

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

June 9, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on June 9, 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.

COVID-19 Update.

Public Health Coordinator Bonnie Albrecht:

- Later this week she will inspect casinos for health standards: hot/cold water and operational equipment
- Operations at the community COVID-19 testing site went smoothly on June 6
- Gilpin County now has five (5) confirmed cases with one more case to investigate for contact tracing.

Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington:

- Thank you to all response agencies and Coordinator Albrecht for their work to set up the community COVID19 testing site. It was a smooth operation and traffic flowed well.
- Direction from the State is expected soon on planning for this fall.
- Supplies and pump bottles for hand sanitizer are being received to prepare staff and visitors for the next phase of reopening.

Electronic Recording Technology Board Grant Award. Clerk and Recorder Sahari McCormick announced that Gilpin County has been awarded a grant to put its land records online and accessible to the public. Commissioner Engels moved to accept the Electronic Recording Technology Board grant award in the amount of \$280,528.67. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Local Liquor Licensing Authority. Commissioner Engels moved to adjourn as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Local Liquor Licensing Authority. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Annual Liquor License Renewal, Underground Liquors. Deputy Clerk Sharon Cate presented an annual renewal application for the retail liquor store license at Underground Liquors. Commissioner Engels moved to approve the application at the local level. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Isenhart moved to adjourn as the Local Liquor Licensing Authority and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Update on Historic Preservation Commission's Projects. Community Development Director Stephen Strohminger gave updates on the following two projects.

Red Tail Road Cabins. Structural reports have been submitted on both cabins to close out the grant requirements. Historic Liaison Tami Archer has informed him there are critical deficiencies on both roofs and the foundation of one. The next step is for the State Historic Preservation Office to approve the reports, allowing the grant process to continue.

Moffat Tunnel Work Camp Cabins. Community Development Director Stephen Strohminger and County Attorney Benning have been talking to Union Pacific representatives to gain ownership of the cabins at the Moffat Tunnel work camp, after which work can begin on grant applications.

Thorn Lake Schoolhouse. Director Strohminger is looking for grants to continue restoration work.

Professional Services Agreement for Human Services/Public Health Building. Community Development Director Stephen Strohminger proposed a contract with SAFEbuilt for some remodeling and inspection work in the Human Services / Public Health building. If approved, SAFEbuilt has already applied for a building permit to expedite the process. Commissioner Isenhart moved to approve contract with SAFEbuilt, including \$3,500.00 for the review, plus \$105 per hour for inspections, not to exceed \$5200.00. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Legal Status Report. County Attorney Benning advised the Commissioners on the following legal issues:

- The FAA has requested another extension regarding the Petition for Review in the Denver Metroplex (flight plan) lawsuit.
- Zoning matters are moving forward.
- Regulation of bed-and-breakfast businesses is currently under the State's Safer at Home Order, allowing them to operate with restrictions. Gilpin County is working on regulations for short-term rentals. Commissioner Watson said the County needs to stay engaged on these businesses.

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

Local Distribution of CARES Act Funding. County Manager Montoya met with the Black Hawk and Central City managers to discuss the distribution and planned use of approximately \$536,000.00, to be administered by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). Each entity must submit a plan to DOLA, then reimbursement for COVID-19 related expenses can be received. Emergency closure pay for staff is not reimbursable, as it was already in local budgets, but personal protection equipment, testing facilities and electronics might be eligible expenses. County Manager Montoya is talking to local special districts about potential reimbursement for them. Commissioner Watson said the County needs to work on a rent and mortgage relief program.

Plexiglass. Plexiglass shields have been installed in some Gilpin County offices and discussion continues with local casinos that have some excess available. More information will be received soon.

State Approval on Elections. Clerk and Recorder Sahari McCormick said the June 30 primary election will be based at the Community Center, and the location for the November general election needed to be determined and notification sent to the State. The Board agreed safe separation requirements could be achieved more easily at the Community Center.

Board of County Commissioners Status Reports.

Notice of Public Meetings. The Board's upcoming public meetings will include June 16, 23 and 30, 2020.

Minutes.

Commissioner Isenhart moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for May 28, 2020. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner Isenhart moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for June 2, 2020. Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner Engels moved to approve Clerk and Recorder Sharon (Sahari) McCormick's Board of County Commissioners Emergency Meeting Minutes for June 7, 202, with information to be added about the County's Public Health Order, also approved that day. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Update on Casinos Reopening. Commissioner Engels stated notice was received on June 6 that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment had approved Gilpin County's variance request and that casinos could open for limited operations on June 17. Two primary changes are:

- Only slot machines are allowed at this time; table games could be approved in three weeks.
- Capacity will be limited to only 50% of a casino's fire code occupancy or 175 people, whichever is fewer.

USFS Boulder Ranger District. Commissioner Watson said the US Forest Service is requesting information on the County's experience in reopening Tolland Road to non-resident traffic. Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington will talk to the Sheriff's Office patrol sergeant and will pass on the information.

Public/Press Comment. Sandy Hollingworth, 224 N. County Road asked:

- How many COVID-19 tests were performed on June 6. Commissioner Watson said there were four or five, with one more scheduled for this morning.
- What is the County's experience in reopening the roads? She is aware of issues on roads other than Tolland Road. Commissioner Watson said the Board would learn more this afternoon.
- Colorado is allowing recreation centers to open, but with Gilpin County's budget and staffing, will the Community Center open on July 10, as planned? Commissioner Watson said the subject would be discussed later today in executive session, as the issue is now more financial than COVID-19 related.

Retirement Parade for Gordon Thompson. County Manager Montoya thanked the attendees of Public Works Director Gordon Thompson's celebration parade, saying it was a great turnout. He thanked the Human Resources staff for organizing the event.

Executive Session. Commissioner Isenhart moved to recess into Executive Session as follows:

- 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)
- For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e)

- For discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f)(I)&(II) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees

Commissioner Engels seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Follow up on County Employees' Pay While Volunteering for an Emergency Response Agency. Commissioner Watson said the Board would give direction to staff on emergency responders' pay at their next meeting.

Public/Press Comment. Library Director Michael Carlson said the Larimer County Public Library's variance request to reopen early has been approved and other entities are using it as a template. Commissioner Watson asked Director Carlson to send the template to the Board for their consideration.

There being no further business to come before the Board, they adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Signed this 16th day of June, 2020.