmore joined but did not have anything to share.

DCTV Manager: Kendra Cook said that the Sheriff's office staff had been recognized as the 2021 Pick-n-Hoe celebrations Grand Marshal.

Replacement equipment ordered was not in working order and had to be returned. The department is still working through the lightning strike repairs.

Coroner: Aaron Hankins was not present.

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Sheriff: Don Wilson reported three recent methamphetamine arrests.

A Forest Service Ranger stopped a commercial delivery truck on the Dolores/Norwood Road for not having a commercial permit through the Forest Service. The permit costs \$700.00. The County does not require a commercial permit on its portion of the road and does not want commercial traffic stopped on the stretch operated by the County.

A vehicle rescue at the Calico Creek Trailhead took approximately 14 hours to conduct.

Sheriff Wilson discussed the need for another deputy within the department to assist with increasing duties and to rotated schedules for current staff to use their paid time off.

There have been issues with the Image Net printer in the Sheriff's office. Repair work has not been completed in a timely manner. Alpine Security has worked on the security cameras three times with things still not working correctly. Sheriff Wilson noted that the cameras record video but not sound.

Clerk and Recorder: Lana Hancock reported that three entities had contacted the office with the intent to participate on the November election ballot. The Town of Rico, Dolores County and the Dolores County School District will have items on the ballot.

Ms. Hancock discussed the need for more vault space.

The need for a full-time employee in her office was also discussed with the possibility being further reviewed during budget season.

A room designated specifically to elections is needed due to state regulations, equipment space and better traffic flows for the public during the voting process.

Road and Bridge: Supervisor Steve Davis said the crew is in the middle of chip sealing. As soon as that is completed, they will start working on culverts that need attention after all the rains.

Funding for a low water crossing at Black Snag is needed. The culvert is holding but everything else is washing out.

The courthouse parking lots will be fog sealed.

Social Services: Malynda Evans discussed upcoming Family First Legislation. Rural communities do not have enough cases required for evidence-based services to provide Family First funds to be passed down from the state.

The Northwest Region of Colorado has switched contracts for mental health services. The change over is setting precedence throughout the state for community mental health centers.

On July 28, Tri-hurst made repairs to items listed on the warranty list.

Extension and Weed: Secretary Oma Fleming was not present.

EMS: Keith Keesling acquired a 2005 NQR Isuzu diesel box truck. The pickup was donated by the Lowry Air Force base. The old Lowry buildings are now used as a training center at the base with ten realistic and impressive scenarios.

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Maintenance: Steven Stiasny asked about a possible county-wide maintenance department that oversees all five of the buildings that house county offices. There was discussion regarding indoor and outdoor maintenance and janitorial duties. Summer hire help was discussed. As budget season begins, workshops will be held to further discuss the topic.

Extension: Gus Westerman is awaiting inspections on pesticides from CSU.

The office staff is prepared for the upcoming fair.

With full time staff out due to a COVID exposure quarantine the summer hire help has had the responsibilities of running the office.

Numerous home site visits have been conducted assisting with various pesticide and drought issues.

The CSU brass visit went great. They now have a better understanding of our unique area, therefore, hopefully lending a bigger ear to listen to needs.

The Community Development Needs assessment results are in with a large request for the preservation of the ag land. According to the assessment our area boasts a robust program.

The CSU Research Center orchard received minimal irrigation water due to the drought. With the recent rains, however, Mr. Westerman believes that the annual apple u-pick will still be held with the fruit available. A capital improvement grant in the amount of \$15,000.00 is being applied for.

HR and Payroll Director: Lenore Johnson presented the employee handbook. Revisions were made, including a new ethics section. Attorney Golbricht had previously reviewed and approved the revisions.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion accepting the revised employee handbook.

Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Cook signed the handbook.

Ms. Johnson has been researching health insurance companies for the upcoming insurance renewal period.

Addressing and Mapping: Amber Fisher was not present.

Senior Services: Julie Bingham was not present.

