

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

October 31, 2023

A regular meeting of the Dolores County Board of County Commissioners was held at the Dolores County Courthouse in Dove Creek, Colorado on October 31, 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 – Sue McWilliams, and Tracey Beanland Public Health Director

Zoom – County Planner/GIS Director Amber Fisher

Payroll for October 30, 2023

The following is a list of total payrolls by Department:

County Commissioners:	\$ 8,335.76	7 Employees		
County Clerk:	\$ 3,242.13	3 Employees		
County Treasurer:	\$ 2,492.29	3 Employees		
County Assessor:	\$ 3,572.76	3 Employees		
GIS:	\$ 1,261.10	1 Employee		
County Maintenance:	\$ 1,432.39	1 Employee	1 Part Time	
County Sheriff:	\$ 23,895.23	10 Employees	2 Part Time	
County Coroner:	\$ 459.93	1 Employee		
EMA:	\$ 1,312.07	1 Employee		
Extension:	\$ 1,402.26	2 Employees		
DCTV:	\$ 189.09		3 Part Time	
Veterans Office:	\$ 499.46		1 Part Time	
Fair Board:	\$ 96.97			1 Temp
Senior Services:	\$ 9,798.92	2 Employees	13 Part Time	
Health & Nurse:	\$ 5,240.27	3 Employees		
Mandatory Weed:	\$ 2,103.86	2 Employees	1 Part Time	
R&B Administration Other:	\$ 26,437.88	20 Employees	1 Part Time	1 Temp
Social Services:	\$ 11,345.23	7 Employees	2 Part Time	
TOTAL:	\$103,623.48	65 Employees	21 Part Time	2 Temp

Proceedings to the BOCC Meeting on October 31, 2023

Agenda

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion to accept the agenda.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
Both Commissioner Garchar and Yellowman voted in favor of the motion, Commissioner Cook was out.

Minutes

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion approving the minutes for the September 18, 2023 Meeting.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
Both Commissioner Garchar and Yellowman voted in favor of the motion, Commissioner Cook was out.

Expenditures

Commissioner Yellowman made a motion approving payment of the expenditures.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
Both Commissioner Garchar and Yellowman voted in favor of the motion, Commissioner Cook was out.

Argon Plant Land Development Agreement

The presented Land Development Agreement for the Argon Plant was the previously viewed and preliminarily approved Agreement, including the Road Mitigation Plan. The version presented for execution contains clarification that the Agreement shall be effective through reclamation.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the Argon Plant Land Development Agreement, including the Road Mitigation plan.
Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Sue McWilliams Property Use Discussion/Department of Ag Grant

Sue McWilliams presented to the BOCC her goal and vision for an Agrivoltaic Research Project. The goal of the project is to demonstrate that solar farms, dryland crops, and pollinators can not only be compatible but can benefit and enhance each other, preserving farmland and filling our nation's renewable energy goals and needs, while mitigating drought and climate change. This business model is multi-faceted, providing multiple benefits by using the land for several purposes simultaneously. Solar developers and our country's energy demands benefit from the electricity produced by the solar panels, bees gain resiliency from a diverse source of pollen and wind protection which increases bee health and honey production, and landowners continue to utilize the farm ground for crops, seeing a positive impact from improved soil health and erosion control. Ms. Williams seeks to install 99-108 solar panels (agreed upon number with Empire Electric) on non-irrigated farmland in Dolores County. Two to four rows of panels would be installed on ground mount solar frames, low to the ground to mitigate wind damage. Fencing would be installed around solar fields to avoid damage from wildlife. Total research area is expected to be approximately 100' x 100'. All electricity generated would be purchased and utilized locally by Empire Electric.

Proceedings to the BOCC Meeting on October 31, 2023

The BOCC determined this needed to go to the Planning Commission to determine if the request constitutes a new development or a land use change, or if the project is exempt as agricultural or residential. If the Planning Commission determines that this project is exempt, Ms. McWilliams does not need to return to the BOCC.

Executive Session

Attorney Golbricht requested an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b) to provide an update regarding potential litigation. 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 10:40AM. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to move to executive session at 10:40AM.
Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

American West Homes Settlement Agreement

Further details are needed and this item will be discussed at a later date.

New Business

Funds Transfer Resolution: #10-23-01 The Dolores County Treasurer made a request to Transfer Funds from the IMM2 Grant Fund to the Public Health Fund in the amount of \$5,131.00.

Commissioner Cook made a motion to accept Resolution #10-23-01 Funds Transfer from IMM2 Grant Fund to the Public Health Fund in the amount of \$5,131.00.
Commissioner Yellowman seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Garchar adjourned the meeting.

Chair to the Board of County Commissioners

Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

Approved November 20, 2023

