

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

September 18, 2023

A regular meeting of the Dolores County Board of County Commissioners was held at the Dolores County Courthouse in Dove Creek, Colorado on September 18, 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 – Steve Davis Road and Bridge Supervisor, Amber Fisher GIS Director, Kay Daves Community Prevention Director, and Stacey Schlegel STUD Director

Zoom – Brandon Martin, Tom Jaeger, and Bonnie Candelaria

Payroll for September 15, 2023

The following is a list of total payrolls by Department:

County Commissioners:	\$ 8,354.85	7 Employees		
County Clerk:	\$ 3,242.13	3 Employees		
County Treasurer:	\$ 2613.25	3 Employees		
County Assessor:	\$ 3,572.76	3 Employees		1 Temp
GIS:	\$ 1,261.10	1 Employee		
County Maintenance:	\$ 1,414.40	1 Employee	1 Part Time	
County Sheriff:	\$ 14,221.11	10 Employees	2 Part Time	
County Coroner:	\$ 459.93	1 Employee		
EMA:	\$ 1,312.07	1 Employee		
Extension:	\$ 2,096.65	2 Employees		
DCTV:	\$ 239.51		3 Part Time	
Veterans Office:	\$ 499.46		1 Part Time	
Fair Board:	\$ 457.15			1 Temp
Senior Services:	\$ 9,842.94	2 Employees	12 Part Time	
Health & Nurse:	\$ 5,240.27	3 Employees		
Mandatory Weed:	\$ 2,883.24	2 Employees	1 Part Time	2 Temp
R&B Administration Other:	\$ 24,299.50	18 Employees	1 Part Time	
Social Services:	\$ 9,100.02	6 Employees	2 Part Time	
TOTAL:	\$91,068.76	63 Employees	20 Part Time	4 Temp

Proceedings to the BOCC Meeting on September 18, 2023

Agenda

Commissioner Cook made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition of an Executive Session.

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Minutes

Commissioner Cook made a motion approving the August 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

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 has two job openings at the R&B Department; One for a Full-time Mechanic, and the other is a Road-Hand requiring a current Class A - CDL License w/tanker endorsement and a wide range of Heavy Equipment experience including Grader, Backhoe, Loader, Skid steer, Crawler Tractor & Farm Tractor, etc. Only one applicant per position applied. Mr. Davis stated the new hire for Mechanic was Jacob Buffington, and the Road-Hand was Michael Lemmons.

STUD/ Community Prevention

Kay Daves Community Prevention Director and Stacey Schlegel STUD Director submitted a request to the BOCC for a donation of \$10,000.00 to aid in the continued success and sustainability of the Students Tackling Unhealthy Decisions (STUD) and Community Prevention Programs. The BOCC for many years has donated to these two programs which helps provide educational opportunities, mental health wellness and care, and many other programs for the youth in Dolores County.

Brandon Martin/Resonance Ranch Subdivision Exemption Preliminary Approval

On August 7, 2023 Brandon Martin presented to the Board a subdivision exemption request to split 4-15 acre parcels off from his 276 acres. To consider a subdivision exemption creating more than two new exempt parcels, the matter must first be referred to the Planning Commission for its recommendation. On September 7, 2023, Mr. Martin attended a Dolores County Planning Commission Meeting at which time the planners recommended approval. The only concern raised was to confirm that the access road and new road across the proposed lots are sixty feet wide right of ways which run with the land.

Commissioner Cook made a motion for preliminary approval of the Resonance Ranch Subdivision Exemption. Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

USFS Update/Tom Rice

USFS acting District Manager attended the meeting to update the BOCC regarding happenings with the USFS:

- The sidewalk at Cabin Campground was cleaned up.
- There is a new Gravel pit opening up on the Norwood road near Beaver Rim.
- A new breakwater is going to be installed at McPhee, hopefully before the end of October.
- New bathrooms are being installed at the Transfer Campground.
- The District Ranger position has not been filled; they don't anticipate it being filled until the first of 2024.
- The USFS does not have a clear decision on the Dolores/Norwood Road winter log hauling operation. Mr. Rice felt that the decision should involve Kinder Morgan, as they are responsible for winter maintenance and damages now. A meeting will be set up with Dolores County, Montezuma County, USFS, Kinder Morgan and David Sitton.

