

**Proceedings of the Dolores County Board of
County Commissioners
March 10, 2015**

A Special meeting of the board of County Commissioners was held in the Montezuma County Commissioner's boardroom in Cortez, Colorado, March 10, 2015. Present for the meeting was Chairman of the Board, Julie Kibel, Commissioners Ernie Williams & Doug Stowe. Also present for the meeting was Margret Daves, Special Projects Manager and Lorraine Hancock, Deputy Clerk to the Board.

Guests

Montezuma County Commissioners Keenan Ertel, James Lambert, and Larry Don Suckla.

Pledge

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

Solar Farms

The Dolores County Commissioners met with the Montezuma County Commissioners to discuss Solar Farms.

Commissioner Ertel said that the Montezuma County Commissioners are coming up with ideas and plans for solar energy. There is a large solar farm in Alamosa County that he recently toured that consists of about 300 acres and 200-250 solar panels. Doug Roth, GIS and James Dietrich, Natural Resources Planning and Public Lands Coordinator put together a map showing what land is best suited for solar farms in Montezuma County.

Darin Carej, with EnergyWise Companies attended the meeting and discussed potential tax credits, usage and production numbers.

Commissioner Stowe asked how the county goes about not competing with the private enterprise.

Commissioner Ertel said that he doesn't see the government doing the solar farm. They would like to market Montezuma County's solar "availability" to a contractor. He said the county doesn't want to get into the business of solar farms; the county will get their benefits from the tax revenue and the jobs that the solar farm would bring in.

There was discussion on the potential tax revenue.

There was discussion on enterprise zone credit areas.

Commissioner Suckla said that Montezuma County wants to sell the power to California.

There was discussion on selling and transporting energy through the transmission lines.

Commissioner Suckla said that the length that the tax credit will last is the whole key. He said that their goal is to bring in investors and do a land lease for 25 years.

Commissioner Kibel asked about overlays.

Commissioner Suckla said that the investors will still have to go through the Planning Commission but that will only take one month. He discussed the requirements for land to house a solar farm.

Montezuma County has already sent out brochures to potential investors.

Commissioner Suckla discussed the strength in having La Plata County, Montezuma County and Dolores County work together on this.

There was discussion on how much energy is needed now and in the future and there will be a need for multiple solar farms.

The three counties will have a meeting and tour the Alamosa solar farms at a later date.

There was discussion on the NCA.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm.

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners

Attest:

Deputy Clerk to the
Board of County Commissioners