

**Proceedings of the Dolores County board of
County Commissioners
May 18, 2015**

A Regular meeting of the board of County Commissioners was held in their boardroom in Dove Creek, Colorado May 18, 2015. Present for the meeting was Chairman of the Board, Julie Kibel and Commissioners Ernie Williams and Doug Stowe. Also present for the meeting was Lorraine Hancock, Deputy Clerk to the Board, Dennis Golbricht, County Attorney, and Margret Daves, Special Projects Manager.

Guests

Doug Funk, Dove Creek Press, Jon Leibowitz, Montezuma Land Conservancy, Steve Davis, Road and Bridge Supervisor, Marti Spitzer, REMAX Realtor, Marc Snyder, Four Corners Film Office, Brian White and Derek Padilla, U.S. Forest Service, Jerry Martin, Dolores County Sheriff, David Cressler and Bryce Capron, DCDC, Josiah Forkner, Social Services Director, Laura Lewis, Region 9, Bruce Hankins, Jarrod Gersch, and Steve Cole, RE-2J School District Representatives, Paul Hooler, Montezuma County Emergency Manager, Marietta Eaton, BLM.

Pledge

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

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Stowe made a motion to accept the Minutes from May 4, 2015.
Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted in favor.

Agenda

Commissioner Stowe made a motion to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted in favor.

Approval of Payroll & Bills

Commissioner Williams made a motion to accept the payroll and bills.
Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted in favor.

The following is a list of total payroll by Department:

County Commissioners:	\$5,763.47	6 Employees	
County Commissioner Other	230.87		1 Part Time
Transfer Station	236.73		1 Part Time
County Clerk:	2,483.94	3 Employees	
County Treasurer:	2,134.72	2 Employees	
County Assessor:	3,069.70	3 Employees	1 Part Time
GIS:	934.53		2 Part Time
County Maintenance:	1,255.46	1 Employee	1 Part Time
Traffic Enforcement	1,165.47	1 Employee	
County Sheriff:	8,296.31	6 Employees	4 Part Time
County Coroner:	360.31	1 Employee	
EMA/EMS:	567.78		1 Part Time
Extension:	385.81	1 Employee	
DCTV:	1,318.00		5 Part Time
Veterans Office:	480.22		1 Part Time
Senior Services:	6,540.84	2 Employee	15 Part Time
Health & Nurse:	2,499.63	2 Employees	
Mandatory Weed:	1,068.71	2 Employees	1 Part Time
Admin Other:	17,087.28	17 Employees	1 Part Time

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, May 4, 2015

Social Services	<u>3,058.96</u>	3 Employees
TOTAL	\$58,938.74	

Meetings and Information

Commissioner Kibel attended a Senior Advisory Meeting and a Triple A meeting that both went well. She said that notices of evaluations were mailed out and she has heard concerns with the agricultural side. She said that on the back of the evaluation there are instructions on how to protest the values and all questions need to be directed to the assessor. She called the Division of Property Taxation and spoke with Kyle Hooper, an Agricultural Taxation Expert and he said that there is a statewide increase. The increase is based on productive capabilities of the land and commodity price which is on a 10 year rolling cycle and we have had historically high commodity cases. She said that the state has the right to use this formula and land owners have to protest with the assessor's office first. She said that farmers pay less with this formula than with the open market. She also said that they do a state audit as well to make sure there aren't any errors.

Commissioner Williams said the water lawyer started a legal review for the proposed Lower Dolores River NCA and the cost to our county will be around \$1,000-1,500.00. The grand total cost for the review will be around \$15,000 and the Southwest Water Board is going to cover nearly 80% of that through a grant. There was discussion on the grant and Commissioner Williams will make sure everything is on track with the grant. He said that his goals are to protect the irrigation water for the farmers and also to protect the fish. Once the legal review is complete he will give a presentation on the findings.

Commissioner Stowe said that the VA handicapped van is working out very well. Dolores County is partnering with Montezuma County to transport Veterans to medical appointments and the first Montezuma County Veteran is scheduled to be transported at the end of May.

Commissioner Kibel said that Senior Services drivers who may need to drive the VA handicapped van will be paid out of the VA budget. She said that way we can track the transportation costs and know what we need to put in the budget for VA travel.

Commissioner Williams said that as we increase services, we will need to make sure that some of the costs will be covered by grants. He said that we can't expand our services and expect the county to pick up the extra costs.

Commissioner Stowe said that there should be funds available to help pay for VA transportation.

Margret said that once we know what we are looking at in regards to the transportation budget there should be grants that we can apply for.

There was discussion on grants.

