

**MEETING MINUTES
Dolores County
Board of County Commissioners**

March 20, 2023

A regular meeting of the Dolores County Board of County Commissioners was held at the Dolores County Courthouse in Dove Creek, Colorado on March 20, 2023. Present for the meeting were Commission Chair Steve Garchar, Vice Chair Linda Yellowman, Commissioner Floyd Cook, Attorney Dennis Golbricht, County Administrator Margret Daves, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Shayla Oliver.

The meeting began with everyone reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests

In Person – Road and Bridge Supervisor Steve Davis, EMS Manager Keith Keesling, Sheriff Don Wilson, USFS Acting District Manager Ryan Joyner

Via Zoom – Ronda Lancaster, Public Health Director Tracey Beanland, Amber, Juwi Representative Mike Mihnot, BLM Southwest Colorado District Manager Stephanie Connoly, BLM Acting District Manager Shauna Jensen, CDOT Representative Julie Constan, General Dollar Representatives Brad White and Kelly Agnor, and Kendra Cook

Payroll for March 15, 2023

The following is a list of total payrolls by Department:

County Commissioners:	\$ 8,066.26	7 Employees		
County Clerk:	\$ 3,245.05	3 Employees		
County Treasurer:	\$ 2,975.36	2 Employees		
County Assessor:	\$ 2,996.25	2 Employees		1 Temp
GIS:	\$ 1,261.10	1 Employee		
County Maintenance:	\$ 1,436.81	1 Employee	1 Part Time	
County Sheriff:	\$15,022.86	10 Employees	2 Part Time	
County Coroner:	\$ 459.93	1 Employee		
EMA:	\$ 1,325.14	1 Employee		
Extension:	\$ 1,495.55	2 Employees		
DCTV:	\$ 461.75		1 Part Time	
Veterans Office:	\$ 499.46		1 Part Time	
Fair Board:	\$ 193.93			1 Temp
Senior Services:	\$10,244.93	2 Employees	13 Part Time	
Health & Nurse:	\$ 4,221.77	3 Employees		
Mandatory Weed:	\$ 2,167.02	2 Employees	1 Part Time	
R&B Administration Other:	\$24,360.07	19 Employees	1 Part Time	
Social Services:	\$ 7,801.41	5 Employees	2 Part Time	
TOTAL:	\$88,235.15	62 Employees	22 Part Time	2 Temp

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Agenda

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

Expenditures

Commissioner Cook made a motion approving payment of the expenditures.
Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Road and Bridge New Hire

Road and Bridge Supervisor Steve Davis had a job opening at the R&B Department for a Full-time Employee. The position Requires: Current Class A - CDL License w/tanker endorsement and a wide range of Heavy Equipment experience including Grader, Backhoe, Loader, Skidsteer, Crawler Tractor & Farm Tractor, etc. Five applications were received, only three had the CDL Qualification. Mr. Davis stated the new hire was Cody Schutt.

Dolores Canyon Solar/Juwi Update

Mike Mihnot representative for Juwi/Dolores Canyon Solar Project attended the meeting via zoom. The Solar Project has been extended with Tri-State to have an online date the end of 2024. All Contracts with Tri-State and Landowners are in good standing. They are currently in discussions with multiple potential investors, then they can move forward with construction. They anticipate starting construction by the end of 2023. They do not expect any shortages in supplies and or materials. Per the LDA, Juwi is required to pay additional annual Mag Chloride fee payments for application in 2023 and 2024 years and any subsequent construction years depending upon the date of completion.

EOP Annexes/Keith Keesling

EMS Manager Keith Keesling presented to the BOCC Final Copies of the previously discussed annexes to the Emergency Operation Plan. The Annexes are: Resource Mobilization, Mass Care, Damage Assessment, and Emergency Declaration. There was also three emergency plans that are added to 'Other Plans' in the Emergency Operating Plan: Kinder Morgan Cortez Production Emergency Response Plan, Belmear Dam Emergency Action Plan, and Groundhog Dam Emergency Action Plan.

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion to approve the Resource Mobilization, Mass Care, Damage Assessment, and Emergency Declaration annexes to the EOP, as well as the three emergency plans that are added to 'Other Plans' in the Emergency Operating Plan which are: Kinder Morgan Cortez Production Emergency Response Plan, Belmear Dam Emergency Action Plan, and Groundhog Dam Emergency Action Plan.

Commissioner Cook seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Special Event Truck Show/Kendra Cook

Kendra Cook submitted for the Dove Creek Chamber of Commerce a request to hold the 3rd Annual SW Freedom Big Truckin Car Show which will take place in Cahone Park, on Saturday July 1st, as an adjunct to the 67th Pick'n Hoe celebration. Mrs. Cook is requesting this fall under the existing multi-year Special Events Permit allowance as it remains the same event without incidents.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the Special Events Permit for the 3rd Annual SW Freedom Big Truckin car show.

