



## **Minutes of the Meeting of The Board of County Commissioners Gilpin County, Colorado from Tuesday, March 12, 2024**

A regular meeting was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at the Gilpin County Historic Courthouse and online via Zoom. Chair Berumen called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m. In attendance were Susan Berumen, Chair, Commissioner Sandy Hollingsworth, Commissioner Marie A. Mornis, County Manager Ray Rears, County Attorney Brad Benning, and Deputy Clerk to the Board Lyndsey Denton.

### **Agenda Review.**

There were no changes to the agenda.

### **Conflicts of Interest.**

County Attorney Benning asked the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) if they had any personal or financial interest with the business on the agenda. Each commissioner responded with no conflicts of interest.

### **Public or Press Comment.**

Comments included:

- Donna Okray Parman, 529 High Point Circle, spoke against the Electioneering policy; against grants; against the new food pantry; and against childcare.
- Kathleen Balfour, 392 Tchaikovsky Road, spoke about the recent tax presentation; against the new food pantry, and against the proposed new vehicle for the food pantry.
- Jan Headrick, 205 Weasel Way, spoke against the new food pantry.

Chair Berumen closed the meeting to public or press comment.

### **Consent Agenda.**

Commissioner Mornis moved to remove the meeting minutes from February 27, 2024. Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which failed by a vote of 2 to 1. Chair Berumen and Commissioner Hollingsworth opposed.

Commissioner Mornis moved to, "Adopt the consent agenda as presented." Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0. The consent agenda was approved and contained the following items: the Clerk & Recorder's Report for February 2024; the Treasurer's Report for December 2023 and January 2024; and the approval of meeting minutes for February 13, 2024, and February 27, 2024 regular meetings.

### **New Employee Introductions.**

There were no new hire introductions made.

### **Employee Shout Out Award.**

Sahari McCormick, Clerk & Recorder, presented a Shout Out Award to Jessie Hartman for her diligence in keeping residents' information safe, amongst many accolades as a Motor Vehicle Technician. The BoCC thanked Ms. Hartman for her good work, and congratulated her with a round of applause.

### **Proclamation for Women's History Month.**

Melanie Bleyler, Community Engagement Officer presented the proclamation for Women's History Month, with Chair Berumen proclaiming the final statement. County Manager Rears raised a Point of Order for a motion to adopt the Proclamation. Chair Berumen asked for a motion. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to, "Adopt the Proclamation in support of Women's History month in Gilpin County." Commissioner Mornis seconded, which



passed by a vote 3 to 0.

### **Capital Projects Update.**

Ryan Keenan, Facilities Director, gave a status update for the thirteen (13) capital projects; primarily new ones and four (4) ongoing from 2023. For the new projects, all are contracted, except for one. New projects of note are: replacing the roof of both the Community Center and the Justice Center; front porch decking of Old/Historic Courthouse; building office space in the Treasurer's office; design plans for the food pantry; multiple site HVAC replacements; multiple sites engineering services to assess issues in different county buildings and property; replacing well pumps for the Justice Center Campus; and replacing various fire alarm systems. It was clarified that there would be no new windows for the Old/Historic Courthouse nor new furniture for the BoCC Meeting Hall. There was discussion around prior years' projects, of which all 2021 and 2022 projects have been completed. All the current projects should be completed in 2024; nothing should carry over to 2025. In August or September of 2024, discussions around the projects for 2025 will begin. The Board thanked Director Keenan for the updates and the good work.

### **Local Liquor Licensing Authority.**

Commissioner Mornis 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.

### **Liquor License Renewal for Mid-County Liquors.**

Sahari McCormick, Clerk & Recorder, presented the annual liquor license renewal for Mid-County Liquors. The application presented was complete and she recommended approval at the local level for the renewal of the liquor license. There was no further discussion. Chair Berumen asked for a motion. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to, "Approve the retail Liquor License Renewal application for Mid-County Liquors". Commissioner Mornis seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

### **Board of County Commissioners.**

Commissioner Mornis 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."

### **Resolution 24-59, Authorizing the Acceptance of a Grant from the Colorado Community Health Alliance (CCHA) to Purchase a Vehicle for the Gilpin County Food Pantry.**

Janey Barker, Human Services Director and Jamie Boyle, Grant Manager & Writer, presented the resolution to accept a grant from the Colorado Community Health Alliance to purchase a vehicle for the Gilpin County Food Pantry. According to the results from the Gilpin County Community Health Survey, there were elevated concerns in the community around food insecurity. CCHA is a partner with Medicaid, and has grant funding available to help alleviate these concerns. They initiated discussion about possible uses for Gilpin County. Director Barker overviewed the various options for the available funds, and it was determined by CCHA and Director Barker that using the funds to purchase a vehicle for the Food Pantry would be the best option. There are some issues with the current vehicle with capacity, and a need for its use for other Human Service's demands. It was clarified that the funds cannot be used for maintenance, only towards the purchase. There is no match requirement, rather a commitment to do pop-up events, present the CCHA logo on the vehicle, and purchase by April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. There was discussion around exploring hybrids and used vehicles; along with the budget for the maintenance costs. There was further discussion around the possible replacement of the current vehicle, where it is on the county vehicle replacement plan, but recommended to alter its use for other Human Services needs. After discussion and amendment of the resolution, Chair Berumen asked for a motion. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to adopt Resolution 24-59, "Authorizing the acceptance of a grant offered by the Colorado Community Health Alliance to purchase a vehicle for the Gilpin County Food Pantry, not to exceed \$55,000, with the additional \$4,000 estimated for maintenance per year, with the amendments as discussed." Commissioner Mornis asked for clarification of the amendments; which were: to update that it was the Human Services



