

**Proceedings of the Dolores County Board of
County Commissioners**

July 30, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held in the Public Service Center in Dove Creek, Colorado on July 30, 2020. Present for the meeting were Chairperson Julie Kibel, Commissioner Steve Garchar and Commissioner Floyd Cook, Attorney Dennis Golbricht, County Administrator Margret Daves and Deputy Clerk to the Board Jody Gardner.

The meeting began with everyone standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests

Emergency Manager Keith Keesling, Community Voice Ronda Lancaster, Senior Services Director Julie Bingham, Public Health Nurse Mary Randolph, Extension Secretary Oma Fleming, CSU Extension Agent Gus Westerman, Sheriff Don Wilson, Deputy Treasurer Machel Jones, Social Services Director Malynda Evans, HR and Finance Specialist Lenore Johnson, Mapping and Addressing Specialist Amber Fisher, Treasurer Janie Stiasny, Chamber of Commerce Representative Kendra Cook, Road and Bridge Supervisor Steve Davis, Assessor Berna Ernst, Clerk and Recorder Lana Hancock, Maintenance Supervisor Steven Stiasny, Groundhog Vista HOA Representatives Tonya Yates, Shawn and Kyan Maloney and J. Wood, Road and Bridge Secretary Linda Rehmert and Senior Services Bookkeeper Alisa Schultz

Agenda

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

Minutes

Commissioner Cook made a motion to approve the regular BOCC minutes from July 20, 2020.
Commissioner Garchar seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Department Head Meeting

Assessor: Berna Ernst said her office is working on certification but it won't be completed for a few more weeks.

Treasurer: Janie Stiasny will do an on-line tax sale this year due to COVID to keep people out of the courthouse. Arrangements are being made with a company that will handle the on-line sale. Ms. Stiasny is hopeful people will be able to participate in the bidding.

Attorney Golbricht previously reviewed an agreement with SRI, a tax sale internet auction service.
Commissioner Garchar made a motion to sign the contract with SRI.
Commissioner Cook seconded the motion.
All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

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Clerk and Recorder: Lana Hancock's office is busy preparing for the November elections. They have been participating in a lot of trainings.

Maintenance: Steven Stiasny said the upstairs bathrooms are painted.

A recent "furry" problem in the Courthouse downstairs was taken care.

Road & Bridge: Secretary Linda Rehmert said the Road and Bridge department crew has been very busy on the Dolores/Norwood Road and should be done there next week.

Nurse: Mary Randolph- See COVID discussion below.

Human Resources: Lenore Johnson had nothing to share.

EMS: Keith Keesling has been completing State, Federal and other grants or reports.

The CVRF funding has been approved. We will be having a meeting next week to start sending in reimbursement requests.

There is new funding that may be available for infrastructure and other things, that could be very beneficial for the county.

Mr. Keesling has been working very hard with the food pantries in our county.

Extension: CSU Extension Agent Gus Westerman said focus is on preparing for the County Fair. CSU provided guidance for safely conducting interviews and judging for the 4-H kids during fair time. COVID-19 has presented issues for leaders who were unable to meet face to face with the 4-H kids.

Region 9 has had emergency loans available for a month, with no applicants to date. The traditional loan program has been very busy with some startup businesses.

Mr. Westerman has been working with the West Fork Fire folks on applying for a grant from DOLA. The deadlines were changed to October 1st.

The CSU fruit tree program has kept the office very busy. They have a beautiful crop. The annual U-Pick will not be held due to COVID-19.

Mr. Westerman said there have been people in Dolores County that have received seeds from China, if you do, please bring those to Extension office.

Sheriff: Don Wilson said the Forest Service and BLM are removing fire bans effective July 31. Mr. Wilson believes the County needs to wait and see what the weather is like in the next week or two before consideration is taken in lifting the County ban.

A meeting will be held with the Town of Dove Creek to discuss compliance with Senate Bill 214 requirements.

