

**Proceedings of the Dolores County board of  
County Commissioners  
November 7, 2011**

A Regular meeting of the board of County Commissioners was held in their boardroom in Dove Creek, Colorado November 7, 2011. Present for the meeting were Chairman of the Board, Julie Kibel, & Commissioners Ernie Williams & Doug Stowe. Also present for the meeting was, Margret Daves, Deputy Clerk to the Board, & Dennis Golbricht, County Attorney.

**Guests**

Doug Funk, Dove Creek Press, Berna Ernst, Dolores County Assessor.

**Pledge**

The meeting was started by everyone standing and saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

Commissioner Stowe made a motion to approve the minutes of October 3, October 17, & the Payroll meeting October 31. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted yes.

**Additions and Corrections to the Agenda**

Commissioner Kibel added a sealed bid to the agenda under unfinished business. Commissioner Stowe wanted to add time sheet discussion to new business.

Commissioner Stowe made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes made. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

***New Business***

**Sealed Bid**

We received a sealed bid from Dove Creek Implement for a 2012 Ford Expedition for \$33,504.00 for the Sheriff's office. Commissioner Williams made a motion to accept that bid. Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted yes.

**Meetings & Information**

Commissioner Williams reported that Senator Udall was supposed to be here on Saturday for a meeting, but the meeting was cancelled due to the weather.

Commissioner Williams said he has had more meetings concerning the telecommunications project. He said they have purchased a HUB for the Cortez area.

He said RFPs have gone out but they are not getting much back on that.

Eagle Net is doing some work on this project but mostly on the Front Range.

Centurytel is not on board with this and there may be a lawsuit against the COG by them.

He said as far as getting fiber here not much is going on.

They are going to hire a manager for this project, but there is not enough money in their budget to pay for a manager for more than one year.

Dennis Golbricht, County Attorney asked about the fiber we are supposed to have here, and wondered about accessing that. Commissioner Williams said he is still looking into that but from what he understands it will be too expensive to access.

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He said the budget for the COG is not looking good for funding 2013. He said they are going to spend all of the money they have in 2012's budget. He said with that fact the COG wants to join forces with the (TPR) Transportation Planning Region. He said he sees a lot of problems with that and if it goes to a vote with TPR he will vote no. Dennis advised him to bring that back to have a vote by this board.

He said there could be issues with this because Montezuma County is not part of the COG.

He said the only reason we are in the COG to begin with is because of the telecommunications and possibly the use of our tower. He said that is not going to happen now.

Dennis Golbricht, County Attorney reminded the Commissioners we have not signed the MOU on this yet.

Commissioner Williams said the RFP's are looking for a manager. They had requests from two of the members of the COG wanting to be considered as manager. He said he had a real problem with this.

He said they are spending money fairly fast. He said he has asked for proof of this being a self sustaining business.

They discussed this some.

Commissioner Williams said that Eagle Net is having some problems of their own.

He said he has spent many hours on this. They may come back and start asking Counties for more money.

He said we may have to give up our part of the grant if we cannot afford this.

He said he is still hopeful that a line is already buried here and for us to be able to access it.

Commissioner Williams said he has been working with the State, Reims Construction & Montrose County to receive a permit to use water that is processed from evaporation ponds as a form of Mag Chloride for the last two years. He said he received a letter from the State stating we don't need a permit for this.

Dennis suggested we have someone test the water and compare it with the ingredients in Mag Chloride. Commissioner Williams said this could cost around \$5000.00 & we may be able to split the cost of that report by us, Reims Construction and Montrose County.

Dennis Golbricht, County Attorney, wanted to make it clear the letter states this does not fall under their permit process.

He said this test will be the first step in many to find out if we can actually use this water.

Commissioner Williams said if this proves we can use this water instead of Mag Chloride it will save us a lot of money.

Dennis suggested having an environmental firm do the testing. He said he could do a posting to other Counties to see if anyone else has done this. The Commissioners said yes.

Commissioner Williams asked to put \$2000 in the budget for 2012 for the testing of this project.

Commissioner Kibel said she knows the money in our budget is tight, but she would like to see the complete testing of this done now.

Dennis had a couple of questions from a legal standpoint concerning the treating of this water. Commissioner Williams said once a pond has been tested it would be isolated and not used again until it was emptied.

There was more discussion on this.

Commissioner Williams said he needs to do some more research on this and will get back to us with any information he can obtain.

Dennis also suggested we run this by CCI and he will contact other counties and see if anyone else has any information available.

Commissioner Williams said we need to look outside the box for more ways for the county to save money.

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Commissioner Stowe made a motion to put \$2000 in the budget for this waste water testing with the stipulation that this money not be spent without a vote by this board.

Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted yes.

Commissioner Stowe said the Housing Solutions budget is in the black by a little over \$100 dollars. He said they have cut back on employees, and have added some furlough days.

He said they are working on a weatherization project. They have started a company called WeatherCO & it will be an LLC within Housing Solutions.

