June 28, 2018

To Gunnison Board of County Commissioners:

I would like to apply for the vacant seat on the Gunnison County library board left by Dr. Andy Keck. I am a professor of Economics at Western State Colorado University and have lived in Gunnison since starting my professorship in August 2004. I feel very fortunate to live in this amazing valley and hope to give back to this community and working with the library would be a wonderful opportunity.

I was approached by a current library board member about joining because my background is similar to Dr. Andy Keck's and so I can serve a similar role to the board. I received my PhD in Economics from the University of Oregon with emphases in econometrics, game theory and industrial organization. My research over the past 18 years has focused on understanding how we choose to use the resources we have in the most efficient manner possible. At Western, I teach business statistics, natural resource economics and a few additional specialized economics classes. In my business statistics classes, I emphasize the necessity of understanding data to make better informed decisions. I also appreciate applying what I teach to real world situations.

In addition to working at Western, I have had the opportunity to volunteer as a member of the Tenderfoot Child and Family Development Center Board of Directors. I joined their board while the new building was being built in 2005. This has provided me with a wonderful opportunity to help a great community resource grow into the largest child care provider in Gunnison.

I believe my skills as an economist and my experience on a local non-profit board would be beneficial to the library's board and would welcome the opportunity to be of service to my community.

Thank you,

Sally Hays