Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on August 24, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present: Darius Allen, Chair  
Michael Yohn, Vice-Chair  
Helen Sigmond, Commissioner  
Gigi Dennis, County Administrator  
Jason Kelly, County Attorney  
Belina Ramirez, Deputy Clerk

Call the Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

m/s Yohn/Sigmond motion to approve August 24, 2016 Agenda
  Motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Yohn requested clarification of page 7 motion for Scoping to be “which is 17.2 % of the overall match”.

Commissioner Sigmond stated she had found some typos but spoke to Belina about them.

m/s Yohn/Sigmond motion to approve August 10, 2016 minutes with the clarification and corrections.
  Motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of Bills/Obligations

m/s Sigmond/Yohn motion to approve Bills/Obligations
  Motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

No comment was made.

Consent Agenda

Application Hosting & Technology Support Services-ACS Enterprises Solutions
OpenGov Software Agreement
AIP Project No 3-19-002-020 SLV Regional Airport Contract Agreement –Install Taxi Guidance Signs
AIP Project No 3-08-002-021-2016 Rehabilitate Runway 2/20
Core Service Program-2016-2017
Contract for Services-Center for Restorative Programs

Commissioner Yohn requested to pull Application Hosting & Technology Services Contract and OpenGov Software Agreement.

m/s Yohn/Sigmond motion to approve Consent Agenda without the Application Hosting & Technology Services Contract and OpenGov Software Agreement
Motion was approved unanimously

Application Hosting & Technology Services Contract

Commissioner Yohn stated the contract lists location as the 402 Edison address so we should correct this.

Jason Kelly stated we have used ACS for some time now. In Paragraph 34 it states governed by West Virginia and we asked them to change the jurisdiction in 2011 to Colorado. We can ask to change it again. In his recollection they did change this. If we leave as is under West Virginia he just needs to point out that he is not licensed there so he cannot advise on that.

Helen Sigmond stated we should ask to change to Colorado law.

m/s Yohn/Sigmond motion to approve Application Hosting & Technology Services contract subject to correction of these two items if they are agreeable.

Commissioner Yohn stated we have two departments using this system the Assessor and Finance and they are pleased with it.

Jason Kelly stated they never had an issue with them but he is pretty sure they will be agreeable.

Opengov

Commissioner Yohn stated this is a new agreement and requested information on it.

Gigi Dennis stated this is software that Brittney DeHerrera requested to purchase where there was enough in her budget for. This would allow budget data input and create graphs. Also will make the budget transparent for the public and it is easier to read. Many municipalities and counties go with this. We won’t have to explain the budget because it will provide a lot more information. There is a tutorial online if you would like to view.

Commissioner Allen asked if we would be able to put this on our website.

Gigi Dennis stated yes.

Commissioner Sigmond asked what the total is for this.

Jason Kelly stated there is an initial fee for $4500 for deployment of software and $8500 for upkeep for the year.

Commissioner Sigmond commented so the first year they will have both amounts.
Jason Kelly answered yes. There is a discrepancy if you look at page 29 it was created August 9, 2016 and expires July 31, 2016 so we need to get this clarified. Second thing is in paragraph 7.4 page 31 it explains TABOR language but there is not a termination of convenience. You can get out of it by not appropriating money in 2017 for it. The effective dates are off so he is uncomfortable with this. He would like this clarified. Also paragraph 9 doesn’t directly ask to indemnify where the County is prohibited by law to be indemnified by another party. The last thing is paragraph 10 miscellaneous where they put a lot of miscellaneous provisions in there. One of them states governed by the State of California and again he is not licensed in California so he cannot advice for California law. We can ask to change this.

Commissioner Sigmond stated they may want to keep as California.

Jason Kelly stated yes but his role is just to point this out to them.

Commissioner Allen suggested to table this until we get more information.

Commissioner Sigmond asked when Brittney wants this.

Jason Kelly stated he asked her and she is ok in waiting.

Commissioner Yohn asked if there is any way to measure the outcomes of their service.

Jason Kelly stated he thinks they can measure by what you can see in terms of the information you receive.

Gigi Dennis stated we have to supply the information. It will populate the information into the different categories. It will break out what the Federal funds and State funds are. And it breaks out the revenue. It makes it “pretty” on explaining where the dollars go and how it is spent.

Commissioner Sigmond asked if we could qualify or determine how the public uses it.

Belina Ramirez stated the County website does prepare a report of how many times it was looked at and for each category it is broken out into.

Commissioner Sigmond asked if it will just be on the website or other publications.