He said now with all of the paperwork and red tape for a weatherization project to be done it takes 6-8 months to get completed. He said with this new company a lot of that red tape and paperwork would be eliminated. He said this is all tied to 4Core. He said if this takes off it will be a good deal.

He said Housing Solutions looks better than it has in a long time.

Commissioner Kibel said the Coordination group had a discussion on the Boggy/Glade decision. She said the general concession was they “tossed us a few bones.” She said we still lost several miles of roads but we have established good coordination with the Forest Service.

She said the comment period ends November 15 and they want to encourage the public to comment.

She said the group is working on a loop within the TMP and they have asked the Forest Service to name that the Ron Heaton Loop. She said the Forest Service was in favor of that.

She said there is an informational meeting tomorrow night in the courtroom concerning this new Alternative and the Forest Service has sent us some information for that meeting and will be here to field questions from the public.

Commissioner Kibel said she had an opportunity to teach a class at the Vo Tech School concerning how government works. She said it was a good experience for her.

She said she attended a Triple A meeting & it is going good.

She said however she is very concerned about the ARCH program. She said this is a 5 county hot line service to field questions concerning senior issues. She said they were told next year that the Older Americans Act will be cutting funding next year. She said the ARCH representatives were there and their budget showed that this would be a \$53,000 per year cost. She said they originally asked for funding of 5% from counties. She said she told them we would not do that. She said they dropped that and are asking for an in-kind contribution. She said they have set up an advisory board for this which will be good.

Dennis said the County Attorney Conference is coming up next week and he is looking forward to that. He wants to share with them the success we have had with the Forest Service and coordination.

Commissioner Williams asked about the Kinder Morgan issue. Dennis said he was contacted by an Attorney from Kinder Morgan wanting a copy of the LDA we had adopted.

Commissioner Kibel said we received a letter from a concerned citizen in regards to us “sacrificing the people around the plant”. She said she would like to make sure the people understand that we will follow our land use code and we will not sacrifice the people.

She also wanted to note that any complaint that is written should be signed by the complainant along with a telephone number.

Commissioner Kibel wanted them to inform us at the next meeting what they are doing.

**Resolution for Conservation Trust**

The Commissioners had a resolution to sign.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to sign resolution # 11-11-01 to transfer funds from the Conservation Trust Fund to the General Fund in the amount of \$7391.16. Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted yes.

**Executive Session**

Dennis Golbricht, County Attorney asked for an Executive Session under CRS 24-6-402B, to discuss legal matters concerning budgetary issues and budget monies. He said this is attorney client privileged information & no minutes will be kept.

Commissioner Williams so moved, Commissioner Stowe seconded that motion. All three Commissioners voted yes. It began at 11:15A.M.

Commissioner Stowe made a motion to come out of executive session. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. It ended at 12:17P.M.

The Commissioners recessed for lunch at. 12: 17P.M.

**Budget Issues & Time Sheets**

Margret had to leave for this portion of the meeting, no one was available to take minutes and the meeting was not recorded.

The Commissioners reconvened at 1:15P.M.

This portion of the minutes is from the Attorney and the Commissioners.

The Commissioners also discussed the need for time sheets. They said that the time sheets are necessary for documentation of hours worked & to keep track of vacation and sick leave used.

Commissioner Stowe made a motion that states: All full time salary employees must turn in a time sheet to the Commissioner's office three business days prior to payday. If a time sheet is not turned in Direct Deposit will not be filed. Instead a paper check will be issued and held in the Commissioner's office until a time sheet is presented. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted yes.

County Assessor Berna Ernst was at the afternoon session for continued budget discussions concerning employee compensation and specific trainings.

The Commissioners expressed their concerns regarding the need for two certified appraisers when only one is required by statute.

Berna emphasized her desire to maintain two certified appraisers and to continue to budget for ongoing training.

The Commissioners pointed out that the training budget is in place for 2012, however beyond that budgetary period there may not be continued funding for training for two appraisers.

After much discussion, Commissioner Stowe made a motion to provide both appraisers with a onetime step increase of \$50 each per month in response to Berna's urgings that recognition be given to them for their extra work and certification consistent with the representation made by some members of the Board midyear.

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Commissioner Stowe added that in the future Berna may need to make tough decisions regarding maintaining two appraisers. Those decisions may include one appraiser to continue in that capacity.

Commissioner Stowe suggested that she relay that information to her employees.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kibel.

Commissioner Williams expressed his objection to any form of pay raise and questioned at length the ongoing need for two appraisers and the associated training cost thereof.

A vote was taken, Commissioners Kibel and Stowe voted yes. Commissioner Williams voted no.

The meeting was then adjourned.

After several minutes, Ms. Ernst returned to the Board and the meeting was reconvened.

She informed the Board that her employees appreciate and understand the budget is tight, and they declined the step increase. Ms. Ernst told the Commissioners that her employees sought the recognition and confirmation of prior Commissioner Representation rather than additional compensation.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:45P.M.

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Chairperson of the Board of County Commissioners

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Deputy Clerk to the  
Board of County Commissioners