Montezuma Land Conservancy

Jon Leibowitz, Montezuma Land Conservancy was here to give an update and say Thank You for the support the County gives. He said they are working on another significant project in Dolores County that will be closing before the end of the year. Since 2012 they have protected 3,341 acres of occupied habitat. He said the new piece will be an additional 1,300 acres of sage grouse habitat in the protected column for Dolores County and will allow for the continuation of grazing as an agricultural use.

Jon said that they are also working on a 900 acre parcel in San Miguel County. He said there has been some interest from land owners so there may be more projects coming up. He asked if the county would like to help fund other projects.

Commissioner Kibel said that if the land doesn't have sage grouse as an issue, we probably will not be able to donate funds.

Jon said that a majority of their work is in sage grouse occupied areas. He asked if the county would be interested in helping with the Washburn Conservation Easement.

There was discussion on this.

Commissioner Williams said that we don't necessarily have a line item in our budget nor do we have the funds that other counties might have. He said that it is hard for us to come up with the money if it's not in our budget and it would be helpful to know what might be coming up around budget time.

Jon said that they have land owners all the time that want to do a conservation easement.

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, May 18, 2015

Commissioner Williams said that Jon should look at long term projects and let us know around budget time. He said that we still don't know where we are going to be with the listing of the sage grouse and what the 4D rules are going to be.

Jon said that they are always doing outreach and if we run into anyone who would like to do a conservation easement in Dolores County please refer them to him.

The commissioners thanked Jon for coming in.

Subdivision Exemption

The County received a subdivision exemption application from Jerry Huskey, Dolores County Resident who wants to subdivide 10 acres from an 80 acre parcel.

Dennis said that there was a little bit of confusion regarding the preliminary approval. When she first came in Marti Spitzer, REMAX Realtor asked to do a variance on the property because the bank wouldn't finance the property as a whole. The board decided that a variance wouldn't work but a subdivision exemption would work. She came back in and it was noted in the minutes from the April 6, 2015 meeting that she submitted a subdivision exemption application. The minutes from the same meeting incorrectly state that the subdivision exemption was granted preliminary approval during a previous meeting. The April 6, 2015 minutes aren't entirely accurate but we do have an application that has been paid for, a survey and Mylar and it appears to fall within the rules and regulation of a subdivision exemption. The smaller parcel is 5.03 acres and the remaining track is 74.93 acres. The bullet parcels border county roads. There is more than enough room for septic systems and a well. Dennis asked Marti if she could represent that a subdivision exemption hasn't been granted in the last five years on this property and Marti said there hasn't been an exemption on this property in the last five years.

There was discussion on how the parcels were laid out.

Dennis said that there are set backs requirements off of the boundaries.

Marti said that the property owners will probably come back within 5 years and remove the subdivision exemption.

Commissioner Williams said that they can do a request to consolidate at any time; they will just not be able to do another exemption for 5 years.

Dennis said that he feels that this board would not have a problem consolidating the property then later going through another subdivision exemption to do a different configuration on the property.

Dennis said that it is his recommendation that the board approves this subdivision exemption even though there was some confusion with the preliminary approval. He said that everything looks good on the vesting deeds.

Marti said that she would get the Mylar signed and brought back within the next few days for recording.

Dennis suggested holding the resolution until the Mylar is signed and returned.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the Subdivision Exemption for Jerry Huskey.

Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Road and Bridge New Hire

Steve Davis, Road and Bridge Supervisor was here to recommend two new hires for Road and Bridge. He said he has two new employees budgeted in for the year but originally wasn't going to hire a second person until June but he feels like he had two good applicants.

Commissioner Williams said that we had it in the budget to hire this winter but we had a light winter and didn't need the extra hand. He said that he feels like it is a smart move to hire two employees at this time with the new Road and Bridge building in the works. He said that both applicants have their CDL's.

Commissioner Kibel recused herself from discussion and voting since she is related to one of the applicants.

Commissioner Williams said that the two applicants are Cody Curtis and Larry Kibel.

Steve said that the decision for the recommendation was made by him and his two foremen.

Commissioner Williams said that he is going to be discussing comp time and he asked if hiring two hands will help keep comp time down and Steve said yes.

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, May 18, 2015

Steve said that he has worked with Larry in the past.

Commissioner Stowe made a motion to approve both applicants for the Road and Bridge positions.

Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Two commissioners voted yes.

Commissioner Williams asked how the Fossil Water is working and Steve said that it is doing really well. Steve said that there is a smell to it but just when it first goes down.

Commissioner Williams said a letter about the Fossil Water needs to be submitted to the paper for anyone interested on how it compares to mag chloride including an MSDS on both chemicals.

