

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 1, 2014**

The April 1, 2014 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
David Baumgarten, County Attorney

Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Others Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Swenson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes made to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA: **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Chamberland to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

1. 2014 Gunnison County Leadership Academy Contract; Moffet Consulting; 4/9/14 thru 9/11/14; \$19,145
2. End User License and Warranty Agreement; Ethical Advocate; Anonymous Reporting Hotline; 4/15/14 thru 4/14/15; \$2,250
3. Modification #8; Project Agreement to Cooperative Forest Road Agreement Modification No. 1 for Crystal #6 Bridge Replacement between USDA Forest Service, White River National Forest and Gunnison County, State of Colorado; FS Agreement No. 07-RO-11021500-047; Up To \$21,125.30
4. Contract #2014-02-026; History Colorado, the Colorado Historical Society; Ohio City Town Hall Rehabilitation Project, Foundation Stabilization and Electrical Upgrades; 4/18/14 thru 4/18/16; \$39,816
5. 2014-2015 Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties Community Services Block Grant Operating Budget; Colorado Department of Local Affairs; 3/1/14 thru 2/28/15; \$26,103

SCHEDULING: The Upcoming Meetings Schedule was discussed and updated.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS: **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Chamberland to appoint Derek Brooks to the Gunnison Valley Observatory Board and Crystal Edmunds to the Gunnison Watershed Weed Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: County Manager Birnie was present for discussion.

1. Request from City of Gunnison; Cash Match for Parks Planning Grant. County Manager Birnie informed the Board that the City's last grant application wasn't funded due to the lack of funding partners. He suggested that \$1,000 be allocated from the County Manager's budget, and the Board agreed. This project, if funded, will involve the Hartman's Rock area.

BREAK: The meeting recessed from 9:15 until 9:19 am for a short break, and then from 9:19 until 9:30 am in order to hold the below Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING; SHADY ISLAND SUBDIVISION APPLICATION FOR EXTENSION OF LAND USE CHANGE (LUC) PERMIT: Planner Cathie Pagano, County Attorney David Baumgarten and attorney Marcus Lock were present for discussion.

1. Open Public Hearing. Chairperson Swenson opened the Public Hearing at 9:19 am.
2. Public Notice Confirmation. Planner Pagano confirmed that the Public Hearing had been properly public noticed.
3. Identify Ex Parte Communications. There were no ex parte communications identified.
4. Staff Presentation. Planner Pagano explained that amendments to the Gunnison County Land Use Resolution (LUR) have been made since the original LUC was approved, but that none of them affect this application for extension. The sewer easement has been provided, and old buildings have been taken down. Per the LUR, this extension would be allowable. Mr. Lock provided a draft resolution for consideration, and Planner Pagano explained that she and County Attorney David Baumgarten would like the Board to consider the resolution during a future meeting. Lastly, she informed the Board that she received a letter in opposition to this extension, and she read the letter out loud to the Board and audience.
5. Applicant Presentation. Mr. Lock suggested to the Board that the applicant had met the standards outlined in the LUR, and he read portions of the LUR out loud. Chairperson Swenson confirmed

that she has taken part in and witnessed the process from the beginning. Mr. Lock explained that the original approval was granted in May 2008 and reapproved in 2011, which included permission for the applicant to seek another three-year extension. If granted, the extension would allow until May 2017 for final approval. This application for extension involves 4.74 acres of open space approximately two miles north of the City of Gunnison. He noted that the development had stalled due to the economic environment, but that the developer does intend to complete the project. He also indicated that the applicant compliant with all requirements of the original permit, and that there have not been any changes related to the terms that were originally approved.

6. Board Questions. Commissioner Chamberland asked for the expiration date of the current extension, and Mr. Lock stated that it will expire in May 2014. County Attorney Baumgarten further explained that there is a window of time during which an application for extension can be made, and that this application falls within that window.
7. Public Comments. Chairperson Swenson opened the Public Hearing to comments at 9:30 am, but there weren't any provided.
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 9:31 am and immediately reconvened the Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners meeting. Chairperson Swenson suggested that the resolution be scheduled on the 4/15 agenda for adoption. **Moved** by Commissioner Chamberland, seconded by Commissioner Houck to approve the three-year extension for Shady Island as presented here today. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPUTY COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT AND PROJECT UPDATES: Deputy County Manager Marlene Crosby was present for discussion.

