

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

October 26, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County was held on October 26, 2021, in an online format only; no in-person meeting was held. Chair Linda Isenhart called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. In attendance were Chair Isenhart, Commissioner Sandy Hollingsworth, Commissioner Web Sill, County Attorney Bradford Benning, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Sharon Cate.

Agenda Review. Two items were added: 1) A proposal by Human Resources to hire Employers Council and H2R to perform some tasks to bring the HR office up to date; and 2) Office space concerns at the Apex facility.

Public/Press Comment. Alisa Witt, 301 Atlantis Road, Gilpin County RE-1 School Physical Education and Health teacher, read a statement in support of the current mask mandate at the school.

COVID-19 Update.

Public Health Coordinator Bonnie Albrecht:

- 14 cases in last 7 days, CDC considers Gilpin County to be in a high-risk category
- 61.7% of eligible residents are fully vaccinated
- Testing:
 - Tuesdays, 9a to 12p at Z Casino parking lot, and 12:30p to 4:30p at the new Public Health/Human Services building
 - The Moderna booster is now approved.
 - The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is meeting to discuss a pediatric vaccine from Pfizer.
- Vaccine clinics through October and November:
 - Wednesday 10a to 2p at the Library
 - Saturday 9a to 3p at the Community Center

Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington:

- Emergency Management has been helping Public Health staff with current tasks.
- All COVID expenses from January 1, 2021, to now are being consolidated.
- Whittington is working on the fourth round of Corona Virus Relief Funds.

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

Discussion of Public Health Order #21-04, Gilpin County School RE-1 Mask Mandate. Gilpin County Public Health Director Dr. Dawn Comstock gave the following information, then answered questions posed by parents of students at Gilpin County RE-1 School.

- COVID-19 booster vaccines are available regardless of which vaccine a person originally received; pediatric vaccines will hopefully be available on November 5.
- Case numbers are rising in Colorado, causing a concern with hospital capacity.
- National and state data suggest that school mask mandates produce lower viral transmission rates.
- The County's public health order can be changed when appropriate.

Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to retain the mask order (PHO #21-04) in Gilpin County RE-1 School until the semester ends on December 16, 2021, given that in September, 27% of cases were in children and their hospitalization rate is 10 times higher. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 2 to 1, with Commissioner Sill voting against.

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

Treasurer/Public Trustee's Reports. County Treasurer and Public Trustee Mary Lorenz gave the following reports. Treasurer—September 2021. The grand total of all County funds is much better than September of 2020, with tax collections slightly lower than the same month last year.

Public Trustee—Third Quarter 2021. The first mortgage foreclosure of the year has been received. Commissioner Sill moved to accept the Public Trustee's Third Quarter 2021 report. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Human Resources Items. Human Resources Interim Director Susie Allen presented the following items.

Resolution #21-12, Adopting A Grievance Procedure and Designating an ADA Coordinator to Comply and Carry Out the County's Responsibilities Under the Americans with Disabilities Act. Until a new Human Resources director is hired, Human Resources Specialist Ava Plamondon could serve as the County government's ADA coordinator. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to adopt Resolution #21-12, "Adopting A Grievance Procedure and Designating an ADA Coordinator to Comply and Carry Out the County's Responsibilities Under the Americans with Disabilities Act." Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Proposal to hire H2R Solutions. Due to high staff turnover, assistance is needed in Human Resources to recover data and bring numerous processes and tasks up to date. Interim Director Allen proposed contracting with H2R Solutions and possibly Employers Council for work on critical functions until the end of the year. Pricing in the proposal was set at 20 work hours per week, at \$18,000.00. After discussion, Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to accept the proposal by H2R Solutions to assist the Human Resources Department with the task outlined, and others if identified, in an amount up to \$18,000.00. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Office space at Apex Facility. Interim Director Allen and Facilities Manager Ryan Keenan advised the Board there were concerns regarding space allocation for Human Resources, Finance, Facilities Maintenance, and the Gilpin Ambulance Authority, all located in the County's Apex facility. Potential solutions discussed were:

- building offices in the second-floor meeting room
- installing temporary panels until Facilities Maintenance can be relocated to the Public Works facility
- renting a modular building, the payment for which might be eligible through some type of COVID funding.

Manager Keenan will work with Emergency Manager Nathan Whittington on a temporary office remedy.

Sheriff's Office Monthly Report. Sheriff Kevin Armstrong reported on operations in the numerous divisions of his office for the month of September 2021, including Citizen Compliments. He noted that the Colorado State Patrol and Sheriff's Office deputies have been patrolling on highways 46 and 119, in an effort to reduce speeding, though there is a limited number of officers available.

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

- Colorado Opioid Settlement Agreement. There is a deadline to become part of the Colorado Opioid Settlement Agreement, which includes four pharmaceutical companies. The State of Colorado will receive \$400 million, which will be apportioned to 19 regions through a formula. Gilpin County is in a region with Jefferson and Clear Creek counties; Gilpin's portion would be shared with the cities of Black Hawk and Central City. In the Agreement, the pharmaceutical companies included a stipulation that calls for 95% of all counties to sign the Agreement. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to accept the Colorado Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Understanding to be part of the region, dated August 26, 2021. Commissioner Sill seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.
- Dory Hill Road—Deeds and Right of Way. Recently, the City of Black Hawk adjusted its property boundary and the lower portion of Dory Hill Road reverted back to Gilpin County. The immediate concern is to perform a basic level of maintenance on the road to better serve County residents. County Attorney Benning is working with Public Works Director John Combs and Right-of-Way Specialist Craig Connell to determine if adjacent landowners will allow widening of the roadway, to make it safer and to support better maintenance.
- Zoning Cases: Legal work continues on a zoning case at 226 Mountain Meadows Drive, and on a structure having been built without a permit, within the required setbacks of the public road, on lot 26A in the Kingdom of Gilpin Estates.

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: October 27, a public work session on Zoom to discuss the requests/uses for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds; October 28, a staff meeting with Human Resources Interim Director Susie Allen; October 28, a meeting with a candidate for the Finance Director position; and November 9, and 23, regularly scheduled meetings of the Board.

Minutes.

Commissioner Sill moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2021. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to approve the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes for September 29, 2021. Commissioner Isenhart seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 2 to 0, as Commissioner Sill was absent on September 29, 2021.

Adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to adjourn 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). Commissioner Sill 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 11:03 a.m.

Signed this 23rd day of November 2021.