Margret Daves and Lorraine Hancock will work on a letter.

Four Corners Film Office Presentation

Marc Snyder, Four Corners Film Office was here to give a presentation on how the film office can bring economic development to the Four Corners area.

Dennis said that he attended a Region 9 meeting last month and there was discussion regard how much Region 9 is contributing to the film office. He presented the position of the county, by reporting that the county is not interested in giving direct funding to the film office. Region 9 stated that the dues to the counties would likely not be increased as a result of any extra support given by Region 9 to the film office. Dennis said that he was asked why the county would not financially support the film office and he suggested that the Film Office attend this commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Williams said that the Film Office was a business that first came to Region 9 and the film office was never sustainable on its own without Region 9's help. He said that there hasn't been any interest in anyone filming in our county.

Laura Lewis, Region 9 said that the film office has done a lot in Dolores and they sent a report at the end of the year that breaks everything down.

Marc said that his background is in film production and he is from Durango but has worked in L.A. He said about 5 years ago he was brainstorming on how to bring in economic development and came up with the idea for the film office. He said that the film office was never meant to make money, just bring money to our area. He said that as a network, we could create enough work here to stimulate the economy. He said that to bring millions of dollars to the area each county seat would need to donate \$2,500-5,000 a year to the film office for it to run. He said recently a show called "Shut Up and Drive" was filmed on Hwy 141.

Commissioner Williams asked where that was filmed on Hwy 141 and Marc said that it was up by Gateway.

Commissioner Williams said that isn't in our county.

Commissioner Williams asked how the film office is specifically benefiting Dolores County.

Marc said that there has been a bunch of filming in our area including an independent film. He discussed some filming in Montezuma County. He said that these areas have invested in the film office, whether it is interactive or financial.

Commissioner Williams said to be clear, we are all invested in the film office that is supported by Region 9. He said all of the counties write support letters for block grants and pay dues.

Laura said that Brew Dogs, Bounty Hunters and Animal Planet have filmed in this area.

Commissioner Kibel asked if they get a hold of the land owners to get permission to film.

Marc said that it depends on what their needs are. Private land owners are being compensated if need be and permits are being filed if necessary. He said he has just taken over as the coordinator and that his job is to know people who know where he can find things such as wheat fields.

Commissioner Kibel said that he should start his search with the county.

Dennis asked how he handles film credits.

Marc said that if it's a TV show or commercial there are no credits. If it's a film then Dolores County credits would be included at the end of the film.

Marc said that usually when a film company wants to film in an area, they contact the Chamber or Visitor Center. He said usually these calls move fast and that is what the film office is for. He said that most of the calls will be commercials and reality show pitches.

Commissioner Williams asked how much money the average commercial would bring.

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, May 18, 2015

Marc said anywhere from a \$250,000-500,000.00 in local spending. He discussed a client that was looking at filming in Rico.

Commissioner Williams asked how the money would be spent in our area and Marc said with lodging and dining mostly. Commissioner Williams mentioned that we do not have sales tax or lodging tax in Dolores County so the tax benefits wouldn't be from that. He said that when they shut the roads down to film, it shuts down people that are trying to make a living. He said that if you are the working person out there, it's not putting any money in your pocket. He said that he understands that it can bring funding to the area but we don't want to hurt the local people that are trying to make a living. When we spend tax dollars we need to bring services back to the area. He asked Marc to let us know if something is going to be filmed in Dolores County so we can plan for it.

Marc said that he would like to have a better relationship with our county.

Commissioner Kibel said now he knows who he can contact in our county if anything comes up.

Marc said that he is happy to come and answer any questions we may have.

Commissioner Williams asked how the office will be funded.

Laura said that no decisions have been made yet.

Commissioner Kibel said that it is a perfect project for Region 9 because it's an economic booster to the area.

Commissioner Williams asked if the county dues will go up.

Laura said that it hasn't been decided.

Commissioner Kibel asked if Marc sees the film office ever going off by itself.

Marc said that through permitting they could bring in funds but right now they are trying to build their reputation.

Laura said the budget is \$25,000 per year for the film office.

The commissioners thanked Marc for coming in.

Resolution 05-15-02 U.S. Forest Funds

The Commissioners received funds from the U.S. Federal Forest Secure Rural Schools Program.

They had a resolution to sign to disperse those funds.

Commissioner Williams read resolution # 05-15-02 which states: The County Treasurer reported receipt of \$29,746.32 from the U.S. Federal Forest Fund. Upon a motion duly made, seconded and passed, it was resolved to transfer the full amount to the County School Fund under H.R. 1424 Secure Rural Schools Program. The estimated remainder of funds in the amount of \$151,206.00 will be dispersed after final funds are received. Road and Bridge will receive their full 50% of the U.S. Federal Forest Funds.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to sign resolution 05-15-02.

Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Resolution 05-15-03 U.S. Forest Funds

The Commissioners received funds from the U.S. Federal Forest Secure Rural Schools Program.

They had a resolution to sign to disperse those funds.

Commissioner Stowe asked if the school should be in attendance.

After discussion on this, a decision was made to ask representatives from the RE2J School District to attend the meeting.

Bruce Hankins, Jarod Gersch, and Steve Cole, RE-2J School District Representatives were present while Commissioner Williams read the resolution # 05-15-03 which states: The estimated Balance of \$361,904 from this fund will be dispersed in the following way: 50% of a balance of \$180,952.00 will be dispersed to the School District. The remainder or 50% which is approximately \$180,952.00 will be dispersed to the County Road and Bridge Fund.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to sign resolution 05-15-03.

Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion.

All three representatives from the school district voted yes. All three commissioners voted yes.

Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment Contract

Commissioner Williams motion to sign the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Contract.

Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, May 18, 2015

**Sage Grouse, Septic Regulations, Dolores Fire Protection District,
RBSC Building, NCA, STUD Strategies**

No updates.

Land Swap/Gravel Pit

The land swap is on hold.

Underfunded Grant- Court Clerk

Margret Daves, Special Projects Manager said that the Underfunded Grant for the Court Clerk's office was approved. She will be working on the details for the project to go out to bid.

EOM

Two commissioners will not be able to attend the End of Month Meeting.
Commissioner Williams made a motion to cancel the End of Month Meeting.
Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Social Services

Josiah Forkner, Social Services Director was here to present the Social Services Minutes from April.
Commissioner Stowe made a motion to accept the minutes.
Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Josiah said LEAP is coming to an end. He said all counties can over spend their child welfare budget which happened to Dolores County this year but it has already been mitigated. He said that they are doing audits on child welfare right now.

Commissioner Williams said that we keep an eye on the comp time with our employees. He said that one of the Social Services employees has quite a bit of comp time right now. He said that we have a line item for an extra case worker and he asked what we can do.

There was discussion on the extra case worker taking on a day a week so the Dolores County Social Services employee could cut a day a week and Josiah will be working on a plan of action.

Commissioner Stowe made a motion to accept the financials from April from Social Services.
Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted yes.

Commissioner Kibel discussed the possibilities of the STUD Program becoming a 501c3 or having the county become the "umbrella" for STUD.
There will be a workshop on STUD.

Forest Service

Recreation Site Analysis

Derek Padilla and Brian White, US Forest Service were here to give an update.

Brian White, Forest Recreation manager gave an update on the San Juan National Forest Recreation Program including the challenges, sustainable recreation initiatives, staffing and budget as well as workshop stations. He said that there are 127 developed recreation sites, 43 campgrounds, 1,824 miles of trails, part or all of 4 wildernesses, 125 recreation special use permits, the Purgatory Ski Area, and 3 Nordic ski areas. Some of the challenges are changing use patterns, technology, and demographics, providing safe and appealing sites and facilities, increased costs with limited funding and staffing, aging infrastructure and supporting local economies. He said that they are doing this for national direction for long-term viability, to ensure safety of the public and workforce, and identify obsolete facilities that may not meet public needs as well as to identify and target the highest value sites. He discussed why the operating costs are on the rise including beetle killed trees, sewage-disposal costs, etc. He said that the replacement value of developed recreation areas total around \$22.2 million. He said that special uses contribute to local economy, sales, lodging taxes, etc. and right now there are 3 full time

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, May 18, 2015

recreation special use staff members. He said that the work plan will be done by January of 2016.

Commissioner Kibel said that she was approached by a father with a handicapped child who used to frequent a handicapped accessible campground that is now closed. She also said that she would like to see Ferris Campground stay open, especially for the school to use.

Commissioner Stowe said that a camp ground with sidewalks is really important for the handicapped; he would like to see that be opened back up.

Commissioner Kibel said that the county has partnered with the BLM before and maybe we can partner with the Forest Service.

Commissioner Williams said that even though our area is less popular it is still used by a lot of people. He said that we are seeing a lot of things go to larger areas and our area is being over looked.

Brian discussed how they prioritize a recreation site. He said that they will be coming up with a draft plan on these sites.

Commissioner Stowe asked if the schools and the county can come up with the appropriate funds, could a camp ground stay open.

