Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on September 9, 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  
Gigi Dennis, County Administrator  
Jason Kelly, County Attorney  
Brittney DeHerrera, Chief Financial Officer  
Belina Ramirez, Deputy Clerk

Call the Meeting to Order

Michael Yohn read the following words from 911 history.com:
On September 11, 2001, 19 militants associated with the Islamic extremist group al-Qaeda hijacked four airliners and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two of the planes were flown into the towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, a third plane hit the Pentagon just outside Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania. Often referred to as 9/11, the attacks resulted in extensive death and destruction, triggering major U.S. initiatives to combat terrorism and defining the presidency of George W. Bush. Over 3,000 people were killed during the attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C., including more than 400 police officers and firefighters.

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Addition of MOU between SLV Behavioral Health and the Sheriff under Board & Staff Updates and deletion of the 1041 Permit Solar Facility Public Hearing because applicant is unable to attend.

M/S Yohn/Dunne motion to approve the agenda of September 9, 2015 with changes.  
  Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

The Following Minutes were presented:  
  Regular Minutes-August 19, 2015  
  Special Meeting-August 31, 2015
M/S Yohn/Dunne motion to approve the Minutes of August 19, 2015 and August 31, 2015. Motion was passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills/Obligations

*Check Numbers 115657-115778 and 29692 - 29722*

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

**Public Comment**

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**Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Contract Amendment – SLV Housing Coalition*

M/S Dunne/Yohn motion to approve Consent Agenda
Motion was approved unanimously.

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**Alamosa County Blight Enforcement**

Jinger Tilden and Rachael Baird were present.

They have 59 cases for code enforcement. 25 cases are closed. They have been dealing with Mosca. They have been doing the grant cycle and loan. They have done some record researching.

Commissioner Allen stated he got calls regarding a home across the Outhouse. She spoke with this gentleman in December of last year and he had some medical issues. He had a contract with Ron Barrier but unfortunately he has been ill as well. She sent out a courtesy letter in July to let them know they still needed to comply. Also a home on the 106 and Stanley there are 8 semis parked there. Last year they had him have some items removed and move items in an ordinary fashion. They asked him to move the machinery behind the home. She will go out again and send out a letter. It is zoned rural stated Commissioner Allen. Yes they think he may be doing business out of there. They will have to see and refer him to get a Special Use but he may not qualify since he has a blight issue outstanding.

Commissioner Yohn asked how many are billed for Mosca. 55 are billed stated Jinger Tilden. They had 22 delinquent accounts and she sent out certified letters and have gotten all back but 3. She has 5 that are on a payment plan and 4 have already paid off. They are willing to work with them. She did explain to them that she doesn’t want to cause a hardship on them.

Kevin Miller and Becky Heslen were present.

Becky Heslen Phillips 66 who is the Environmental site manager. Prior to Conoco and Phillips merging Gulf Canada had these assets which had this refinery so now we acquired this property.
There are many phases to this project. The first phase is the Investigation phase, then the surface clearing phase which the area was cleared last year. They are in the soil remediation and excavation phase right now. Kevin has been hired with St Croix Environmental to oversee the subcontract excavation work.

Kevin Miller spoke. They started with hiring a contractor to remove the asbestos and clean up last year. Then they hired someone for tank removal last year and hired Garrison Fence to fence the area. They haven’t noticed any vagrant issues since. Now they are remediating the soil that existing in that property.

Becky Hesslen stated in the next few weeks the trucks will be done. They will be out by October.

Kevin Miller stated then they will grade and seed property to help with erosion and dust control.

Commissioner Dunne thanked them for their work. There is a lot of trucks have been coming and going, how many a day?

Kevin Miller: 4-5 per day to haul back fill, 30-35 trucks that get loaded with soil and head to Pueblo. They each do 2 loads a day which is about 70 loads a day. It is 45000-50000 tons in total.