Administrator Daves: said a state and local fiscal recovery funds workshop will be scheduled. Half of the funds have been received.

Majors and Haley PC auditor Chris Majors is working through the audit.

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Commissioner Cook: reminded the board to rsvp to the CCI Western District conference invite.

Commissioner Cook mentioned possible legislation concerning insurance for irrigation farms that meet program criteria but are not receiving the benefits with this year's drought conditions. Another legislative possibility concerns the way lodging taxes are used. Currently, the taxes can only be used to advertise and promote tourism. The new legislation would allow counties to use the monies as needed.

Commissioner Kibel: shared that the Sage Grouse Coordinator position had been filled with the hiring of Melissa Parker. Ms. Parker is a research biology major. This year she will work from July through December. Next year she will begin in March as the snow allows. An area tour is scheduled and a meeting with the Fish and Wildlife will be held on August 19th.

Commissioner Garchar: shared that the DWRF has purchased equipment to monitor soil moisture. Equipment locations are being reviewed.

Clean Energy Colorado has funding available.

Mr. Garchar attended the Wolf Reintroduction meeting in Cortez. He is in favor of the policies Montana uses.

Amendment 16 is being rewritten and will be an issue again.

The CPW will attend the August 16th BOCC meeting to give an update and answer questions regarding the implementation and use of a wildlife park on Road N at 1:30.

At the Region 9 meeting it was shared that substance abuse includes more than opioids. The Counties are asked to sign first and then to bring in the municipalities. A feasibility study is needed to assess how funds can and will be used. Funding for the study may be requested from the counties. Dolores County's share would be approximately \$3,000.00. Commissioners Cook and Kibel were not in favor of funding the study. They did not feel that the income from the opioid settlement was enough to warrant the study expenditure.

Thielen Final Subdivision Exemption and Resolution #07-21-01 Approval

The BOCC reviewed a survey plat map where 10 acres of a 180-acre parcel was to be retained by the owner with the remaining acreage sold to Chad Nuckles. The survey plat map addressed both the buyers and sellers' new acreage legal descriptions. Attorney Golbricht recommended that the BOCC give final approval of the subdivision exemption request and sign Resolution #07-21-01.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion approving Resolution #07-21-01 and signing the survey plat map. Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Board of Health Young/Davis Non-Compliant Septic Penalty Assessment

Commissioner Cook closed the BOCC meeting and opened as the Board of Health at

Inspector Carhart conducted a site visit on July 28, 2021. The tenants were still residing at the location and utilizing the illegal system. The tenants and landowners are both violating regulations. Sheriff Wilson and Attorney Golbricht visited about the violation being a Class 1 Petty Offense. After discussion with Inspector Carhart, it was also discussed that a vault privy is an exception not a rule. The concern with allowing vault privies in all circumstances is that there is no means to monitor pumping. Vault privies may still be allowed in circumstances where there will be extremely limited use or when a full system may not be feasible.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion implementing the fine to the landowner beginning today.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
All three members voted in favor of the motion.

New Business

Employee Handbook Revision Adoption: HR Director Lenore Johnson discussed some recent changes and additions to the employee handbook. Attorney Golbricht had previously reviewed the changes and additions.

Commissioner Kibel made a motion approving the employee handbook as presented.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

West Fork Fire Building Location Discussion: West Fork Fire Representatives Tommy Johnson and Toby Hamilton were present to discuss the layout of the fire house building, equipment access, maintenance and snow removal. Road and Bridge employee Jack Ayers joined the discussions as he maintains the roads and county shop for the West Fork.

Attorney Golbricht asked if the lease agreement between the County and the WFF had been received and reviewed. Golbricht also reminded all parties that WFF needed to have their own attorney review the lease. Mr. Johnson confirmed that it had and that it would be returned with their concerns addressed for possible revisions after the next meeting.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Commissioner Cook adjourned the meeting.



Chair to the Board of County Commissioners



Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

