BOCC & PC Joint Meeting- April 18, 2014

Board of County Commissioners/Planning Commission Joint Meeting: The Gunnison County Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners conducted a joint meeting.

BOCC members Paula Swenson, Phil Chamberland and Jonathan Houck and Planning staff members Russ Forrest, Neal Starkebaum and Cathie Pagano attended the work session. They discussed:

- **Amendment 64 – Draft Regulations-** Forrest explained the County is developing regulations. There has been a lot of interest within community. The County regulations will address cultivation, manufacturing and testing. The County is considering allowing manufacturing, cultivation, and testing in industrial areas. Any applicant would be required to adhere to the *Gunnison County Land Use Resolution* (LUR) and licensing requirements. The two processes could take place at the same time. He said cultivation on agricultural land is not as straight forward as in an industrial area. There is a requirement of a minimum 35-acre site and a required 1,000 ft. setback from the road. This will require an amendment to the LUR.

- **Oil and Gas Permitting Report-** It was noted the staff has made changes to the County Community Development website to simplify the navigation of the website when viewing oil and gas applications and permits. Staff also created a summarized report to describe the oil and gas permitting activity. Eskew said she had not realized there had been so many wells approved, and had concerns with the Planning staff not communicating with the Commission about these permits. Starkebaum and Swenson explained these were administrative review permits which did not require review by the Commission. Starkebaum explained the projects go back to 2001, with 37 permits in 2013; 95% of all permits are collocated on existing pads. The oil and gas producers in the area have been Gunnison Energy, SG Interests, and Vessels Coal Gas. There have been 134 permits issued, less than half of the wells have been drilled. Staff agreed to provide an updated report at each of the triennial joint BOCC and Planning Commission meetings. Staff will now include information noting if the permit is on a new or existing pad, and a column for the local designee comments. Staff will also provide a report from the County Oil and Gas inspector which will include observed infractions, at the next joint meeting of the BOCC and the Commission.

- **Long Range Planning Projects –**Forrest noted the staff has been a part of the Community Builders Task Force. The Task Force is working on a common valley wide vision for the future.