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Emery Telecom Update/Justin Johansen

Justin Johansen representative for Emery Telecom attended in person. Mr. Johansen stated Emery fiber line is built to the State Line. All materials are in Monticello, Ut and all contracts are in place and contractors are on stand-by; they are just waiting on the weather. Emery is still waiting on some permits from CDOT. They anticipate to be finished in the Town of Dove Creek within 60-90 days of start date, they are waiting on the weather to get started. Mr. Johansen updated that the second phase of the project has been scaled back due to funding. By doing so they were able to still reach 85% of the intended homes while saving around \$4 million in funding.

New Business

County ID Cards: County Administrator Daves discussed the need for a County ID Card. EMS Manager Keith Keesling can issue them. The Commissioners will discuss with Department heads the need for their employees to obtain a card.

Computer Back-up Plan: Keith Keesling discussed a county wide computer Back-Up Plan. Many computers do not have any form of back-up. Mr. Keesling can get a program for less than \$400.00. He also spoke about anti-virus software, for that a program can be purchased for under \$1,500.00. Mr. Keesling will move forward in purchasing these programs and installing them on all County computers.

BLM Update/Ryan Joyner

Stephanie Connolly, Southwest District Manager for BLM attended the meeting via Zoom, to inform the County that Derek Padilla is the acting field manager for BLM. They are interviewing now for a permanent replacement and hopes that person is hired and in place before the next 120 day acting manager is required to come in.

Ryan Joyner, new assistant field manager for lands and minerals in the Tres Rios Office attended the meeting in person and is filling in for Derek Padilla. He discussed County Road S, the Bradfield Bridge Road. The Road is on a ROW that is owned by the County, and he stated the BLM does not have funds

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to maintain the road at this time. Margret Daves, County Administrator stated that the ROW had expired, so it is unknown who is responsible for the road. Further research will need to be done.

Commissioner Cook questioned the Disappointment Pit, its NEPA Study, and when this pit can start being utilized. Mr. Joyner stated a categorical exclusion excluding further analysis can be issued if the County can stay within the 5-acre footprint from the study. Due to staffing shortages, they are behind on their permitting. They have hired a new geologist, and finishing the EA that was previously started for the Disappointment pit will be one of their first projects. There is an upcoming NEPA meeting Thursday March 25, and they will hopefully have the NEPA scope within the next few weeks so the County can start using the pit by mid-April, with a new EA for the remaining 25 acres being finalized by the end of summer.

Commissioner Cook also discussed the Black Snag pit, regarding changing the access. Currently the access is on a 90-degree corner that continually washes out. Mr. Joyner was going to meet with Steve Davis/ Road and Bridge Supervisor to discuss moving the access.

The BLM has approved a new CD-4 CO2 Well for Kinder Morgan on the Southern Portion of the County.

There is a new Planner hired, Dr Randi Lepartess from the USDS. She will be taking up the Transportation Access Plan - TAP II.

MR. Joyner also commented on the Sunday mine, and how they are almost done with the scoping period and will move to the next step regarding Environmental Assessment.

Mr. Joyner is going to get a map of abandoned mines at the request of Commissioner Garchar to the County for informational purposes of road use during reclamation, etc.

USFS Update/Shauga Jensen

Shauna Jensen, USFS acting field Manager until June 17 joined via Zoom to update county/USFS information. Her first update was in regard to NEPA studies: Dolores Recreation Access Infrastructure Improvement Project which is in its objection period until the last Monday of April, this project is regarding parking areas, bathrooms and trail rerouting; The Chicken Creek CE, regarding trail adjustment, and a Targeted Grazing EA near Beaver Rim; and Specifically In Dolores County, Wild Cat Creek and Snow Spur Creek low tech-based restoration project to improve fish habitats.

USFS is working towards burns on the Glade and in the Chicken Creek area.

Ms. Jensen noted in regard to the Bradfield Bridge roads that the Wood For Life Project and Montrose Forest Products are done for the season. She stated that the USFS has a timber sale administrator that monitors the roads and that their report was the roads were still in good shape on the Forest Service sides. Ms. Jensen will talk to the USFS about using gravel out of the Ormiston Pit to repair the roads.

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Dollar General Update

Brad White and Kelly Agnor with Vaquero Ventures, and Julie Constan with CDOT joined via Zoom to give an update on the Dollar General and CR 8.2. There was discussion regarding the road being repaired back to County specs, also there was question about the CDOT ROW and how it needs rebuilt. Vaquero Ventures does not want to spend extra funds to do a “band-aid repair”. They are waiting on weather and CDOT permits. Mr. White stated they have a contractor in place and are solely waiting on the weather and CDOT approval, which they hope to receive within a week. If the weather and CDOT approval causes a longer delay the Commissioners have requested Vaquero Ventures/Dollar General to do the temporary fix. Julie Constan with CDOT is looking to have an onsite meeting to determine where the project is headed. CDOT will contact the BOCC when they get a meeting scheduled.

Commissioner Garchar adjourned the meeting.

Chair to the Board of County Commissioners

Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

Approved
April 17, 2023

