

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

July 6, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on July 6, 2021, at the old Courthouse and online. Chair Linda Isenhardt called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Chair Isenhardt, Commissioner Sandy Hollingsworth, Commissioner Web Sill, County Manager Abel Montoya, County Attorney Bradford Benning, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Sharon Cate.

Agenda Review. Discussion of the County's (COVID) mask order and Holistic Homestead's farmers market were added to the agenda.

Public/Press Comment. Gail Watson, resident at 19411 Highway 119 and former Gilpin County Commissioner, thanked the Board for hosting a Town Hall to accept input on the Metroplex, the Federal Aeronautics Administration's (FAA) flight plan over the foothills. She also asked that information on the Young Ranch mining application be posted on the County's website.

COVID-19 Update.

Public Health Coordinator Bonnie Albrecht:

- One new case in Gilpin County in the past seven days; 55% of residents are fully vaccinated
- Testing and vaccination clinics are being held every week, with a mobile clinic planned for the County Fair on July 24
- The stated changed mask requirements on July 1; the new list will be posted on the County's website.

Public Health Director Dr. Dawn Comstock:

- Jefferson County has had its first death from the Delta variant, which is 70% more infectious than the initial virus.
- The CDC recommends continuing to wear masks, even when they are not required.

Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington:

- The Office of Emergency Management is working to educate those who are hesitant to be vaccinated.

Purchase of Services Agreement for Vaccination Clinics. Public Health Coordinator Albrecht requested that the Board approve an Agreement for vaccination and testing support. After brief discussion, Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve a Purchase of Services Agreement with Mountain Spirit Healing Touch, LLC, effective January 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Treasurer's Monthly Report. County Treasurer Mary Lorenz reported on operations in that office for the month of May 2021, saying property tax collections were up from the same period in 2020. All 14 of the County-owned parcels offered at auction were sold for a total of over \$30,000.00

Clerk and Recorder's Monthly Report. Chief Deputy Ashley Martin reported on operations in that office for the months of May and June 2021, noting that revenues are steadily increasing in recording and motor vehicle. A new motor vehicle technician will begin working on July 19; a full-time recording technician retired and was replaced with a current part-time employee.

Resolution #21-07, Imposing Temporary Stage 1 Restrictions in Gilpin County. Sheriff Kevin Armstrong said he had enacted a Stage 1 restrictions fire ban on June 17, 2021, and requested that the Board ratify his decision via resolution today. Commissioner Sill moved to adopt Resolution #21-07, **Imposing Temporary Stage 1 Restrictions in Gilpin County**, effective June 17, 2021. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Sheriff's Office's Request for Overtime Allowance. Sheriff Armstrong referred to the Board's comments in the 2021 budget hearings and their statement that if needed, they would revisit adding funds for the workhours overtime allowance, as 93% of that budget has been spent since January 2021. He said an additional \$50,000.00 was needed, but that he hoped it not all of it would have to be used. Commissioner Sill moved to approve an addition of \$50,000.00 for Sheriff's Office overtime for the remainder of year. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

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

Annual Renewal, Underground Liquors. Chief Deputy Clerk and Recorder Ashley Martin presented an annual renewal application for the retail liquor store license for Underground Liquor, LLC, located at 15107 Highway 119, with a current expiration date of August 8, 2021. She noted that all requirements had been met including the

payment of fees. Commissioner Sill moved to approve the application at the local level, as presented, with a new expiration date of August 8, 2022. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

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

RECESS. The Board recessed from 10:04 a.m. to 10:14 a.m.

Clinica Family Health Surveys. Former Senator and Commissioner Jeanne Nicholson, and Janet Rasmussen of Clinica Family Health (Clinica) presented information on an effort to assess the need for local health care to establish two clinics, one in Nederland and the other in Gilpin County. Clinica was founded 40 years ago and serves over 60,000 patients annually. Senator Nicholson explained the status of some surveys available online and on paper that would be part of Clinica's assessment. She also spoke to the possibility of some of Gilpin County's state and federal funding being used for this purpose, and said if established, they would apply for Gaming Impact funds. The clinics would help serve the senior population, uninsured residents, those who lack transportation to the metro area, or have language or payment difficulties. Following discussion, each Commissioner expressed general support of the effort for two local clinics and said they were eager to learn if Clinica's assessment would launch the project.

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

- **Library Intergovernmental Agreement.** The proposed Library Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) has been approved by their Board of Trustees. Discussion followed regarding some final changes to the language in some sections. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve the IGA between Gilpin County and the Gilpin County Library District Board of Trustees. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.
- **Finalization of Documents for SBE 19-02P, Florian Freymuth.** SBE 19-02P was approved on July 21, 2020, but plat was not ready to be signed, as it required additional work. All conditions have been met and the plat and accompanying documents may now be signed. Commissioner Sill moved to approve the finalization of the plat and documents for SBE 19-02P for Florian Freymuth. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.
- **FAA Ruling on Metroplex.** At the recent Town Hall with Representative Judy Amabile and Senator Tammy Story, this was the longest-discussed topic. Senator Story wants to work with other State officials on this ruling.
- **26 Hornblend Drive.** For the zoning violations of junk cars and an illegal fence, the owner has been served with a Court order and has seven days to object. If he doesn't comply, the County will hire a contractor to remove the cars, and reports of hazardous materials may be pursued.

Staffing Request—Parks and Recreation. Parks and Recreation Director Gabrielle Chisholm requested approval of hiring a full-time recreation generalist and five part-time employees, now that the Community Center has been open for two months and staffing needs have been identified. She also noted that the budget is in good shape so far. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve the hiring of addition staff in Parks and Recreation. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

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

Telecommuting Policy. A draft telecommuting policy has been discussed with Senior Leadership Team (SLT) twice, with only a few comments on changes. Each Commissioner expressed their view that as many employees as feasible need to work onsite, barring any difficulties.

