

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

May 21, 2020

An emergency meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on May 21, 2020, in an online format; no physical meeting was held. Chair Pro Tem Ron Engels called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. In attendance were Chair Pro Tem Ron Engels, Commissioner Linda Isenhart, County Manager Abel Montoya, County Attorney Bradford Benning, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Sharon Cate. Commissioner Gail Watson was absent.

Agenda Review. Commissioner Engels removed the Sheriff's Office grant application work session from today's agenda, saying the topic would be heard during the Board emergency meeting tomorrow, May 22, 2020. He also added a discussion of the COVID-19 CARES Act funding anticipated for Gilpin County.

COVID-19 CARES Act Funding. Commissioner Engels spoke about the CARES Act funding saying that Gilpin County's estimated share would be approximately \$532,000.00, to be used as reimbursement for local COVID-19 emergency programs. Commissioner Isenhart asked if that would include expenses for staff working at home during the closure. County Manager Montoya said the County had not budgeted for emergency closure pay and that the over 2,000 staff hours was a substantial amount of money.

Board of Health. Commissioner Isenhart moved to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 2 to 0.

Consideration of Amended Public Health Order #20-07, Regarding Road Closures. The Board discussed an email message they had received regarding damage and violations at properties on Missouri Gulch Road, and they discussed reports of crowds of visitors on Bald Mountain Lane. Commissioner Isenhart noted that Public Health Order (PHO) #20-02 that included a fire ban and shooting restrictions is still in effect, though violations have occurred. Sheriff Armstrong and Patrol Division Chief Ihme spoke about the need for assistance from the Public Works crew to maintain the current road closures, and about actions to be taken by the USFS Law Enforcement Officer within Gilpin County. They explained that some visitors bypass the barricades and travel into closed areas, creating the need to rescue some of them from impassable roads.

County Attorney Benning advised the Board that a new PHO would be drafted to include Missouri Gulch Road and Bald Mountain Lane. County Manager Montoya suggested that a press release about the road closures in Gilpin County could be sent to the Colorado news channels. Sheriff Armstrong will talk with Clear Creek County Sheriff Albers about the two counties' common roads. County Manager Montoya said the current PHO #20-07 for road closures expires on May 29, and that on May 26, the Board will likely extend the Emergency Declaration. They could make a decision about extending the closures that day as well.

Commissioners Isenhart and Engels agreed that action was needed today, even though Commissioner Watson was not able to be part of the meeting. Commissioner Isenhart moved to Amend PHO #20-07 regarding road closures to include Missouri Gulch Road and Bald Mountain Lane. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 2 to 0.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, they adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Signed this 02nd day of June 2020.