Becky Hesslen stated she wished they could find a landfill closer but Pueblo is the closest certified.

Commissioner Yohn thanked them for the work and thanked her for taking the lead.

Becky Hesslen stated the companies split in 2012 which is Phillips 66 now.

Gigi Dennis asked what is going to be the end result.

Becky Hesslen stated they need to do ground water treatment which will take several years for this operation.

Kevin Miller stated 2-4 years but they won’t know until they pull contamination from the water.

Becky Hesslen stated they won’t see traffic like they do now. We do own property now, we are not in business to own property. They would restrict properties for uses and will be interested in selling it then.

Gigi Dennis asked why it is called Devil’s Playground.

Jinger Tilden stated they don’t know where the name came from. It has always been known as that. A lot of crime came from this area which the Devil’s name came from.
Commissioner Dunne stated it was a huge vacant area known for drug exchange and drug use. Nothing good came out of there so they blamed it on the Devil.

Commissioner Allen thanked and recognized Jinger Tilden for getting the ball rolling. How many total acres there.

Kevin Miller stated under 20 acres.

Commissioner Allen what is total cost of project. He appreciate them using local contractors.

Becky Hesslen stated they would have to get with their Communication team.

Commissioner Dunne stated this land is not incorporated into the City but the City was grateful.

Becky Hesslen appreciated them getting Mosquito Control out there. It was a great help.

**Alamosa County Department of Human Services**

Catherine Salazar was present.

**Foster Care Caseworker Position**

This Caseworker has accepted a job in Denver so she will be relocating.

Commissioner Yohn asked if they are doing exit interviews for employees leaving. There are different reasons for people to terminate which is understandable but having three or four they look at is there more to this. Is it the workload, work hours, or pay? To him there is something concerning. Is it the change from a 4 day to a 5 day or is everything.

Catherine Salazar stated she hasn’t been privy to the exit interviews so she doesn’t know. She knows Gigi has sit in the last two exit interviews. She does know the workload is heavy and wages are low. They are not competing with Probation or Mental Health. The accountability is at an all-time high. 4-5 day five week. She hasn’t had any follow up-workloads are heavy, intense, accountability is at all-time high. The Governors initiative to improve the Child Welfare system. They are reviewed and audited to death. They have to meet a 90% face to face visit on their caseloads every month. She has been very vocal to get the percentage up. We have to try and meet these benchmarks. It could be the Director it has been a change of management. She does ask if there is anything they can do to keep them.

Commissioner Yohn stated there is always going to be turnover. They do expect that. They don’t want to hold anyone back if they are bettering themselves.

Commissioner Dunne stated she talked to James Martinez and he’s leaving for a better opportunity. And he will have weekends free so he won’t be on call. Some people followed Nick Barela to Conejos DHS. The people she spoke to think Catherine is doing a good job.
Commissioner Allen stated it is an intense job and it wears on you. If you talk to other counties they go through these surges the work just starts to weigh on them.

Catherine Salazar stated she has talked with Laurie Rivera and they are thinking maybe they need to have a two hour training every week. The Child Welfare Academy is sometimes not enough. They have the State in their office constantly auditing their Foster Care Cases.

IV-D Case Manager Position, Child Welfare Case Aid Position, and Case Worker Supervisor

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve search for employee position
Motion was approved unanimously.

Alamosa County Public Health

Della Cox-Vieira and Beverly Strnad were present.

Colorado Access-CHP +
Signing Authority Page and Business Associates page included
Temple Hoyne Buell for Healthy teen sexuality education

They have a pre and post questionnaire sheet they give the students to evaluate the program.