Discussion of Vacation Hours Cap. Due to low staffing levels and an increased work load, some employees are not able to utilize their accrued vacation hours, and some have lost hours; more employees are approaching the 208-hour cap. Steph said many over and many approaching it. Commissioner Hollingsworth said the Board was aware of the situation and asked if perhaps there could be a one-time extension of this rule. Commissioner Isenhart agreed and said that maybe a pay-out would be more advantageous to the employees, and that the SLT should work on this idea. Human Resources Generalist Stephanie Garrett will tally those hours and will report to the Board.

Clear Creek County/Gilpin County Shooting Facility. Gilpin County has been working with Clear Creek County on a potential joint shooting facility and has committed to a \$400,000.00 grant match. The basic premise is that it will be financially self-sufficient, with no additional county funds in the future. Commissioner Hollingsworth said Clear Creek County did receive a Colorado Parks and Wildlife grant and is hoping to be awarded a GOCO grant. County Manager said there are multiple grant sources, plus two-county funding, and that maybe a concessionaire could bring additional money to the table.

REDI Grant and Economic Development Role. County Manager Montoya and Business Analyst Caitlin Lovett gave an overview of the Rural Economic Development Grant (REDI), a capacity building grant intended to assist

rural communities with identifying and developing diversified economies. The intention of the grant for Gilpin County is to hire an Economic Development Specialist who will drive efforts to attract new businesses to Gilpin County and assist with retaining and increasing the resiliency of current businesses in the community. The grant would provide funding for the position for 18 months, with DOLA providing \$100,000 and Gilpin County \$50,000. The original match amount was \$37,500.00, but was increased to \$50,000.00. The grant would be intended for the created position to be kept as a permanent staff position past the 18 months if the position is successful in its efforts. County Manager Montoya said that if Gilpin County is approved for this position, he and Business Analyst Lovett will return to the Board with more information. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to commit an additional \$12,500.00 as a match for a REDI grant. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Status of New Public Health / Human Services Building. County Manager gave an update on the Public Health / Human Services building project, saying the County has spent approximately \$1.2 million and will receive a maximum of \$936,060.00 from the Department of Local Affairs. The County has a retainage of up to \$63,000.00, as some items still need to be completed. He anticipated the project will be under budget by up to \$100,000.00. Facilities Manager Ryan Keenan screen shared his check list of outstanding items on the building and said he is talking with subcontractors about what is needed.

Update on Young Ranch Resource, LLC, Mining / Reclamation Application. Young Ranch Resource, LLC, has filed an application with the State Mining and Reclamation Division for an operation at the far south end of the Central City Parkway, almost entirely within Clear Creek County. The City of Central City will likely annex the property, and the State's process will follow. The application has been filed in the Clerk and Recorder's Office. County Manager Montoya and County Attorney Benning have met with Central City Community Development Director Ray Rears and Bob Young, Jr. to discuss the overall plan for the area which is entirely owned by the Young family. The proposal includes minimal cuts that are not steep and can be more easily revegetated, plus wildlife corridor mitigation. The public comment period will end on July 21, 2021. Though requested, Commissioner Isenhardt stated that it would be premature for the Board to make a statement at this time. Commissioner Sill said the Board needs to wait before they comment, as Gilpin County has a very small role in the process because it will be mostly in Central City's jurisdiction.

Sheriff's Office Grant. A pending Sheriff's Office grant requires an audit of the County's Employee Handbook and requires certain provisions, which will call for potential changes to the Handbook. If the Board approves some amendments today, it will help with approval of the grant. Victim Services Coordinator Shannon Arrington spoke on behalf of the Sheriff's Office and explained that it is a CEFS grant for approximately \$392,000.00, awarded at the beginning of the COVID pandemic, if public policies include certain language. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve the requested amendments to the Employee Handbook to meet the CESF grant requirements. Commissioner Sill 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 that could be attended by more than one Commissioner and at which public business may be discussed will include: a work session on July 13; a regular meeting on July 20; and the US Forest Service's site visit at Tolland and East Portal on July 22.

NACo Membership Dues. County Manager Montoya said he uses the National Association of Counties for news, information and important updates on COVID relief funding, plus they advocate for counties at the federal level. He recommended continuing Gilpin County's membership at \$450.00 annually.

Boulder Wagon Wheel Road. Commissioner Hollingsworth said some want to open the old Boulder Wagon Wheel road. Grand County is gathering comments, and there is some opposition. Gilpin County needs to wait and not issue a Board comment yet.

Minutes.

Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for June 10 and June 15, 2021. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Public / Press Comment. In response to a question from Jaclyn Morrow Schrock, reporter for the Weekly Register-Call, Commissioner Hollingsworth said a preliminary discussion of a co-responder program will be held with staff from the Jefferson Center for Mental Health, Clear Creek County and the Sheriff's Offices.

Recess. At 12:28 p.m., Commissioner Sill moved to recess for a lunch break to be followed by some work sessions, then reconvene the Board's regular session afterward. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Resume Regular Session. At 3:22 p.m., Commissioner Sill moved to reconvene the Board regular meeting. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Combined Emergency Services Building. Commissioner Hollingsworth referred to a proposal to create a combined emergency services building, and moved to approve \$2,750.00 as requested by Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington for a study of the project. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Community Center Permit Fees. The Board agreed they would make no changes to the Community Center permit fees at this time.

Adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Sill moved to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with C.R.S. 24-6-402(b) to receive legal advice. Commissioner Hollingsworth 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 3:26 p.m.

Signed this 20th day of July 2021.