

MEETING MINUTES
Dolores County
Board of County Commissioners
March 4, 2024

A regular meeting of the Dolores County Board of County Commissioners was held at the Dolores County Courthouse in Dove Creek, Colorado on March 4, 2024. Present for the meeting were Commission Chair Steve Garchar, Vice Chair Linda Yellowman, 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, DC Extension and DC Weed Oma Fleming, Sheriff Don Wilson, Phyllis Davis, DC Ambulance Director Damiond Smith, and Social Services Director Malynnda Evans.

Zoom – Earthship Homes Team Members Doug Knuteson, Matt Buttler and Eric Tolman, DC Assessor Amber Blackmore, DC School Administrator Ty Gray, Matt Prinster, Public Health Director Tracey Beanland, and Public Health Office Manager Megan Beanland.

Payroll for January 30, 2024

The following is a list of total payrolls by Department:

County Commissioners:	\$ 8,187.06	6 Employees		
County Clerk:	\$ 3,081.28	3 Employees		
County Treasurer:	\$ 2,492.29	2 Employees		
County Assessor:	\$ 4,412.68	4 Employees		
GIS:	\$ 1,261.10	1 Employee		
County Maintenance:	\$ 1,432.39	1 Employee	1 Part Time	
County Sheriff:	\$ 14,632.17	10 Employees	1 Part Time	
County Coroner:	\$ 459.93	1 Employee		
EMA:	\$ 1,312.07	1 Employee		
Extension:	\$ 1,402.27	2 Employees	1 Part Time	
DCTV:	\$ 562.59		3 Part Time	
Veterans Office:	\$ 499.46		1 Part Time	
Fair Board:	\$ 69.26			1 Temp
Senior Services:	\$ 9,302.28	2 Employees	13 Part Time	
Health & Nurse:	\$ 5,245.65	3 Employees		
Mandatory Weed:	\$ 2,103.86	2 Employees		
R&B Administration Other:	\$ 24,859.47	18 Employees		
Social Services:	\$ 11,201.46	6 Employees	3 Part Time	
TOTAL:	\$92,517.27	64 Employees	22 Part Time	1 Temp

Agenda

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

Expenditures

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

Minutes

The January 16, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes were presented for approval, Commissioner Garchar requested the spelling correction of USFS and Ray Oneil.

Commissioner Yellowman made a made a motion to approve the above-mentioned minutes with the correction of the spelling errors.

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

Road and Bridge Update/Steve Davis

Road and Bridge Supervisor Steve Davis has been asked to attend all meetings to provide updates regarding Road and Bridge Operations. Mr. Davis said he had no updates since the meeting on the prior Thursday. Commissioner Garchar asked about road complaints he has received. Mr. Davis stated he hadn't received more than one complaint, which due to the weather cannot be taken care of at this time. Commissioner Cook stated that the Beaver Rim Gravel pit will be shared with Montezuma County. Commissioner Garchar asked what vehicles and equipment will be taken to the farm auction in April. Mr. Davis said he would get him a list.

Fair Board New Member Approval/Oma Fleming

Oma Fleming Fairboard Secretary presented to the BOCC letters of intent from Wendy Williams, Jessica Bridge, and Jessica Kelshaw, with another coming in today from Rebekah Short requesting to be on the Dolores County Fairboard. Currently there are three members who are retiring from the Board. There will be four new members. Ms. Fleming asked to approve all members including Ms. Short, upon submittal of her letter.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve new Fairboard members Wendy Williams, Jessica Bridge, Jessica Kelshaw, and Rebekah Short upon submittal of her letter of intent.
Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Ambulance Licensing Regulation Resolution #03-24-01

A resolution stating that on and after July 1, 2024, and except as provided in subsection CRS § 25-3.5-314(2), a person shall not operate or maintain an ambulance service without a license issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and without authorization to operate from Dolores County. The Resolution includes a provision for exclusivity as to the Dove Creek Ambulance within its District.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve Resolution #03-24-01 Ambulance Licensing Regulation Resolution.

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Ambulance Board PILT Fund Discussion

The Ambulance Board addressed the BOCC regarding funding for the Ambulance District. They are a taxing entity and receive a tax from a mill levy. The District is currently struggling and looking into how they keep operating in 2025. Phyllis Davis, Ambulance District Board Secretary, requested funding from the PILT Funds Dolores County receives from the USFS. PILT is "Payment in Lieu of Taxes". It is payment for Federal Lands in Dolores County. Funding requests need to be made in August or September while the budget is being worked on and before it is approved and adopted. County Manager Margaret Daves stated that every year the County gives Rico Fire a \$2,000.00 donation annually. Mrs. Daves stated the County could give the same amount to Dove Creek Ambulance if the Commissioners choose to.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to donate \$2,000.00 to the Dove Creek Ambulance District.

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Social Services Update/Malynda Evans

Social Services Director Malynda Evans presented for approval the Record of Proceedings for March 4, 2024 as well as the financial documents through January 2024.

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

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Mrs. Evans discussed the Rocky Mountain Health Plans Retention Grant, which was received in 2023. The grant was solely for employee retention to enhance self-care, health and wellness. Some employees used the funds for their offices etc., while some requested to have the check given to them. This was a one-time grant and Mrs. Evans asked if the payroll department could issue checks to those who requested it that way.

