Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on May 8, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present: Darius Allen, Chair
Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair
Mike Yohn, Commissioner
Jason Kelly, County Attorney
Dennis Hunt, Interim Administrator
Brittney DeHerrera, Chief Financial Officer
Belina Ramirez, Office Manager

Call the Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Addition of Stepping Up Initiative with Sheriff/SLV Behavioral Health & SLV UAS/UAV Advisory Board nominees.

M/S Yohn/Dunne motion to approve the agenda of May 8, 2015 with additions.
Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

The Following Minutes were presented:
Regular Minutes-April 22, 2015
Public Hearing-Charles Heald

Commissioner Yohn asked to correct on Agenda the minutes to reflect April 22nd instead of April 8th.

M/S Yohn/Dunne motion to approve the Minutes of April 22, 2015 with correction.
Motion was passed unanimously.
Approval of Bills/Obligations

Check #’s 114500 – 114648 & Check #’s 29446 - 29481

M/S Dunne/Yohn motion to approve the Bills/Obligations
   Motion was passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Dan McCann who resides at 1809 Sunset spoke regarding the fight of Mayweather vs. Pacquiao. He felt the people got their money’s worth.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Commissioners decided to pull both off of Consent Agenda for further review.

Short term loan from County Capital Fund to Airport Project of $450,000

Brittney DeHerrera stated this Short Term Loan will help cover the cost of contractors that did the work because the timeframe of grants takes 4-6 weeks so the contractor can pay his subcontractors. The Airport isn’t that fortunate to have the funds to cover these costs.

Commissioner Allen stated when they did the Eagle Air Hangar the County did this too.

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to do the short term loan from County Capital fund to Airport project of $450,000
   Motion was approved unanimously.

UAV/UAS Advisory Board Nominations

Two recommendations were given to serve the SLV UAV/UAS Advisory Board which were Ron Ecord and Francis Song from DRG.

m/s Yohn/Dunne motion to accept appoint Ron Ecord and Francis Song to SLV UAV/UAS Advisory Board.
   Motion was approved unanimously.

Alamosa County Clerk & Recorder

Melanie Woodward was present. The Conference in April was held at the Inn of the Rio Grande. The Secretary of State was here Monday and Tuesday. The Department of Motor Vehicle was here Wednesday. They were supposed to start issuing Death Certificates online for funeral homes May 1st, but they had issues with the system. This is for Funeral Homes and the Doctors who are participants in this program.

Commissioner Yohn asked who is going to be able to access this.
Physicians, funeral homes, and Clerk & Recorder’s stated Ms. Woodward. If the physician isn’t a participant then they have to do it the way they did before.

Commissioner Dunne stated before churches used to get the Death Certificates from the funeral homes do they continue this way. It is still the same way churches should get from the funeral home. With Death Certificates you had to have died in that county to get from that county but now you should be able to get from anywhere in the state. This should be more revenue for us because we are centrally located.

Commissioner Allen asked how much a Death Certificate is. $30 for the 1st copy and $23 for 2nd. It gets cheaper the more you get.

**m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve Clerk & Recorder’s Report**

Motion was approved unanimously.

*Alamosa Lodging LLC-Inn of the Rio Grande Liquor License Renewal*

**m/s Yohn/Dunne motion to approve Alamosa Lodging LLC-Inn of the Rio Grande Liquor License**

Motion was approved unanimously.

*Special Events Permit*

Ken VanIwarden stated they already received their Special Use permit from the Land Use Department.

It will be held on August 11th. The permit is from 12pm – 11pm.

Commissioner Dunne stated he did this last year and there were no problems.

Commissioner Yohn stated it is only for one day.

Ms. Woodward stated yes, August 11th.

Commissioner Yohn stated in the past they had a Public Hearing.

Ms. Woodward stated she did have to post notice of meeting. If anyone disagrees or has questions then they would have to come to the meeting.

Mr. VanIwarden stated it is two different separate permits. Clerk & Recorders permit is so they can serve liquor. Originally when we did the first one we issued a Temporary Use Permit which was required approval through the board since then it has been changed that it is the Land Use Administrators decision.

Rachel Baird stated it was a controversial application the first time it brought before the Land Use Administrators office but all Temporary Use permits go through the Land Use Administrator now.

Mr. Kelly stated unless it was denied then it would go through this board.
Ms. Woodward stated it is for 3.2 beer only.

Dwight Catalano with Kats Classic Motocross was present. This event continues to do very well. Up to last year they were the only gaining 10% every year except for last year. He believes it is because of the economy. They are going to have a concert and the Brewery is bringing their cart to serve beer.

