

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
GILPIN COUNTY, COLORADO

August 1, 2019

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on August 1, 2019, at the Gilpin County Courthouse. Chair Linda Isenhart called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Chair Isenhart, Commissioner Gail Watson, Commissioner Ron Engels, County Manager Abel Montoya, County Attorney Jim Petrock, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Sharon Cate.

**Agenda Review.** Changes to the agenda were: cancelation of consideration of the July 23, 2019, meeting minutes; addition of a discussion of a Rollins Pass road trip; and addition of a work session on the Stone Road emergency egress.

**Commissioner Engels moved to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Equalization. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.** (See separate minutes for Board of Equalization.)

**Commissioner Watson moved to reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.**

**Election Intergovernmental Agreement.** Clerk and Recorder Sahari McCormick presented an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Black Hawk for a Coordinated Ballot Issue, saying the document had been thoroughly reviewed by Petrock and Fendel, P.C., and approved as to form. Commissioner Engels moved to approve the IGA with the City of Black Hawk for a Coordinated Ballot Issue. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**Evidence Technician Position Request.** Sheriff Kevin Armstrong, Undersheriff Tonia Kapke and Human Resources Director Susie Allen presented a request for a new position—Evidence Technician—in the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Armstrong said the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office had performed a 1,000-man hours audit of the Gilpin County Sheriff's Office free of charge resulting in several observations and recommendations. In the past, several deputies have worked on some aspects of the evidence inventory, but that he believed a full-time deputy dedicated to this work was urgently needed. He added that his staff was developing policies on inventory and audits of inventory management. Commissioner Isenhart said she thought the job description was attractive and that with the benefits she thought it should be fillable, and she encouraged local applications. Commissioner Engels said he thought the position was long overdue and thanked Sheriff Armstrong. Commissioner Watson said she was disappointed to find out about this problem and was in favor of the position. She said she had contacted other counties, but didn't ask about their pay range, and wondered if this position should be in range 80 instead of 85. Human Resources Director Allen said that per Mountain States Employers it does fall into 85, given the responsibilities and the sensitivity of evidence. Commissioner Watson moved to approve the evidence technician full-time position as presented. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**Emergency Dispatch Pay Proposal.** Sheriff Kevin Armstrong, Undersheriff Tonia Kapke, Dispatch Supervisor Lyssa Gray and Human Resources Director Susie Allen presented three options for addressing critical staffing levels in the Dispatch Center, citing excessive overtime and employee burn-out. Director Allen gave a detailed review of each option, including the advantages and drawbacks. Discussion followed, with the Board asking the preferred option of Sheriff Armstrong, Undersheriff Kapke, Dispatch Supervisor Gray and Director Allen. All but Director Allen said they wanted Option 1, as it would address the immediate need to attract new applicants and would provide retention incentive; Director Allen said to balance these needs with the overall needs of the County, she thought Option 2 was fair. Sheriff Armstrong said today's request was part of their overall recruitment process, and that he thought the County should be marketed as a great place to work in a great environment. Supervisor Gray noted that in Gilpin County, dispatchers take on all of the responsibilities of the Dispatch Center, and that even though the City of Black Hawk pays more, they take far fewer calls.

In response to Commissioner Watson, Director Allen said the Board would receive information about the next salary survey in their August 20 meeting packet. She added that it would be a 3- to 4-month process, then the Board would need to decide what to do with the data.

Commissioner Engels moved to have staff implement Option 2 and to work on the details. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**Treasurer's Monthly Report.** Treasurer Mary Lorenz reported on operations in her office for the month of June 2019, saying Gilpin County has almost a million dollars more now than the same period last year. Currently there are 550 tax accounts not paid yet, but she hopes to see fewer for the tax lien sale.

**Legal Status Report.** County Attorney Jim Petrock advised the Commissioners they would need to discuss several items later today in Executive Session.

**County Manager Status Report.** County Manager Abel Montoya updated the Board of County Commissioners on the following items:

- Preston Gibson, of Xcel Energy, will talk with County Manager Montoya this afternoon about changes to their natural gas pipeline project on Dory Hill Road. Commissioner Engels said he had been told varying accounts of the results of Xcel Energy's July 30 public information meeting. Commissioner Watson said at the July 30 meeting, she talked with a representative from the Xcel Foundation (not involved with the pipeline project) who expressed interest in possibly supporting the Belvidere Theater restoration, as that is their kind of work and they want to do something positive in our community. She had informed him that the Belvidere Theater is on the State's most endangered list.

**Board of County Commissioners Status Reports.**

Notice of Public Meetings. The public meetings in the upcoming two weeks that could be attended by more one Commissioner and at which public business may be discussed will include:

- A joint meeting with the Historic Preservation Advisory Commission (HAC) and the Planning Commission, August 13, 6:30 p.m., Courthouse
- Tour of Detention Facility, August 14, 12:30 p.m.
- The Commissioners' August 8 and 15 work sessions have been canceled.
- Commissioners Rollins Pass road trip, August 15, 7 a.m., (canceled)
- Commissioners Road Trip (informal coffee/conversation), August 21, Community Center
- Colorado Counties, Inc., Mountain District meeting, August 22

CCI Meeting with Governor Polis. Colorado Counties, Inc., (CCI) President John Swartout, has asked counties if they have topics they would like to discuss with Governor Polis at a meeting on August 5, 2019. The Board agreed they would resubmit their topics, as previously given to CCI for the 2020 legislative session.

**Contracts for Autopsy Services (Forensic Pathologist).** Commissioner Engels recused himself from a discussion of two proposed contracts for Autopsy Services, due to a conflict of interest, and left the Board's meeting room. Gilpin County Coroner Zane Laubhan said Dr. Galloway, Gilpin County's previous forensic pathologist who contracted for autopsy services, has retired. Coroner Laubhan proposed a new contract with Dr. Meredith Frank and Dr. Daniel Lingamfelter as her back up during absences. Commissioner Watson referred to the Coroner's budget and asked Coroner Laubhan why he wanted a back-up forensic pathologist and a deputy coroner. He replied that the back-up forensic pathologist would likely never be needed, but that it was prudent to have someone in place, and that the Deputy Coroner—at a low salary amount—would cover his absences. Commissioner Watson asked if the Board should pursue a legislative remedy for coroners' salaries through CCI. Coroner Laubhan explained that the issue had been vetted, but that the coroners in the state's higher tiers do not want a change that could possibly affect their salaries.

Commissioner Watson moved to approve a Contract for Autopsy Services with Dr. Meredith Frank. Commissioner Isenhardt seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 2 to 0. Commissioner Watson moved to approve the Contract for Autopsy Services with Dr. Daniel Lingamfelter. Commissioner Isenhardt seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 2 to 0. Staff left the room to advise Commissioner Engels that the Board's action was complete and that he could rejoin the meeting.

**Adjournment to Executive Session.** Commissioner Watson moved to adjourn into Executive Session as follows:

- for the purposes of receiving legal advice per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b), to discuss potential real property lease or other disposition per C.R.S. 24-6-402(a), and C.R.S. 24-6-4-2(e) matters that may be subject to negotiation.

Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0. There being no further business to come before the Board, they adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2019.