

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

August 6, 2020

A special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on August 6, 2020, in an online format; no physical meeting was held. Chair Gail Watson called the meeting to order at 9:02 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: As of this morning:

- Gilpin County has 16 confirmed cases of COVID-19
- 27 people were tested on August 4; the number of tests is doubling each week. (Coordinator Albrecht reported later in the meeting that all of the tests performed on August 4 were negative.)
- Test results are received usually within 48 hours.
- The Public Health staff will continue with contact tracing.
- There have been some cases in casinos' staffs, but contact tracing is going well.

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 3 to 0.

Public Health Order #20-11, First Amendment—Rescinding Public Health Order #20-10 in Lieu of Adopting the State's Order for Mask Requirements. In discussion of Gilpin County's Public Health Order (PHO) #20-10, County Attorney Benning noted that the State's mask order requires masks in businesses and enclosed spaces, and that businesses can refuse service if customers refuse to wear a mask. Gilpin County adopted the State's order, which expires on August 16, so proposed PHO #20-11 has been drafted to extend the mask order indefinitely. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to continue to follow the State's order for now.

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

GOCO Resilient Communities Grant Application. Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) will be allocating funding to communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic very soon for outdoor recreation activities; the deadline for applications to be submitted is tomorrow, August 7. Commissioner Watson thanked Business Analyst Gabrielle Chisholm and CSU Extension Agent Jennifer Cook for their work on the grant application. Extension Agent Jennifer Cook gave an overview of the application, which focuses on the extreme impacts Gilpin County has experienced due to COVID-19, and on the community's short-term needs. Business Analyst Gabrielle Chisholm provided detailed information on specific items that were requested. After discussion, Commissioner Engels moved to authorize the submittal of the GOCO grant application with minor modifications. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Rural Economic Development Initiative Grant Application for Eagles Nest Early Learning Center. Commissioner Watson said Kayla Lowe, Director of Eagles Nest Early Learning Center (ENELC) is working on a grant application for Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) funds available through the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) to help the local childcare facility retain their employees. ENELC is not recognized to apply for these funds, but Gilpin County is, similar to gaming impact grants. After discussion, Commissioner Engels moved to approve submission of ENELC's REDI grant application. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

CARES Act Funding Information. Sallie Clark, Director of USDA Colorado, provided information to Commissioner Watson on a CARES Act funding project through the Business and Industries Program that could provide a low-interest loan to Gilpin County. The consensus was that Gilpin County should not apply for a loan at this time, but that the subject could be revisited in the future.

Tri-County Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Agreement. Human Services Director Laura Solomon presented a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Jefferson, Clear Creek and Gilpin counties to provide workforce opportunities such as jobs and résumé building education. Jefferson County functions as the fiscal agent. Commissioner Engels moved to approve the Tri-County Innovation and Opportunity Act Agreement that will expire in 2023. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Legal Status Report. County Attorney Bradford Benning advised the Commissioners on the following legal issues:
Sale of County Property. County Attorney Benning shared a map showing the Black Diamond Mine near Lake Gulch Road, saying that the City of Black Hawk had annexed much of this area for development by Proximo Distillery. The County has owned this property by quit claim deed since 1974 and it is lawful to sell the land outright, rather than through the public auction process. Commissioner Engels moved to direct County Attorney Benning to continue discussions with Black Hawk and Central City pending finalization of the Intergovernmental Agreement. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

0. Commissioner Watson asked if the proceeds from this sale could be used towards a partial re-opening of the Community Center and the Board agreed.

Dakota Hill Communications Tower Site. County Attorney Benning shared a map showing the Dakota Hill Communications Site, the location of a Gilpin County-owned communications tower/antennae used primarily for emergency services. The State also has equipment on the tower to serve the region. The tower is on US Forest Service land, but the road to access the tower crosses land formerly owned by Nycon, which the County leased for \$600.00 per month. The land is now owned by Bonanza Land Company, so the lease needs to be revised. No Board action is needed today, as this will be presented at a future meeting.

Board of County Commissioners Status Reports.

Notice of Public Meetings. The Board's upcoming public meetings will include: August 18 and 25. There will not be a meeting on August 11.

Casino Table Games Variance Request. Commissioner Engels said Gilpin County has receive no news on the status of its variance request to open Table Games.

CARES Act Funding. Commissioner Watson stated that Gilpin County received a signed grant from DOLA for CARES Act funding in the amount of \$294,603.00. These funds are for COVID-19 related, non-budgeted items. Other amounts will be distributed to the cities of Black Hawk and Central City.

Minutes.

Commissioner Engels moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for June 29, 2020. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner Engels moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for July 24, 2020. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

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

Commissioner Engels moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for July 30, 2020. Commissioner Isenhart 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 10:28 a.m.

Signed this 08th day of September 2020.