January 15, 2013

Gunnison County Commissioners
200 E. Virginia
Gunnison, CO 81230

Dear Gunnison County Commissioners:

I am writing to express my interest in the vacancy on the Gunnison County Historical Preservation Committee. I am currently the East Zone Archaeologist for the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre & Gunnison National Forests located in Gunnison. For the past 12 years I served as the Archaeologist with the USDA Forest Service. I obtained my Anthropology Degree from Western State College and received a Master's Degree in Cultural Resource Management from the University of Leicester.

Over the years I worked on many historical restoration and rehabilitation projects throughout the county, in which some of these buildings are listed on the County Register for Historical Places. I also work with the State Historical Preservation Office on a regular basis concerning sites ranging from prehistoric game drives to the rehabilitation of our US Forest Service garage on Wisconsin Street, which is listed as Eligible to the National Register. During the summer I facilitate and lead Extended Studies (through Western State Colorado University) on expeditions to historical sites throughout the county.

My familiarity with the area and my passion for our local history are assets that I would like to contribute to your committee. Many people in the community have a passion for the history of this basin, and I would like to expand on the community outreach projects that the Board is already providing. My experience in working with the State Office on matters relating from historical restorations to the listing of new sites will aid the board as we deal with specific projects or issues that may arise. I would also like to endorse writing grants for the preservation and interpretation of the sites that we have in the county.

Thank you for consideration, I look forward to an opportunity and hope to meet with you soon.

Respectfully,

Justin Lawrence
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