Commissioner Dunne stated she appreciates him supporting local businesses.

Mr. Catalano stated the pro challenge that evening for anyone. They don’t have to have a license or anything. They give $1000 and the spectators don’t have to stay there for hours because it is just one race. This event grows with the concert every year. The date is incorrect it should be July 11th.

Ms. Woodward stated this can be changed.

Commissioner Yohn stated his concern was for one day because it is a 3 day event.

Mr. Catalano stated it is a 2 day event but one day for the liquor license only.

**m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve Special Use Permit for a liquor license.**

**Motion was approved unanimously.**

**Alamosa County Land Use**

*Request for Fee Changes*

Rachel Baird and Ken Vanlwarden were present.

The Land Use Department is requesting that the Board of County Commissioners consider establishing fees for a new Land Use application type as well as standardizing fees for our HB 1041 Permit for the Site Selection and Construction of a Major Facility of a Public Utility. This is the initial proposal for your consideration. I will bring a formal request to the Board after I have published the new proposed fees.

The first fee is regarding the newly established Special Use Permit Amendment. The Board recently approved a text amendment in Section 8.8.10 A.B.2 of the LUDC to give the Land Use Administrator the authority to determine whether a deviation is of a substantial nature to require either the full Special Use Permit process or a single hearing before the Board of County Commissioners. If the Land Use Administrator opts for the single hearing, there is not an established fee to cover the process. The Land Use office is requesting the fee be set at $250, half the cost of the full permit fee and a fair reflection of the amount of staff time required to process the application.

As I have mentioned before, we are anticipating a big year for utility-scale solar development. We received our first preliminary application for a 1041 permit application on April 17th and we expect to receive a pre-application from a second company within the next two weeks. To that end, we are requesting that the Board consider standardizing our 1041 permit fees. Application fees are meant to cover county staff time, including the county attorney, as well as the full cost of
the third-party consultant. The application fee also covers legal notices and any expenses above and beyond standard applications.

Based on information obtained from Pueblo, Elbert, Chaffee, and Huerfano counties, comparable fees for HB 1041 Permit applications typically range from $5,000 to $36,000. Historically, our HB 1041 permit fees have been determined on a case-by-case basis. The fees from our seven previous applications ranged from $29,620-$36,220. We believe a set application fee of $30,000, with a contingency for inflation, deviation from standard solar technology, or unusual siting, is a sustainable fee for projects of this complexity and scale.

In the last two years we have also completed three 1041 permit transfers and amendments and have not charged any fees. The amount of review required for these permit amendments and transfers is extensive compared to typical land use applications. They generally require additional one-on-one meetings with staff, often daily feedback regarding permit processing, and open house facilitation. The third-party consultant is generally not involved in these applications but significant input is often required from other departments especially the county attorney. We are requesting the Board consider setting a standard fee of $5,000, one-sixth the cost of the initial permit but sufficient enough to cover the time and expertise involved.

Commissioner Yohn stated he can see on the 1041 fees they need to pass on the fees. The Special Use permit process he would want to look at to cover costs but not exceed.

Ms. Biard stated for a Special Use they charge $500 for publishing, hearings, and preparation. Because it is ½ the cost of a full permit. These are just the first readings so there can be changes.

Commissioner Dunne stated the part that bothers her is the contingency. This will continue to change. Who makes this call?

Ms. Baird stated the consultant is charging $13,000 now but for example Cogentrix has 50 ft. panels which requires more extensive review so consultant fees may go up. Another example is the solar reserve in Saguache with reserve towers because we have to have further reviews.

Mr. Kelly stated a formal request needs to come before a public hearing so this is just a heads up that the Land Use is going to bring these changes forward for your consideration.

Commissioner Allen stated one of the things they never took into consideration was transfer of permits. It takes time and effort so we need to recoup costs. Compared to other fees charged in other areas it is pretty comparable.

Commissioner Yohn asked if she would you go over the Special Use Permit process.

Ms. Baird stated Chuck Heald who came in for a Special Use amendment they were not able to charge him anything for processing the application because there is not a set fee. Marijuana operation are restricted to what they can change but if they did they would come in, get published, and send letters. For Heald there was no way to cover cost of mailing because of no fee set. Any Amendments to existing applications they do some of the same stuff like a full application. There is just no reimbursement to the County.
Mr. VanIwarden stated in some cases there might be an amendment to the site plan. This involved more time.

Commissioner Allen stated one example is Sun Power they moved all their panels from one side to another.

Mr. VanIwarden stated they need flexibility to make judgments without wasting time.