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Extension and Weed: Secretary Oma Fleming said the weeds are growing! The District Weed Inspector will be leaving next week to return to another job. The Weed District has sent out 90+ weed notices this summer.

The first Jr. Rodeo went very well being held as a 2-day event.

Plans for the County Fair are coming together.

Social Services: Malynda Evans is starting to see increases in requests for the food stamp program.

A grant is available through the Colorado Work Force Center to provide employment to someone interested in going back to the workforce.

There is the possibility Ms. Evans may have another intern for the Child Welfare program.

The new Social Services building construction is coming along.

Senior Services: Julie Bingham had nothing to report.

Addressing and Mapping: Amber Fisher has had issues with several new addresses lately.

Ms. Fisher has been working with the Town of Dove Creek on making new street signs.

County Administrator: Margret Daves said she has begun working on the budget. She is waiting on the results from the 2019 audit which should be done soon.

Plans are being made for improvements at the Cahone Park, including a gazebo.

Attorney Golbricht: Attorney Golbricht said people are receiving letters offering to purchase property. The requests appear legitimate, even if the tactics could take advantage of the unwary. If residents start receiving more of these requests, the County may want to do a public service announcement.

Maggie Love will do the appraisal for the West Fork Fire property with completion by the end of August.

Attorney Golbricht reviewed a letter from Jones and Demille for a letter for a fire flush hydrant at the new Social Service building.

Commissioner Garchar: Attended a Region 9 meeting

Commissioner Cook: The Social Services new construction project is moving along.

Commissioner Kibel: Shared that the Commissioner's office staff has been taking care of Cabin Creek day-use facility. The next time we do that we will open it up to anyone in the county who wants to participate.

Ms. Kibel worked with Fish and Wildlife on the Sage Grouse Safe Harbor agreement last week. She will be working with Amber Fisher on mapping some of our county areas and also working with the restore grant to get a coordinator in our area. Ms. Kibel has participated in meetings with hydrologists.

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Groundhog Vista Home Owners Association Weed, Fire and Septic Compliance Discussion

Groundhog Subdivision HOA President Tonya Yates and others joined the meeting via ZOOM conferencing to discuss the possibility of implementing a fire protection district for Groundhog residents and property owners. Also discussed was subdivision road maintenance and weed mitigation.

New Business

COVID within the Workplace Discussion: Commissioner Kibel handed out the most current COVID regulations “Mitigating Workplace Outbreaks.” Public Health Nurse Mary Randolph explained the protocols set for the workplace and the possible symptoms related to COVID. A flow sheet was shared and discussed.

Attorney Golbricht clarified for the record that the COVID Health Pandemic trumps the employee handbook criteria.

Thirsty Bird Change Order for Pioneer Center Concrete Completion: Commissioner Kibel read the Change Order request by Thirsty Bird. Commissioner Cook explained the reasons for the change order.

Commissioner Garchar made a motion approving the terms of the Change Order Request. Commissioner Cook seconded the motion. All three Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

American Hero’s Executive Order Discussion and Possible Letter Draft: There was discussion in regards to President Trump’s Executive Order on building and rebuilding monuments to American Heroes. Recently, many statues and monuments that preserve the memory of our collective American story have been vandalized, destroyed or removed. President Trump has made clear that this Administration will not stand for anarchy and allow our Nation’s history to be erased. We must preserve the story of America’s heroes.

The task force was assigned the responsibility of seeking proposed site options for the creation of a National Garden of American Heroes. The request was sent to Counties across the US that have a site of natural beauty that enables visitors to enjoy nature, walk among statues, and be inspired to learn about great figures of America’s history with a preference that the site be on lands already in Federal ownership.

The BOCC were all in agreement that the Dolores River Canyon Overlook site could potentially be an option for the monument. Commissioner Kibel and Clerk to the Board Jody Gardner will draft a letter on behalf of the County with the suggested location.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

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Executive Session

There was no Executive Session required.

Public Comment

There was no request for public comment.

Commissioner Kibel closed the meeting.



Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners



Deputy Clerk
to the Board of County Commissioners