Derek said that because they are in the early part of this process he doesn't have a clear answer. He said that if the county is willing to bare the full cost of the site, then possibly it could be kept open or re opened.

Brian said that San Juan County stepped up and helped fund some rest sites. He said that before they start closing sites they will look at cost cutting at other sites. Brian said that he will look at the deferred maintenance on Ferris Campground and get back with the county.

There was discussion on concessionaire fees.

Commissioner Williams said that we are in it for the people in our area whereas the concessionaires are in it for the money. He said that we may be interested in partnering up and will be looking at the Recreation Site Analysis. He asked the cost of upkeep on trail heads.

Derek said trail heads are relatively low cost and campgrounds have the highest costs.

There was discussion on if they close down some sites, will other sites be improved.

Brian said that they have moved restrooms from one site to another site that may need it more for a net wash.

Brian discussed the Recreation Sites Analysis process timeline. He said that they will also be doing a NEPA process.

Commissioner Kibel asked about a comment period.

Brian recommended drafting a letter of concern.

There was discussion on the sites in Dolores County.

BLM

Marietta Eaton from BLM said that there is not a lot going on right now.

Commissioner Williams said that he took some kids out on a field trip to Hovenweep National Monument recently and he thanked the BLM for all their help.

Commissioner Kibel discussed a business that is doing horseback rides into the Canyon of the Ancients.

Commissioner Williams gave Marietta an update on the NCA.

County Emergency Reverse 911

Jerry Martin, Dolores County Sheriff and Paul Hollar, Montezuma County Emergency Manager were here to discuss an county emergency alert system.

Paul gave an overview of a system called Nixle. He said that people can sign up with Nixle and receive text messages or phone calls during emergencies. He said that this program works but it doesn't reach all of the citizens. He said that Nixle has a paid program that costs \$6,400 and this program will hit all of the land lines and cell phones in the area.

There was discussion on this.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to use 911 Funds to support the Nixle program.

Commissioner Stowe seconded the motion.

All three commissioners voted yes.

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners, May 18, 2015

DCDC Subdivision Exemption

The County received a subdivision exemption application from DCDC. The Commissioners gave preliminary approval at a previous meeting.

Dennis said that he spoke with the surveyors many times last week. The surveyor couldn't find documentation on whether the road was a dedicated county road or a private road. Margret found a deed from the Webers dedicating the Western 30' of the road that encroaches the Weber property and the county did accept that dedication. The remaining Weber Loop has not been dedicated as a county road from what he could find. He said that this can be a simple fix and he recommends that DCDC dedicates the remainder of the Weber Loop to the county and the county accepts that dedication. That dedication along with the 30' encroachment dedication from the Webers would complete the loop as a county road. He said that the survey indicated that the road is 60' wide and up to county specifications. Dennis said just to be clear, only the "p" shaped loop would be considered a county road; none of the driveways off of the loop would be included. He said that he does have a dedication on the Mylar but doesn't have an acceptance from the county and that will need to be documented on the Mylar.

Dennis said that another issue is with the sewer lines and utility lines; the surveyor could not locate the lines.

Dennis said that there needs to be documentation on where the lines are and have a utility easement created on the plat to show that they are connected.

There was discussion on where the utility lines are located.

Dennis clarified that they are connected to town water and David confirmed that. He said part of the subdivision exemption process states that you have to show access to water and sewer.

Commissioner Williams said that DCDC will need have all of the septic's complete if you are going to subdivide the parcels off and you will have to show all of the easements including water and sewer. DCDC will have to hook up to the town sewer and water on the two properties before getting approval for a subdivision exemption. He said that the whole process is so that everyone knows how they get water and sewer.

There was discussion on why the parcels would need to be hooked up to town water before a subdivision exemption can be complete.

Dennis said to complete the process the county will require the sewer and water to be hooked up to the two parcels with meters. The plat will need to show the water and sewer line easements.

There was discussion on the easement for the utility lines from the Thompsons property that adjoins the DCDC property.

DCDC will need an easement from the Thompsons for the utility lines into the DCDC property.

Dennis said that DCDC will need to sort out the two easements and have them documented on the plat, get a letter from the Webers that approves the sale, have the road dedicated to the county and approved by the county, and hook up to town water and sewer.

There was discussion on the road.

David said that he will get a hold of the surveyor, the town manager, and the Thompson's for the water easement.

Weed Board Project Workshop

The commissioners held a workshop on the Weed Board project.

Adjourned

Commissioner Stowe made the motion to Adjourn.

Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All three commissioners voted in favor.

The meeting ended at 3:35pm.

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners

Attest:

Deputy Clerk to the
Board of County Commissioners