Ms. Baird stated another example is the Group Home got approved by the State and based on the size of her home she can have 12 children but was only approved for 10. Now she wants to add 2 more but because it was such a controversial issue she didn’t want have to go through the whole process again so this is a compromise.

Mr. Hunt stated his experience in the past you get applications that are funded by the public that should be funded by the applicant.

Commissioner Yohn stated he has heard it is a good process that Alamosa County has.

Mr. VanIwarden stated compared to the very 1st one they have made giant steps.

Ms. Rachel stated when she called around the State they don’t have any comprehensive sites so we are cutting edge and we have so many. Even the big cities don’t have any comparable solar sites as we do.

Commissioner Dunne thanked them for making it simple.

Mr. VanIwarden stated next week they are hosting a state workshop to allow installers who put in septic systems to get certified. They have a conflict with a Solar Development workshop in Monte Vista. He felt like he would like Jinger and Rachel to attend the Onsite Wastewater workshop but also he would like to have Rachel attend the Solar Development workshop. He decided in compromising she is going to attend the BLM workshop on the 13th and attend Onsite Wastewater classes on the 14th and 15th.

Part of the class is field work. One of the requirements is a test pit to do testing. They can see different layers in the pit and take samples of the different layers. 90% of the affluent has to reach the water table. They have 3 people that are licensed at this point that are certified. They are going to come before the Board to reduce from 100 gallons per person per day to 75 gallons per person per day. They have a process which they have to get permission from Public Health and then permission from the State. They have 27 signed up so far. They may have the possibility because they are hosting the class to lower the fee for one of his employees.

**Alamosa County Public Health**

**Administrative Team Restructuring**

Della Cox-Vieira was present.

The Reception position hasn’t been modified. The Office Manager position has been moved to a higher level of accounting. They will help with administrative reporting. They will do payroll,
contracts, background checks, managing 12 grants, financial oversight, and supervise 4 administrative and receptionist.

Mr Hunt stated this is the first time he is seeing this so it was premature in bringing this to the Board. His recommendation would be for her to get with the new Administrator and go over it with her. Some tasks are dual tasks of the County.

Commissioner Dunne asked how urgent it is that they begin looking to replace this position.

Ms. Vicera stated she would like to see what she is looking for but would like to move this to the top of the new Administrators list.

Commissioner Yohn stated he would like her to continue going over the changes.

The Accounting Tech positon she made this a basic bookkeeping position. This person will pick up balancing, payroll, billing for home health, inventory management and coordinate services.

The Fiscal Tech position would manage Regional EPR grants. They would pick up Regional EPR as well. They would do Medicaid billing and cover front desk as 2nd back up.

Administrative Assistant position would be a new hire.

**m/s Yohn/Dunne motion to table Restructuring until new County Administrator can review**  
Motion was approved unanimously.

**Stepping Up Initiative**

Sheriff Jackson, Kristina Daniels, and Kristi Duarte were present. They are collaborating with Behavioral Health right now. We are in the processing in training officers to identify mental illness.

Commissioner Dunne stated this is a National concern. County jails throughout the nation have been the place to put mentally ill people through default. This is not the right place for them. There were two Article in NACO which one stated “serious mental ill disorders in the general public is 5.4% but county jails is 17%”. We don’t have the data yet so this is part of the initiative to get this data. Part of it is substance use which is at 60% nationwide.

Sheriff Jackson stated we have a grant right now to treat these individuals. Because of overcrowding they are reluctant to house mentally ill that have not been charged criminally. There is a huge burden on Behavioral Health and the Community as a whole. There is a huge space where people fall between the cracks. The Mental Institution is full. This initiative will give them support. They will meet regularly to be able to screen and identify people for Mental Health problems.

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALAMOSA COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION NO: 2015 – G - 7**
RE: STEPPING UP INITIATIVE TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN JAILS

WHEREAS, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year; and

WHEREAS, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general population; and

WHEREAS, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders; and

WHEREAS, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs; and

WHEREAS, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, Alamosa County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, through the Stepping Up initiative, the National Association of Counties, the Council of State Governments Justice Center and the American Psychiatric Foundation are encouraging public, private and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails;

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, THAT THE ALAMOSA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS do hereby sign on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jail, commit, subject to available resources, to sharing lessons learned with other counties in our state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees and residents to participate in Stepping Up. We resolve to utilize the comprehensive resources available through Stepping Up to:

- Cooperating with a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.
- Cooperating in the collection and review of information to assess individuals’ needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk, and use that baseline information to guide decision making.
• Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community.
• Cooperate in developing a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the needs and prevalence assessment data and examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers.
• Cooperate in Implementation research-based approaches that advance the plan.
• Cooperate in a process to track progress using data and information systems, to track successes.