Gigi Dennis stated probably just the website but we can put in other publications.

\textbf{m/s Yohn/Sigmond motion to table OpenGov Agreement for a later date}

\textit{Motion was approved unanimously}

\textbf{Alamosa County Employee Recognition}

Gigi Dennis stated when she came aboard a year ago there was no formal employee recognition. They had a subcommittee of Wilma Paddock, Catherine Salazar, and Tim DeHerrera. They laid out what they could do. It was approved by the Board. There will be a total of 115 recognized at the County Picnic. We are recognizing 20 years and plus capping off at 45 years today.

Wilma Paddock stated this was one of the projects she worked on when she came in to this position.
Commissioner Yohn stated he didn’t realize we didn’t have one when he came in. The employees are Alamosa County they are the ones who do the work. We know you are all underpaid but with County funds there is only so much money to go around so this is one way to show how we really care about you.

Commissioner Sigmond agreed whole heartedly Recognition is something we really can do for you. They want to make your experience here a positive one.

Commissioner Allen stated they are very appreciative of you and they hear from people in the public of this as well.

Certificates were presented to the Employees of 20 years and above of service to Alamosa County.

**Alamosa County Clerk & Recorder**

**Special Events Permit Liquor License for SLV Local Foods Coalition**

Melanie Woodward and Applicant Liza Marron were present. This event is on September 25th from 11:30AM-5:00PM.

Liza Marron spoke. It is their 4th annual event which celebrates the harvest of the San Luis Valley. This year they are doing a Friendraiser for a $5 entry fee. They are partnering with ALMA for music. They will have some food vendors. It is at the Rio Grande Farm Park which used to be the Polston School. They took ownership of the land February 2016. They are asking for a liquor license and waiver of fees. SLV Brewery will be there. Everyone will be required to have an ID and get a bracelet.

Commissioner Sigmond stated it is a great cause and she is supportive of it.

Liza Marron stated one of their projects is to incubate land there. They have three farmers in that category and 10 Guatemalan families.

Commissioner Yohn asked if there is any security required or traffic control.

Melanie Woodward stated as far as the State is concerned no.

Liza Marron stated for the Temporary Use they communicated with the Sheriff, CDOT, State Patrol, and Fire so all emergency services are aware. It is meant to come and go so they are not required of any kind of traffic control.

Commissioner Yohn stated the entrance is not controlled by any stop signs.

Liza Marron stated they do have two volunteers for parking.

**m/s Sigmond/Yohn motion to approve Special Events Permit Liquor License and waive the fees**

**Motion was approved unanimously**

Commissioner Allen clarified we can waive the fees for a Special Use Permit but not for the Liquor License because that is issued by the State. They will call Liza and let her know.
m/s Sigmond/Yohn motion to clarify previous motion to waive only the County Fee not the State Liquor License fee which will remain in place
Motion was approved unanimously

Rio Grande Watershed Emergency Action Coordination Team (RWEACT)

Zeke Ward was present. He is the new Executive Director. He made presentation about a month ago to the SLV Commissioners Association. This group was formed during the West Fork Fire to provide a voice for the communities that were affected by the fire to mitigate the effects of the fire. They were awarded some grant money by Executive Order of the Governor. This was for Hinsdale, Mineral, and Rio Grande counties. This grant will run through next year. We have received an additional grant from DOLA to do capacity building and to expand our efforts to other areas in the San Luis Valley. They have Costilla on board now. They applied for 501c3 status and received to provide organizational structure beyond 3 years of funding that came from the Governor’s office to continue the efforts. The Board came to a conclusion that they have benefit to the Counties because we will have disasters again. They can continue efforts between the government and nongovernment to provide a voice for the communities. Tomorrow they are going to open bids from contractors to do an assessment of the Rio Grande Watershed. It will include South Fork and the main stem of the Rio Grande. It will be a beneficial tool to identify and prioritize areas to engage to provide treatment, recovery of the forest, and restore the watershed from effects not just from fire. This will provide decision support for upcoming projects. They have some test plots going, working with Trout Unlimited, and reintroducing Cutthroat trout. These efforts will help not being put on the endangered species list. They are working with the 10-County Coalition. Half of what they do is focused on Public Safety so they work extensively with Emergency Managers. They had a tabletop exercise constructed by the Forest Service. It was real impressive. He was amazed of the level of preparedness the Emergency Managers were at. Bridging the Divide II in Wolf Creek is another workshop they are working on. They will focus on resiliency on climate change. They are engaged in Colorado and New Mexico plan on issues. He would like Alamosa County to come aboard by designated a board member for RWEACT. The Board members are from Hinsdale County Cindy Dozier, from Mineral County Ramona Weber, from Rio Grande County Karla Shriver, and the Chair is Travis Smith, from SLV Water Resources Heather Dutton, from Trout Unlimited Kevin Terry, from Black Creek Hydrology Steve Belz, and from Costilla County Joe Gallegos.

