AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

AgendaTitle:
Correspondence; Kiowa County Board of County Commissioners

Action Requested: Discussion

Parties to the Agreement:

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

Summary:
The attached letter was received on 2/24/14.

Fiscal Impact: None.

Submitted by: Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@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: 2/25/2014

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: Correspondence

Agenda Date: 3/4/2014 Follow Up Agenda Date:

Revised April 2013

Kiowa County

Richard Scott, Chairman
District 1, Sheridan Lake
William Koehler, Commissioner
District 2, Eads
Donald Oswald, Commissioner
District 3, Haswell
Peggy Dunlap, Administrator

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February 19, 2014

Dear Fellow County Commissioners:

Kiowa County is considering asking the Colorado General Assembly to approve a Continuing Resolution to allow a ballot question to "permit limited Casino gambling in Kiowa County". We would appreciate a response from you indicating if you would consider supporting us in this venture or if you are just totally against such an effort.

Our thinking is for a very modest privately owned gaming activity, something similar to Dodge City, KS with a single Casino. We envision the location somewhere adjacent to US 287, near but not in the Town of Eads. We believe there would be a positive cost benefit ration to this effort.

The reason behind our thinking is simply to try and get something going for our County in terms of economic development. Most of you are probably well aware of our small and declining population (1398), extremely low assessed valuation ($41,881,510) and void of industry other than agriculture. We are just out of the region of oil and gas development, lack of transmission precludes wind farm development and topography seems to make solar energy a non-reality. The V&S Railroad that runs from near Pueblo to the Colorado/Kansas state line has filed for abandonment. Our State Wildlife areas have all but dried up and with the drought, no water will be available to refill. As you can tell, these are all significant losses that we have endured over the years and there is nothing in the future to replace the revenue.

We are well aware of the resistance of the state population to allow any further Casino Gaming in Colorado. We know of and appreciate the competition's concern of the current gaming entities in the State. We are also aware of the perception that Casino gambling causes an increase in various undesirable elements.

We think the scope of our venture would not impose a major competition to existing facilities. Our Sheriff's department has the capacity to deal with undesirable activity.

It will help in making any further effort on our part to know the feelings of our counterparts-one way or the other. It seems unlikely we would pursue this further if there is major opposition. At the same time, we would appreciate any ideas or questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Richard Scott, Chairman of BOCC