

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
February 28, 2023**

The February 28, 2023 meeting was held in the Board of County Commissioners’ meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson
Liz Smith, Vice-Chairperson
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner
John Cattles, Assistant County Manager
Melanie Bollig, Deputy County Clerk
Others Present as Listed in Text

GUNNISON RIVER VALLEY LOCAL MARKETING DISTRICT SPECIAL MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS; TOURISM AND PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP (TAPP) BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Present remotely via Zoom were TAPP Board members Bill Ronai, John Norton, WCU Representative Gary Pierson and CBMR Representative Bill MacFarlane.

Commissioner Houck reminded everyone present that the special meeting being held that day was needed because, last week, the Board of County Commissioners had started looking at TAPP appointments without realizing at first that they needed to convene as the Local Marketing District (LMD) Board with representatives from both WCU and CBMR present, in order to make TAPP appointments.

Once these requirements were noted, Commissioner Houck had postponed the appointments until they could convene as the LMD. The representatives were now present, and they were ready to look at the candidates.

Bill MacFarlane and Gary Pierson began by each going over the key elements they were looking for in prospects, noting diversity, a concern for what benefits the community, expertise, involvement, integrity and no conflicts of interest as determining factors. The BOCC and TAPP members also discussed other issues, such as lodging partner representation at the south end of the valley, the changes in lodging for the entire valley, lack of participation from lodging in the past, and the need for expanded outreach to the lodging community in order to ensure they have a voice.

After several minutes’ discussion of this year’s candidates, the Board of County Commissioners and the TAPP Board members came to consensus around reappointing all three of the current members to the TAPP Board. Several stated that they saw many changes coming, and expressed that the group they had now functioned very well together. Overall, the group expressed a desire to maintain continuity in the TAPP Board they currently had, as they felt it might not be good to introduce new members at this time.

Moved by Commissioner Houck to reappoint to the TAPP Board Jennifer Barvitski, Kelly Osness, and Erica Rasmussen as the three board members selected through this process, at this time. Seconded by Commissioner Smith. WCU representative Gary Pierson thanked the commissioners for the opportunity to be included in the process. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Houck thanked the current board members and members of the community Bill Miller, Celeste Helminski, and Kendal Rota, for their willingness to contribute. He further expressed that he wanted them to know that their input, wealth of knowledge and desire to be more involved were important, and he wanted the LMD board to reach out to them for these opportunities to stay involved.

ADJOURN: Chairperson Houck adjourned the Gunnison River Valley Local Marketing District Special Meeting at 8:56 am.

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

Liz Smith, Vice-Chairperson

Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Melanie Bollig, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Kathy Simillion, County Clerk