Commissioner Yohn stated what happens in the Valley effects all of us. It is important but when working with the US Forest Service he gets disheartened when they say everything is a natural cycle it will take care of itself such as the Beatle kill.

Zeke Ward stated one policy they have is they want to make data driven decisions. It is easy to make assumptions but one of the efforts they are engaged in is the Rio Grande Forest Revision. RWEACT was able to hire a facilitator for this effort to provide greater public input. They have public meetings but people don’t always have time to go to these meetings. The decision rests entirely on the Rio Grande Forest but RWEACT has a seat on the table. There are things we can do but they need to be in cost effective ways.

Commissioner Yohn stated he goes over Wolf Creek and sees the Beatle kill which is a fire waiting to happen. The West Fork area and above Beaver Creek would benefit that. Years ago we had a saw mill in South Fork that was protested until they had to close shop.
Commissioner Sigmond agrees with what happens to one affects the whole Valley. There is likelihood of potential fire. With the SLV Commissioners this is a concern we have to balance in terms of what we can do.

Commissioner Allen asked how they are funded.

Zeke Ward stated County Commissioners are sensitive to these budget issues. At this time we are not asking Counties to fund another organization. Their efforts are entirely project driven. We would generate funds from available resources if we have a project we want to engage in. We are not asking for any commitment from Alamosa County’s General Fund. If a project is focused on Alamosa County and requires a match that would be your decision. We are not asking for a contribution at this point of time.

Commissioner Allen asked what your relationship with the Cutthroat Trout is.

Zeke Ward stated when it comes down to endangered species the SLV is unified somewhat. Rio Grande Water Conservation, SLV Water Conservation District, and other organization we have been proactive keeping species off the endangered lists. They are in a cooperative effort instead of the government telling us how to protect these species. Whatever they can do to prevent these orders end up being the best value for the San Luis Valley. Our decision is based on the scientific data. They always want to make scientific data decisions. This is through the reduction of habitat for Rio Grande Cutthroat is entirely due to interaction of grazing and tourism is not supported by the evidence. The data indicates wherever the nonnative species can survive the Rio Grande Cutthroat can survive. We need isolated waters to preserve the Cutthroat. They have engaged in reintroducing the Rio Grande Cutthroat. They had to kill nonnative species then the Rio Grande cutthroat can be reintroduced with no problem.

Commissioner Sigmond asked if they envision any projects in Alamosa.

Zeke Ward stated we would have to look at their needs. They can help with Emergency Managers. They can help with backup communications with communication systems. They were effective in Hinsdale County, Mineral County, and Rio Grande County with this. He went to a meeting in Gunnison where the phone lines get cut so then there is no internet and credit card machines don’t work. They worked with communication sites to provide a redundant system that can be used when this service fails. Do you have any projects in mind that we can assist with you?

Gigi Dennis asked what the skill set you are looking for is. You already have Commissioners on the Board so what do you want to bring to the board.

Zeke Ward stated we have 5 subcommittees for economic recovery, hydrology, Emergency Managers communications, natural resources, and economic development. Each subcommittee has a team leader. Heather Dutton is team leader for Natural Resources, Karla Shriver is team leader for Economic Development, and Terry Wetherill is team leader for Emergency Manager. The meetings are as needed which is quarterly. Subcommittees meet and provide most of the work. Board members doesn’t have to serve on the teams but can if they wish. We meet at Windsor Hotel but as we get more aboard they will try to centralize meetings and they can move them around. The Board makes the financial decisions.

Commissioner Yohn asked where they stand with funds.
Zeke Ward stated estimate at $800,000. This grant ends in 2017 but they can extend for another year. From DOLA we just got $100,000.