1. Road and Bridge Budget Concerns. Deputy County Manager Crosby informed the Board her department regularly has approximately \$350,000 in equipment usage for managing snow and ice loaded into the budget. As of 3/20/14, approximately \$300,000 of that had been spent, of which over \$57,000 was attributable to January and February fuel costs alone. Costs associated with spring snow and high water issues will negatively impact the maintenance budget this summer.
2. Reclamation Permit Discussion. Deputy County Manager Crosby informed the Board that her staff will discuss this issue with the Community Development Department tomorrow. A resolution that would change the fee structure is expected to be before the Board for consideration during the first meeting in May.
3. Gold Basin Industrial Park. Deputy County Manager Crosby informed the Board that a climate-control storage entity is interested in leasing the large lot to house large items such as boats and campers, which is a type of storage that may not be available elsewhere in the valley. When the Park was first created, the Board and Planning Commission indicated that the use of the Park should create jobs and, since this proposal does not fit that intent, she asked for guidance. She met with entity representatives yesterday to review the proposed drawings, which includes the use of solar paneling. This discussion was scheduled on the 4/8/14 work session agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE; BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT; LIVESTOCK GRAZING AND DROUGHT; UNCOMPAHGRE FIELD OFFICE WRITTEN REQUEST, FEBRUARY 14, 2014: The draft correspondence was discussed. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Chamberland to approve the letter as included in the packet and for signature by the full board. Motion carried unanimously.

COTTONWOOD PASS ROAD PROJECT DISCUSSION: Deputy County Manager Crosby and Special Projects Foreman Jim Kint were present for discussion.

Deputy County Manager Crosby explained that this project, if pursued, would involve only 12.4 miles of road, which is less than what was reported in the meeting portfolio. A map of the proposed project was provided.

Chairperson Swenson noted that the County is holding at 19% of reserves, per Assistant Finance Director Ben Cowan's memo. Deputy County Manager Crosby added that the County's match would be \$1,100,000 or less. County Attorney Baumgarten confirmed that the agreement language would allow for engineering, but that the County would be responsible for those costs if the project is not pursued.

County Manager Birnie asked if the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) would be willing to provide any match funds. Deputy County Manager Crosby stated that, since this project would not benefit CDOT with a relief route, funding assistance from CDOT would be unlikely. However, other potential funding partnerships with the Forest Service or local municipalities may be evaluated.

Mr. Mark Schumacher raised a question about the County’s priorities, and County Manager Birnie explained that paving Cottonwood Pass has never been listed as a Board priority. Commissioner Houck further explained that high prioritization of the Courthouse Construction Project was due to statutory requirements that the County must meet. Commissioner Chamberland confirmed that he has been a proponent of paving Cottonwood Pass since the 1990’s, but that he is willing to wait until a time when the funds are available.

Deputy County Manager Crosby stated her belief that federal funding will not be available next year for this project, though County Manager Birnie felt it wasn’t definitive. The Board asked Deputy County Manager Crosby to discuss with CDOT the possibility of providing either a portion of the County’s \$3,200,000 cash match or assistance with engineering. Deputy County Manager Crosby also suggested that the County determine whether or not the payout can be extended to 10 years.

BREAK: The meeting recessed from 10:16 until 10:19 am for a short break.

UNSCHEDULED CITIZENS: There were no Unscheduled Citizens present for discussion.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

Commissioner Chamberland:

1. Grant; Mine Closing. Commissioner Chamberland informed the Board that he and Community Development Director Russ Forrest met yesterday to discuss a grant opportunity that will be pursued. They will meet again next week to continue the conversation.
2. Club 20. Commissioner Chamberland informed the Board that he attended the recent meeting. Governor Hickenlooper was also in attendance to discuss grouse issues and his water plan.
3. Broadband Update. Commissioner Chamberland informed the Board that there are two bills related to this issue and that his group has been pushing toward removal of the right of first refusal. At this point, that effort does not appear as though it will be successful.

Commissioner Houck:

1. Open House; Public Lands Bill. Commissioner Houck informed the Board that he attended this recent open house. The Bill is moving in a good direction and is receiving a great deal of public input.
2. Open House; Colorado Parks & Wildlife. Commissioner Houck attended this open house, though he didn’t feel that there was sufficient feedback to report.

Commissioner Swenson:

1. Sage-grouse Issues. Chairperson Swenson informed the Board that she will be speaking with a representative from Senator Mark Udall’s office to discuss the details of the County’s stance. Commissioner Houck will draft a letter to the new staff member at the Colorado Parks & Wildlife office.
2. Chamber of Commerce Meeting. Chairperson Swenson informed the Board that a forecasting meeting took place last week with approximately 50 members in attendance, which included presentations from the Gunnison-Crested Butte Tourism Association and the Gunnison Valley Rural Transportation Authority.

ADJOURN: **Moved** by Commissioner Chamberland, seconded by Commissioner Houck to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:31 am.

Paula Swenson, Chairperson

Phil Chamberland, Vice-Chairperson

Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Stella Dominguez, County Clerk