

**Tax Protest  
August 4, 2015**

Commissioner Kibel heard a tax hearing from Jack Knuckles, Dolores County Resident. She gave him a quick update and what the commissioners made a motion to do.

Jack said he is protesting the values of his dry land parcel. He said he has a 2014 Business Outlook from CU. The annual wages by sector say that ag is the lowest paid sector. He referenced the Dolores County Profile which shows that \$17,460 is the average values sold per farm with an average cost of production \$29,9686 per farm.

Commissioner Kibel said income doesn't match production. She Joi and Berna did everything correctly and we want to battle this legislatively. She said there is not enough info to show the actual cost to the farmer.

There was discussion on the CU study.

Commissioner Kibel said that Kyle Hooper, State Tax Assessor said the expenses stayed level and we know that isn't true.

There was discussion on this.

Jack said if it's a State wide mandate how do other counties lower their taxes and Kibel said they changed their yields. We weren't able to do that because a few years ago.

Jack asked about wildlife damage. He said he had 150 elk running in his field and that affected his yield.

Commissioner Kibel said that is a great point. She discussed landlord/tenant ratios. She said we want the state to see that we are different than the eastern slope.

They discussed CRP land.

Commissioner Kibel thanked Jack.

**August 5, 2015**

Commissioner Kibel heard a protest from Christina Coleman.

She said the valuation went up over 50% on the dry land. She said Montezuma County capped their ag land at 22%. She discussed high altitude and said her land is at 7,200 feet. She said she doesn't grow wheat and cannot recoup the money that the state said she should be receiving.

Commissioner Kibel gave an update from the tax hearings on August 3, 2015.

There was discussion on CRP land and costs and expenditures.

She said that she never received her letter although she felt she filed the correct paperwork.

Commissioner Kibel thanked her for her time.

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Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners

Attest:

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Deputy Clerk to the  
Board of County Commissioners

