

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

April 28, 2020

A special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on April 28, 2020, in an online format; no physical meeting was held. Chair Gail Watson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Chair Watson, Commissioner Linda Isenhart, Commissioner Ron Engels, County Manager Abel Montoya, County Attorney Bradford Benning, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Sharon Cate.

Agenda Review. Commissioner Watson added the following topics to the agenda:

1. DRCOG Area Agency on Aging
2. US Forest Service, Clear Creek Ranger Scott Haas
3. County Treasurer Mary Lorenz on interest waivers on property taxes

COVID-19 Update. Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington gave the following information:

1. Funding opportunities with the Dept. of Homeland Security and the Colorado Dept. of Local Affairs (DOLA) are being pursued, as well as health and human services funding with no match required.
2. FEMA has not issued individual assistance (IA) yet, but there are IA programs available outside of FEMA.
3. DOLA has made grants available to firefighters, that are being considered to support individual departments and the County.
4. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Health and Human Services are releasing federal aid money to help with the response and recovery to COVID-19. Also, in talking with DOLA and the State, the Gilpin County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will serve as the recovery manager for the COVID-19 recovery plan. The EOC will begin developing the recovery task force that will help ensure Gilpin County meets all State, FEMA and local requirements for reimbursement where possible.
5. Adams County has a decontamination trailer that can decontaminate 80,000 N95 masks per day. Emergency Manager Whittington is working with the Battelle team to determine how to deliver Gilpin County's used N95 masks to the team for decontamination. More information will be available soon.
6. The Gilpin County Emergency Operations Center is developing a plan for a second wave of COVID-19 this fall, and is going through the Governor's recent Safer at Home order to understand the details.
7. Work continues with Clear Creek and Boulder counties on congregational shelters in preparation for wildfire season.
8. 75 COVID-19 (rapid blood-draw) test kits have been secured for the Patrol division of the Sheriff's Office, with more on the way.

Public Health Coordinator Bonnie Albrecht said Gilpin County's one confirmed case of COVID-19 has been discharged to a rehabilitation facility, so that case has been closed and she will not receive further news. She has been focusing on sharing information about mental health resources, and will ask the Gilpin County Public Health Advisory Board to assist with contact tracing, if necessary.

Executive Session. Commissioner Engels moved to recess into Executive Session for a conference with the County Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b) regarding policy matters. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Timberline Fire Protection District Impact Fees. Chief Paul Ondr of the Timberline Fire Protection District (TFPD) gave a brief overview of the impact fees that will likely be adopted by the TFPD Board of Directors in May, citing their recent Impact Fee Study. If approved by the TFPD Board and the Board of County Commissioners, the fees for new construction—residential and commercial—will be collected by Gilpin County and distributed to the District. Commissioner Watson said the Board will take the information under advisement and will vote on the proposed impact fees at their May 5, 2020 meeting.

Grant Application to State Electronic Recording Technology Board. Clerk and Recorder Sahari McCormick informed the Board that she would be applying for a \$280,000.00 grant from the Colorado Electronic Recording and Technology Board to make the County's records available online, and to index older records that are currently stored on microfiche. The Board thanked her for applying for the grant.

DRCOG Representative for the Area Agency on Aging. Jayla Sanchez-Warren, Director of the Area Agency on Aging in the Denver Regional Council of Governments, informed the Board that she is collecting data on Gilpin County seniors' needs to acquire funding through the Older Americans Act. Gilpin County Senior Services Coordinator Mary Ellen Makosky is helping gather this data to fund meals and personal supplies, and is also looking for funding to provide transportation services during the COVID-19 pandemic and over the next 18 months. Discussion followed regarding the Market Meals program, the Meals on Wheels program, and a \$5,000.00 donation for the Gilpin County food bank.

US Forest Service and Golden Gate Canyon State Park Updates. Scott Haas, District Ranger for the Clear Creek Ranger District of the US Forest Service, updated the Board on current operations, noting the staff has been observing the Stay at Home order and social distancing requirements, which limits the field work they can do. He said residents might see some large, low-flying planes in the area. They are Army National Guard out of Cheyenne,

Wyoming, becoming acquainted with this area in the event they are called on to drop fire retardant. There are also some smaller US Forest Service planes participating in this exercise.

Todd Farrow, Manager of the Golden Gate Canyon State Park, said he is waiting for information from Colorado Parks and Wildlife regarding the Governor's Safer at Home order and how that will affect operations at the Park. He will share this information with Gilpin County once received. Commissioner Watson said the County's Public Health Orders and Extended Disaster Declaration would be posted on the County's website soon. Park Manager Farrow said he is aware of the Orders and gives this information to the public who want to visit the Park.

Legal Status Report. County Attorney Bradford Benning advised the Commissioners on the following legal issues:
FAA Update. A Statement of Issues was filed last week, the first procedural step in the County's case against the FAA's Denver Metroplex. More substantial items will begin in May.

County Purchase of One Share in Denver View Reservoir and Irrigation Company. Gilpin County has purchased one share in the Denver View Reservoir and Irrigation Company, for water fed from Tucker Lake, as part of the County's augmentation plan for water usage at the Justice Center and Community Center. The County had previously budgeted \$300,000.00 for this purchase, but paid \$100,001.00.

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

COVID-19 Leave Policy. Human Resources Director Lori Schraye stated that the federal government set up a compensation plan for employees who become ill with COVID-19, or must stay home to care for a family member with this illness. County Manager Montoya added that he and Director Schraye had made some slight adjustments and had shared it with the Board. Commissioner Engels moved to approve the COVID-19 Leave Policy as presented. Commissioner Isenhardt seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Emergency Closure Compensation Policy. Gilpin County's Emergency Closure Compensation Policy will terminate on May 2, 2020, and afterward, employees will be paid for actual hours worked. Commissioner Isenhardt moved to accept the termination of the Emergency Closure Compensation Policy. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Board of County Commissioners Status Reports.

Notice of Public Meetings. The Board's upcoming public meetings will include: April 30, May 5, 12, 19, and 26. They will hold work sessions on May 7, 14, 21, and 28.

Minutes. Commissioner Engels moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for April 23, 2020. Commissioner Isenhardt seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, they adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Signed this 30th day of April 2020.