Director engaged in discussions for the funding; explore hybrid and used vehicle options; and to authorize the County Manager to purchase the vehicle and execute a Memorandum of Understanding if the purchase price is between \$50,000-\$55,000. Commissioner Mornis seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**Resolution 24-61, Adopting the List of Official Appointments; Emergency Manager.**

Ray Rears, County Manager, presented the resolution to amend the Official List of Appointments to appoint the new Office of Emergency Management Director, Melissa Lewis, as the Emergency Manager. This is a required appointment per state statute. Chair Berumen asked for a motion. Commissioner Mornis moved to adopt Resolution 24-61, "Adopting the List of Official Appointments to remove Sheriff Armstrong, and replacing that position with Melissa Lewis." Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**Resolution 24-60, Appointing a Gilpin County Representative to the New Childcare Center's Board of Directors.**

Lyndsey Denton, Deputy Clerk to the Board and Childcare Steering Committee (CSC) representative, presented the resolution requesting the appointment of a Gilpin County representative to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD) for the proposed new non-profit childcare center. The CSC highly recommended a commissioner serve in that role, but other considerations have been recommended as well. Commissioner Mornis nominated Human Services Director Janey Barker to the BOD; to help encourage more autonomy for the new entity, and for her experience in the childcare realm. Director Barker said she would be willing to serve, and has the capacity to take on the role. Commissioner Hollingsworth agreed with the nomination. Chair Berumen asked for a motion. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to adopt Resolution 24-60, "Appointing a Gilpin County representative to the new non-profit childcare center's Board of Directors, and so name Janey Barker as the representative." Commissioner Mornis seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

**County Attorney's Report.**

County Attorney Benning gave his report; highlighting his work on water rights cases, county roads memo, working with insurance for utility truck damage, and litigation matters. He had meetings with each commissioner, answering various questions. His department met the new Office of Emergency Management Director, Melissa Lewis, in which they looked to postpone the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Nederland regarding an emergency evacuation center, due to upcoming legislative updates. He has been working with Golden Gate Canyon State Park regarding road maintenance. He reported on his work with the Clerk & Recorder regarding elections and information to give to public. He has been working on various contracts and County seal trademark. He has been working on some legislative matters with the lobbyists, and legislature around fire suppression ponds, and updates to CORA requests.

**County Manager's Report.**

County Manager Rears gave his report; noting the upcoming meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup>, the work session topics for March 19<sup>th</sup>, and the Community Town Hall regarding building and planning with Community Development and Building Official on May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Historic Courthouse. He has started the IT Specialist position interviews. He gave a brief summary of the gaming tax numbers, estimated to be slightly lower for the year. He mentioned the approval of the Electioneering policy. He is currently working through a Questions and Answers (Q&A) with the public and County staff and officials, that will be available soon. He also called attention to the stakeholder group meeting for Moffat Tunnel Lease, in which it has been requested for one commissioner to represent the county during these sensitive topic discussions. Commissioner Mornis asked if County Manager Rears could serve, and clarified it was requested to be a commissioner from each county on the original lease. Commissioner Hollingsworth nominated Chair Berumen to take the lead. It was requested by the BoCC to have a summary sheet given to all commissioners after the meetings. Commissioner Mornis agreed to have Chair Berumen be in the stakeholder group for the Moffat Tunnel Lease.



### **Public or Press Comment.**

Chair Berumen opened the meeting to public or press comment. Comments included:

- Barbara Hardt, 245 Apollo Drive, thanked the new Community Engagement Officer, Melanie Bleyler, for her work with the new newsletter and keeping the community informed from a county perspective.

### **Board of County Commissioners Report & Notice of Public Meetings.**

- Commissioner Mornis reported on her attendance at CCI and CCAT meetings, the Board of Health meeting, and the lobbyist work session.
- Chair Berumen shared about the meeting that was held on March 11, in response to a public comment. It was not specific to childcare; it was for parents of children 0-8 years; and 15 parents/couples attended. The gift cards and drawings were donated, and it was put on by TRIAD Bright Futures, not the County.
- Commissioner Hollingsworth shared her report; highlighting her and Chair Berumen's attendance of the Opioid Council Regional Conference to celebrate the Sheriff's Office Co-responder Program receiving a grant. She also noted her attendance at the Bi-annual Jefferson Center meeting, Board of Health meeting, NoCo Executive Committee, CCI and CCAT steering committees on legislation.
- Chair Berumen shared the Notice of Public Meetings where two or more Commissioners may be in attendance:
  - o March 19<sup>th</sup>: Work session at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room, and a Work session with Central City at City of Central, City Hall at 5:30 p.m.
  - o March 25<sup>th</sup>: Lobbyist Work Session; online only
  - o March 26<sup>th</sup>: Regular Board of County Commissioners meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room.

### **Recess to Executive Session.**

Commissioner Mornis moved to, "Recess to Executive Session for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f)(l) Personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the session has requested an open meeting, or if the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all of the employees have requested an open meeting; and for the purpose of conference with the County Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) relative to potential litigation." Commissioner Hollingsworth seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0. Recessed at 10:47am

### **Reconvene.**

Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to, "Adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners." Commissioner Mornis seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0. Chair Berumen reconvened the meeting at 2:24 p.m.

During Executive Session, the Commissioners conducted their annual review for the County Manager. Chair Berumen asked for a motion. Commissioner Hollingsworth moved to, "Accept a 3.5% annual increase for the County Manager." Commissioner Mornis seconded the motion, including the resulting annual salary of \$180,512.28, which passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

There being no further public business to come before the Board, Chair Berumen adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

Approved this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

A signed and recorded copy of these minutes is available through the Clerk & Recorder's Office via Reception Number 176158.