PASSED and APPROVED in this 8th day of May, 2015.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ALAMOSA COUNTY

(SEAL)

Darius Allen, Chairman

Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair

Michael Yohn, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Melanie Woodward, Clerk of the Board

Kristina Daniels stated mentally ill being held in jails is our absolutely last resort. Only if they are a danger to the community. We know this is not the best place for them.

Mr. Kelly asked who is going to do the bullet points. Some language needs to be changed that they are coordinating and working with Behavioral Health in this process.

Ms. Daniels stated they need to bring on other treatment providers such as Crossroads and other people in the community. They should not be the only players participating. At this point someone else should coordinate it. They cannot commit their team to lead this initiative.

Mr. Kelly stated you can still pass the resolution but who would coordinate with these agencies.
Sheriff Jackson stated you can use the Sheriff’s office as the point.

Commissioner Dunne stated they pulled up the detailed plan from NACO. A lot of work has already been done so they would follow their steps. It would fall under the Sheriff’s Department.

Sheriff Jackson stated they can head this initiative.

Commissioner Allen stated a lot of this you already do but track the progress.

**m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve the Stepping Up Initiative with word verbiage from Attorney**

  **Motion was approved unanimously.**

Ms. Daniels stated May is Mental Health Month. They will be working to ensure that they provide access, resources, and education to all their community agencies. 1 in 4 have a serious mental illness. Mental illness can be treated. Services are confidential. Crossroads will be opening a Methadone Clinic in July. They will be providing Vivitrol and Methadone for treatment. They are required counseling as well as medication. It might not be the right choice for everyone so they need to get counseling as well. They need to work on both sides physical addiction and mental components of addiction. They are meeting with Criminal justice to talk with jail issues and meeting with jail and courts. They are working on training of partners for services available and what to expect from them.

Sheriff Jackson stated parole has added Vivitrol and can mandate to take this as a treatment. They can consume alcohol that produces no “high” so hopefully they will be successful with this.

Ms. Daniels stated it is not a solution for everyone and must be careful when it is prescribed. If they are not attending treatment then they are not eligible for a prescription. It is funded through Medicaid. They do not turn anyone away they have a sliding fee.

Sheriff Jackson stated jail capacity today is 80. 109 inmates he is responsible for. This is with pre-trial release program. This will benefit all of them. He has an 8 female pod but have 26 females.

**Alamosa County Facilities Management**

Andrew Atencio was present. Pictures of progress on landscaping was provided.

**Alamosa County Road & Bridge**

Tim DeHerrera was present.

The Monthly Project Plan for May was provided as followed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pave 6 North</td>
<td>$112,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crack Seal Sheriff Parking Lot/East Alamosa</td>
<td>$33,228.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyday Blade Maintenance</td>
<td>$39,411.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patch Pot Holes</td>
<td>$14,911.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trailer 129</td>
<td>$1,930.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Commissioner Yohn stated with the Dump Truck you know what needs to be done. The trailer they can get everything off of it and take to Star Steel.

Commissioner Allen stated this is not a decision the Commissioners should make it is something you should decide.

They have Copylink system which costs $1,000 a year. They don’t come down and help them. The numbers were not correct so the totals on Financial Reports are as followed:

Road maintenance is $27000, building $5000, dirt $14000, water $7200, equipment repairs $15000, patching $6200, crack sealing $15000, sign $1000, and culvert $3800. They are working at the jail rec room to build things for them. Buildings & Grounds was going to cover the costs of this. The total is $94370.65.

Deer Valley Pit they got approval to cover it up so it should be done today. It cost them $6500 to dig it. The total to cover it is $1,164 so total is $8,176.27.

They went to Rio Grande and visited with them on their program which is Pubworks. This programs costs $11000 to set up but after that it is $1300 a year.

Commissioner Yohn stated on the monthly plan can they expect this monthly and how in advance can we get this.

Mr. DeHerrera stated 6 north needs to be improved immensely.

Commissioner Yohn asked is that for asphalt.

Yes stated Mr. DeHerrera.

Commissioner Allen stated he would like to see what the car count is.

m/s Yohn/Dunne motion to ratify decision for In-Kind Services for Model Rocketry Class
Motion was approved unanimously.

Worksession

Board/Staff Updates

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to give $500 for Rural Philanthropy Days
Motion was approved unanimously.

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to write a letter of support for grant the DA is applying for another Attorney
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, Office Manager

Darius Allen, Chairman

Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair

Mike Yohn, County Commissioner