**SLV Homeland Security**

Jean Borrego was present. She replaced Jeff Babcock as the Grant Coordinator. She has a Degree in Sociology/Criminology and a Minor in Nonprofit administration. She worked at the Chemical Depot in Pueblo previously. She did medical coordination which helps FEMA grants to assist with hazardous material. She finished the Emergency Manager Academy last year. At several conferences the Salmonella presentation was given and she seen the collaboration and coordination that was done which was impressive. This was one thing that drew her here. You don’t see where the Valley as a whole helps each other you just don’t see that often. This also influences outside the Valley. She wanted to be a part of this. Grants funds were made available through FEMA after 9/11 to come to the local level and they captured for a regional aspect. Monies are disbursed for 9 regions according to a calculation process based on risk based. The risks tend to be higher in larger populations but the idea is to have funds within each region to help and promote hazards of terrorism. Anyone anywhere can be affected. They help 1st responders so we can be prepared. They centered on communications here. This program also covers for trainings and exercises. For 2016 we just received. Rio Grande County is the Fiscal agent and they submitted documents to accept this grant. The Valley got a significant cut because we don’t have a high risk. This impacts all rural areas. They will advocate for changes to be able to be competitive with larger areas because if they get more money we get less.

Commissioner Sigmond asked with the funds cut what services do you see being affected.

Jean Borrego stated it will affect the grant. Approximately there was $189,000 available in 2014. They received the cut in 2016 based on this impact. Radio programs to maintain items such as batteries will be affected, infrastructure for equipment for schools and etc. We have projects approved but haven’t been funded yet.

Gigi Dennis asked what the grant amount you are receiving, what organizations can apply, and how it is distributed around the six counties.

Jean Borrego the 2016 Grant was already decided before she came aboard. This is for fire, law enforcement, and schools that show need and if the scope falls within Homeland Security dollars can put in a request. For example hand held radios.

Gigi Dennis stated the Airport needs updated radios to be on the right frequency for communications to tower for incoming planes. They are requesting three radios.

Commissioner Sigmond asked if these a match grants.

Jean Borrego stated sometimes they cover the entire project or give a portion. One example is the initial estimate increases so they are awarded the estimate and then the organization will have to cover the rest. The idea is to help as needed.

Commissioner Yohn stated he is on the All Hazards Board. There are always more projects than the grants can support. The region has benefited from this.
Department of Human Services

Catherine Salazar was present.

The Ongoing Workload Summary Report was provided. It showed 291 cases for Adult Financial, 129 cases for Colorado Works, 2063 cases for Food Stamps/Food Assistance, and 4176 cases for medical Assistance.

The Monthly Food Assistance Issuance Report was presented. It showed 524,157 for month of July with a year to date of $3,728,857.

This is an 80/20 match for administrative costs for salaries even though all costs of issuance are Federal dollars.

The Recovery Collection Report was provided. This is for payments over issued.

Commissioner Sigmond asked if the money collected goes back into the program.

Catherine Salazar responded a portion goes back and a part towards our 80/20 match.

The Child Support Comparison Report was provided.

Board/Staff Updates

RMOMS

Jason Kelly stated the pre-trial has to be approved with the Chief Judge. In this instance we didn’t issue an RFP but due to the conditions we are now in, we are in a bind. In the new year we will have to do a formal RFP. He doesn’t know how this will be budgeted and what the cap will be. Pueblo County put a cap on it. He is asking how to proceed.

Brittney DeHerrera stated it depends on the population and what they are providing for us. We have spent half of what was budgeted for Intervention. If RMOMS go through the entire population it could be high. The Sheriff can determine who needs to be assessed. The fee is determined by court ordered and by monitoring system assigned.

Commissioner Yohn stated RMOMS wants to come in and evaluate. It can save for those who are being housed and don’t need to be. Housing outside facility is getting higher and higher. Getting these people out on pre-trial will be beneficial.

Jason Kelly stated we can proceed with sometime of cap amount.

Commissioner Sigmond stated we should check with the Sheriff who he thinks should be evaluated by RMOMS.

Commissioner Yohn asked doesn’t the judge determine who goes through pre-trial.

Jason Kelly stated there are people in the jail now who haven’t been given an option because the judge wasn’t comfortable letting them out without something in place. We can say we can’t pay the intake
fee for everyone. The person would have to pay the $40 and they may not be able to pay the intake fee so they can’t get out and may be qualified for pre-trial and it is costing us to house them.

Brittney DeHerrera stated we didn’t have from the prior company what the outcomes were. We were not able to see what they were doing for us.

Jason Kelly stated we will be able to see with this company because they will be billed according to what is being done.

*m/s Yohn/Sigmond motion to proceed with the contract with a cap of $50,000  
Motion was approved unanimously.*

**Adjourn**

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting of the Board of Alamosa County Commissioners was adjourned.

**ATTEST:**

Belina Ramirez, Deputy Clerk

Darius Allen, Chairman

Michael Yohn, Vice-Chair

Helen Sigmond, Commissioner