AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

AgendaTitle:

Action Requested: Motion

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:
12/10/2013 Public Hearing; Draft Min

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: B. Lucero **Submitter's Email Address:** Blucero@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\MBIRNIE Discharge Date: 1/14/2014

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted:

Agenda Date: 1/21/2014 Follow Up Agenda Date:

Revised April 2013

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2013

The December 10, 2013 Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners meeting was held in the Planning Commissioners' boardroom in the Blackstock Government Center located at 221 N. Wisconsin Street, Gunnison, Colorado. Present were:

Paula Swenson, Chairperson
Phil Chamberland, Vice-Chairperson
Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Bobbie Lucero, Clerk to the Board
Others Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Swenson called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING; 2014 PROPOSED GUNNISON COUNTY BUDGET:

1. Open Public Hearing. Chairperson Swenson opened the Public Hearing at 7:30 pm.

2. Public Notice Confirmation. Finance Director Linda Nienhueser confirmed that the Public Hearing had been properly and publicly noticed.

3. Identify Ex Parte Communications. There were no ex parte communications identified.

4. Staff Presentation. Finance Director Nienhueser presented the proposed 2014 budget to the Board. Assistant Finance Director Ben Cowan explained the bottom lines and the fund balances. He explained that there are a lot of capital projects that will be taking place, which are pulling the numbers down in 2014. There was discussion on the various capital projects that will occur in 2014.

   Chairperson Swenson inquired if there were any questions from the audience. There were no questions.

   Finance Director Nienhueser informed the Board that the bond rating was renewed. She informed that the State Auditor's Office released ratios to explain the fiscal liability of municipalities. She explained that the cash-to-liabilities ratio is going up, which means there are more resources with less liability. She reported that Gunnison County has been right at the benchmark for the last three years in the unrestricted fund balance Ratio. The group reviewed the benchmarks. She explained that they are within range of all benchmarks and are doing well and steady. Finance Director Nienhueser confirmed that this has been reported to the State Auditor's Office. There was discussion that Gunnison County is one of five counties in the State of Colorado that has this good of a bond rating. There was discussion that this information could be displayed on Gunnison County's website.

   Finance Director Nienhueser relayed that the State informed her that Gunnison County will be receiving money for the 2013 Forest Reserve (Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act). Unless reauthorized, this reserve will remain zero for 2014.

   Public citizen Sally Wilcox inquired what impact there will be with the closure of the mine near Delta. Finance Director Nienhueser informed that the property tax will remain the same in 2014, because the property tax was set in January of the previous year. There was discussion that there will be a reduction in property tax revenues in 2015, which is an anticipated reduction of $340,000. This is not including the federal mineral lease and severance reduction. There was discussion that gas permits have been approved.

   County Manager Birnie informed the Board that there were negotiations with the current benefits provider to keep the health insurance increase around 7.5%. There was discussion that the cost of living and merit increases help offset the 7.5% increase in health insurance to Gunnison County employees. He opined that Gunnison County ended up staying with the same provider, yet if we do not get better experience, we may need to evaluate the self-insured approach.

   Assistant Finance Director Cowan explained that the North Gunnison Sewer is experiencing rate-change increases. He explained that a new camera has been purchased to attempt to locate high-infiltration areas. He reported there is suspicion that there is an error with the City of Gunnison's flow meter calibrator. He informed that due to new State regulations, staff are traveling to Somerset more, which is incurring additional costs. He reported that the other Sewer and Water Divisions are not experiencing any increases. He informed that the Antelope Hills Subdivision will be monitored with a new system in 2014. The new cost center will attempt to analyze the distribution costs versus the treatment costs, and identify an appropriate amount to allocate per

user on a per gallon basis. He informed that one of the biggest costs in the Antelope Hills Subdivision is the cost of producing raw water. He reported that staff will be discussing the landfill's use of scales beginning in May or June of 2014. He informed that scales have already been installed.

5. Applicant Presentation. N/A.

6. Board Questions. There were no official questions from the Board. All questions that were asked during the presentation were answered immediately.

7. Public Comments. Public citizen Warren Wilcox asked if the sage-grouse fund helps fund the County Attorney work that is being done on sage-grouse issues. There was discussion that the County Attorney budget pays for the County Attorney work on the sage-grouse items, with exception of certain meetings that involved travel. There was discussion that the Wildlife Conservation Coordinator will be getting a 4% increase in pay in 2014. There was discussion that the landfill fund pays the majority of the Wildlife Conservation Coordinator's salary.

   Mr. Wilcox commented that the scales are a good idea at the landfill.

   Six Points representative Greg Waggoner commented that he wanted to thank the Board on behalf of all of Six Points. He commented that it is very recognized that on a very tight budget, Six Points is still on the budget and they greatly appreciate it.

8. Acknowledge Correspondence Received. No additional correspondence was identified.

9. Applicant Response. N/A.

10. Close Public Hearing. Chairperson Swenson closed the Public Hearing at 8:09 pm.

ADJOURN: **Moved** by Commissioner Chamberland, seconded by Commissioner Houck to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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Paula Swenson, Chairperson

_____
Phil Chamberland, Vice-Chairperson

_____
Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

_____
Bobbie Lucero, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

_____
Stella Dominguez, County Clerk