BLM Update/Nate West

Nate West - BLM Wildland Biologist for Tres Rios Field office filling in for Derek Padilla attended the meeting to update the BOCC regarding happenings with the BLM:

- They are working towards prescribed burns at Carpenter Ridge and on the West Dolores Rim.
- The burns in the east pines will have to wait until it snows.
- The BLM is trying to get the NEPA study completed at the Disappointment pit; they had some personnel changes so the process was held back.
- There is a new geologist with the BLM. Mr. West suggested the entrance change to the Black Snag Pit could finally move forward soon.
- TAP II – Phase II is getting ready to start which involves Dolores and San Miguel Counties. There will be work sessions beginning soon.
- There has been a 90-day finding for Pinion Jays. The Comment session will be coming soon for that.

New Business

Lodging Tax Procedures Resolution #09-20-01: A resolution regarding procedures for expenditures of lodging tax proceeds for advertising and marketing local tourism.

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion to approve Resolution # 09-23-01, regarding procedures for expenditures of lodging tax proceeds for advertising and marketing local tourism.

Commissioner Cook seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Proposition HH Opposition Resolution #09-23-02: A Resolution opposing Proposition HH as Mandated by the Senate.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve Resolution 09-23-02, a Resolution opposing Proposition HH as Mandated by the Senate.

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Argon Plant Recommendation: Administrator Margret Daves presented to the BOCC the recommendation for approval from the Planning Commission for the Argon Plant. The public hearing with the BOCC has been set for October 16, 2023 at 10:00AM. Attorney Golbricht will have a Land Development Agreement outlining the concerns and contingencies at the time of the public hearing as well.

Feasibility Study/Plan of Action Continued

Brad Ash of Reynolds Ash & Associates, previously presented to the BOCC the Dolores County Court Upgrade Feasibility Study updated plan of action. Previously Mr. Ash presented 3 floor plan options, ranging from an option using and upgrading existing space to options of a new addition connected to the existing courthouse and utilizing both buildings, and a stand-alone facility with a connecting corridor to the existing building. The recommended floor plan was the stand-alone facility, which gives 13,235 sq of new construction. This facility would provide two courtrooms, a jury deliberation room, two holding cells, separate entrances for inmates, safety corridors, two judge chambers, probation offices, court clerk offices, and a court waiting area. Eric Hogue, Court Executive for the Sixth & Twenty-Second Judicial Districts, discussed with the BOCC the pertinent needs of Dolores County now, and in years to come, as well as things that could be removed and things that could be added in time as a multiphase project.

The First Court Building Cost Estimate:

Sitework	\$ 250,000.00
New Building	\$6,273,800.00
27% additional for "Soft Costs"	\$1,761,426.00
Total Feasibility Study Bid	\$8,285,226.00

The updated plan presented options for a phased plan that included removing some office spaces, reduced office spaces, and downsizing the square footage.

The Updated Cost Estimate Full Buildout:

Sitework	\$ 250,000.00
New County Courthouse	\$ 5,460,125.00
27% additional for "Soft Costs"	\$ 1,541,733.00
Total Full Buildout Cost Estimate	\$ 7,251,858.00

Updated Cost Estimate Building in Phases:

Sitework	\$ 250,000.00
New Courthouse Phase 1	\$ 4,010,900.00
27% additional for "Soft Costs"	\$ 1,150,443.00
Total Phase 1 Cost Estimate	\$ 5,411,333.00

A grant application for funding for the next planning stage may be submitted. Following that stage, the County may choose to move forward or discontinue the project.

Commissioner Garchar adjourned the meeting.

Chair to the Board of County Commissioners

Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

Approved October 31, 2023