

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
November 25, 2014**

The November 25, 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	Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Phil Chamberland, Vice-Chairperson (ABSENT)	Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Jonathan Houck, Commissioner	Others Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Swenson called the meeting to order at 12:59 pm.

BREAK: The meeting recessed from 1:00 until 1:05 pm in order to hold the below Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING; MARIJUANA FACILITY LICENSE FOR CULTIVATION; SOUTHERN CHARM ORGANICS, LLC; LOT 14, SIGNAL PEAK INDUSTRIAL PARK: Community Development Director Russ Forrest and applicant Fred Woerner IV were present for discussion.

1. Open Public Hearing. Chairperson Swenson opened the Public Hearing at 1:00 pm.
2. Public Notice Confirmation. Community Development Director Forrest confirmed that the Public Hearing had been properly public noticed.
3. Identify Ex Parte Communications. There were no ex parte communications identified.
4. Applicant Presentation. Mr. Woerner introduced himself as the majority owner of Southern Charm Organics, LLC and a resident of the County for past several years. He explained his intent to sell product wholesale to licensed recreational marijuana companies in Colorado. He stated that his security measures would exceed what is required by the State, including the use of motion detection. He said that he met previously with Gunnison County Fire Protection District Chief Dennis Spritzer and County Building/Environmental Health Official Crystal Lambert and that the only concern expressed by either of them was related to the carbon-dioxide system, though the parties agree that his measures will meet the standard. Several layers of carbon filtering in the cultivation rooms and warehouse area will be used to mitigate any smells so that no odors will be detected beyond the property lines.
5. Staff Presentation. Community Development Director Forrest confirmed the operation's location and that no sensitive uses are near the property. Another grow operation application is being processed for the property directly across the street. He confirmed that the State has given conditional approval for Mr. Woerner's application, and that none of the local safety, utility and enforcement agencies have expressed any concerns. He recommended approval with the recommendations provided on Pages 5 and 6 of his memo in the meeting packet.
6. Board Questions. The Board did not have any questions.
7. Public Comments. Chairperson Swenson opened the Public Hearing to comments at 1:05 pm, though no comments were 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 1:05 pm and immediately reconvened the Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners Meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Chairperson Swenson to approve the application from Southern Charm Organics, LLC for Lot 14 in Signal Peak Industrial Park for their marijuana facility license for cultivation with the recommendations on Pages 5 and 6 of the memo from Community Development. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY BUILDERS TASK FORCE GRANT: Community Development Director Forrest was present for discussion.

Community Development Director Forrest explained that this program seeks to engage the community to gather information about community values and create a plan for the future of our communities. The team hopes to begin the project in January, as that is when the Economic Development Administration Grant funds and County funds will be available.

The Sonoran Institute and other local partners have committed a total of \$105,000 of cash and in-kind support, of which the County has budgeted \$9,000. The total project budget is expected to be \$125,000, and Community Development Director Forrest asked for permission to pursue a \$20,000 Colorado Department of Local Affairs grant to fill in the remaining gap. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Chairperson Swenson to authorize a letter signed by the Chairperson to apply for a DOLA grant for the Community Builders Task Force, as outlined by Community Development Director Forrest. Motion carried.

ADJOURN: Moved by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Chairperson Swenson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:16 pm.

Paula Swenson, Chairperson

Phil Chamberland, Vice-Chairperson

Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Stella Dominguez, County Clerk