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion to approve issuance of the onetime Rocky Mountain Health Plans Staff Retention funds to the employees that requested their portion in a check.

Commissioner Cook 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) to provide legal advice regarding HR not specific to any employee. It was his opinion that the matters constituted privileged attorney communications and therefore no minutes or recordings would be kept. The executive session began at 10:12am and ended at 10:18 no decisions were made.

Earthship Homes Community Presentation/ Doug Knuteson

Mathew Buttler Construction Manager for the Earthship Homes Community Project opened the presentation by introducing himself as Construction Manager, Eric Tolman-Realtor, and Doug Knuteson-Real-estate Developer. Their intent was to seek permission to build an Earthship community. There were questions regarding the use of waste tires in their construction plan and the stability long term. There was also much discussion regarding the OWTS systems and a Potable Water Source. The OWTS systems that would be used have an open-ended system with no infiltrators which would not be in compliance with Regulation 43. Another large concern was the potable water source in which the Earthship Homes design is to collect rainwater. The State of Colorado has rules and regulations regarding collection of rainwater and a waiver from the State would be required. The Potable Water source and OWTS System updates and construction plans would have to be revised and presented to the BOCC again. There was no decision or action taken.

Memorial Hall Sidewalks Discussion/Matt Prinster and Ty Gray

Ty Gray with the Dove Creek School District, and Matt Prinster attended the meeting to discuss the Memorial Hall Sidewalks. They would like to get and give detailed information regarding the project scope expectations, easements, utilities, and any other pertinent information related to installing the sidewalks. Dolores County is acquiring from the school district the property where the sidewalks will be installed. The sidewalk installation will be done by the Dolores County School District and the fine grade, paving and striping of the parking lot itself will be paid for and contracted by Dolores County. The school district would like to install the sidewalks and landscaping immediately if possible. A map and construction plan was provided to the BOCC. Huddleston Land Surveying will be surveying the property. Once the survey is finished, Attorney Golbricht will finalize a contract.

New Business

IGA Dispatcher User Resolution # 03-24-02: A Resolution to appoint Don Wilson as a Representative to the Cortez Fire Protection District Dispatch Accountability Committee.

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion to approve Resolution #03-24-02 to appoint Don Wilson as a Representative to the Cortez Fire Protection District Dispatch Accountability Committee.

Commissioner Cook seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Hire Project Manager for the Underfunded Courthouse Grant Project: Craig Wickstrom submitted a letter of consideration for the Professional Consulting Services (Project Manager) to oversee the firm hired to complete the schematic and design documents for the Court Facilities upgrade project, funded by the Underfunded Courthouse Grant. Craig has worked with Dolores County on multiple projects and has 20 plus years of experience in the construction industry.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to hire Craig Wickstrom/Wickstrom Engineering, LLC as the Project Manager for the Court Facilities upgrade project.

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Garchar closed the Board of County Commissioners Meeting and Opened as the Board of Health at 11:32 AM.

Dolores County Board of Health

The Dolores County Board of County Commissioners acting as the Board of Health discussed the property located at 51778 Highway 491, Cahone. The Dolores County Sheriff's Office received a complaint that there were 23 dogs in the home which is a violation of PACFA Rules regulated by the USDA. The complaint stated that the dogs were not taken care of medically or nutritionally. The DCSO obtained a search warrant for the property to determine the conditions, which then resulted in another search warrant allowing the removal of the dogs. During the search there was an obvious and severe problem of health and safety for the surrounding neighbors, including a high traffic business. The Sheriff requested Dolores County Public Health come and do a site visit while they were there. There were piles of trash and open trash pits, as well as buckets full of trash. It was also noticed that there was an RV parked in the back yard. The RV was not hooked up to a septic tank and the black water was being dumped into a 5-gallon bucket then being dumped in an unknown place. During the site search there were concerns about a OWTS failure.

Attorney Golbricht requested an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b) to provide legal advice. It was his opinion that the matters constituted privileged attorney communications and therefore no minutes or recordings would be kept.

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b). at 11:38AM

Commissioner Cook seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

The BOH came out of Executive Session at 12:09 PM. Attorney Golbricht questioned Public Health Director Tracey Beanland on her inspection of the property and what she saw. He also questioned the OWTS concerns. Mrs. Beanland stated there are piles of dirt covering the OWTS system, there was no lid to cover the system, and there is an RV onsite that appears to be using a bucket to dump their wastewater into. Mrs. Beanland also discussed the concern with the many piles of trash, animal feces everywhere, multiple 5-gallon buckets filled with trash and unknown items as well as unsafe electrical wiring. Sheriff Wilson agreed with Mrs. Beanland on the state of the property and the health and safety concerns. He stated there were 22 dogs seized from the property. The BOH discussed requesting Public Health proceed with a 24-hour notice of a cleanup of a nuisance pursuant to CRS 25-1-518, as well as refer the OWTS matter to the Septic Inspector to schedule an inspection and take appropriate action is needed.

Commissioner Cook made a motion made a motion to request Dolores County Public Health to proceed with a 24-hour notice of cleanup of a nuisance pursuant to CRS 25-1-518, as well as refer the OWTS matter to the Dolores County Septic Inspector to schedule an inspection.

Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.

All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Garchar Closed as the Board of Health and reopened as the Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner Garchar adjourned the meeting.

Chair to the Board of County Commissioners

Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners