

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2013**

The February 12, 2013 meeting was held in the Commissioners’ boardroom in the Courthouse located at 200 E. Virginia, Gunnison, Colorado. Present were:

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

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

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Swenson called the meeting to order at 4:48 pm.

US FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE; PROPOSED RULES REGARDING ENDANGERED STATUTES FOR GUNNISON COUNTY SAGE-GROUSE & DESIGNATION OF CRITICAL HABITAT FOR GUNNISON SAGE-GROUSE; AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE JOINT DEFENSE AGREEMENT BETWEEN GUNNISON COUNTY STOCKGROWERS ASSOCIATION: Deputy County Attorney Art Trezise and Assistant County Manager Marlene Crosby were present for discussion.

Deputy County Attorney Trezise presented the draft Joint Defense Agreement between the County and the Gunnison County Stockgrowers Association, and he explained that it would, if approved, help to coordinate local efforts and possibly prevent the listing of the Gunnison Sage-grouse as an endangered species. It would also serve to protect all confidential information shared between the two parties, even if the agreement were to be terminated at a later date. He noted that his office may suggest that the Board enter into additional agreements with other stakeholders in the near future, but the short comment period, coupled with experience gained from this agreement, may prove that entering into additional agreements will not be an efficient approach.

Deputy County Attorney Trezise confirmed that County Attorney David Baumgarten had reviewed and approved the content of the draft agreement. He further asked that Commissioner Swenson be authorized to sign the document. **Moved** by Commissioner Chamberland, seconded by Commissioner Houck to approve the Joint Defense Agreement with the Stockgrowers Association, and authorize the Chairperson’s signature on the Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Chairperson Swenson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:51 pm.

Paula Swenson, Chairperson

Phil Chamberland, Vice-Chairperson

Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Stella Dominguez, County Clerk