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve both contracts
Motion was approved unanimously.

m/s Yohn/Dunne motion to approve signatory authority
Motion was approved unanimously

Emergency Operations Plan (PHEOP) Updates

PHEOP creates the overall umbrella structure for all the detailed response plans that we have in place. The overall plan for Emergency Support Function 8 is health and medical which includes medical needs associated with mental health, behavioral health, and substance abuse considerations of incident victims and response workers. Services also cover the medical needs of members of the “at risk” or “special needs” population described in the National Response Framework. The purpose of the PHEOP is to provide the mechanism for coordinated assistance in response to public health and medical care needs for potential and/or actual incidents and/or developing health and medical situations; and to assure that Alamosa County Public Health Department is fully integrated into the response community. The mission of this planning is to protect the public’s health and increase the public health infrastructure, engaging internal as well as external partners. The PHEOP is to be utilized as a guide for Public Health responders responsible for the coordination of an Emergency Support Function 8 emergency activation.

Revisions made:
- Changed the name from ESF-8 to PHEOP, to more accurately reflect the plan and as part of standardization of plans across the region.
• Standardized terminology and plan organization (what were previously appendices are now annexes, annexes can have appendices which are supporting documents and attachments.

• Changed organizational names in PHEOP and all annexes (SLV Mental Health to SLV Behavioral Health and SLV Regional Medical to SLV Health)

• Changed the Alamosa County Health Care Coalition to the SLV East Health Care Coalition since the HCC has expanded to include Costilla and Conejos Counties.

• Added Environmental Health

Annexes to PHEOP

Response Annex
This annex provides the nuts and bolts that guide emergency response. It includes sections on Emergency and Job Safety, Functional Staff Roles, Volunteer Activation, Command and Control, Plan Activation, ACPHD Response Capacity including guidance on requesting outside support.

Revisions made: Changes in Volunteer Activation section based on review by ASU Emergency Preparedness director, updated contact information in same section; modified volunteer standard and registration form; updated agency and community contact information throughout the annex, replaced outdated ESF Matrix.

Disaster Behavioral Health Annex

ESF 81 provides for an efficient, coordinated, effective response to the behavioral health needs of those affected by an event or disaster. San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group is the lead agency for this plan for addressing the behavioral health needs of disaster/incident responders, victims and the community pre-, during and post-event. Public Health serves in a support role.

Revisions made: Changed names and contacts.

Environmental Surety Plan

This is being laid out now that we have a Regional Environmental program. It addresses the environmental hazards as it concerns with safety and precautions.

Revisions made: Who the lead agency and support role for this would be. The State Department would be our support role.

Epidemiology Response Plan

The plan documents how epidemiological response is handled at ACPHD, including surveillance and investigation activities.

Changes made: Changed names of local resource staff, changed after hours procedure, updated local contacts, and the State guidance.
Laboratory Plan

This outlines procedures for submitting various types of specimens for testing at CDPHE lab.

Changes made: None.

Quarantine and Isolation Plan

This plan has had some good inputs with experience from the State with Ebola, measles, and other communicable diseases that we are not used to dealing with. Quarantine is the separation and restriction of movement or activities of a person who is not yet ill with a communicable disease but who is believed to have been exposed with the potential to transmit disease to others. This can be done on a household level, group level, or community level. Isolation is the separation and restriction of movement or activities of a person who actually does have the communicable disease to eliminate exposure to others.

Revisions made: Updated media contacts

Public Information and Communication Plan

Revisions made: standardized terminology, updated discontinuation of regional on-call nurse program, and reflect new call staff call-down procedure. This plan was also reviewed by ASU Emergency Preparedness director and those suggested changes were incorporated.

Health Alert Network Manual

This is a national, state, and local network if there is an issue of public health concern we use this network to push that information out to community partners. It is frequently used for seasonal communication around influenza. The State will send out guidance to Emergency rooms, Convenient Care Clinics, and medical providers to let them know things such as flu season is here so send us your testing. They can also use it for unusual events such as a disease outbreak.

Revisions made: Updated new contacts, update PH roles and updated HAN Quarterly test list.

Pandemic Annex

Pandemic usually reflects that there is at least a regional or if not national or international spread of a novel organism. This will tell us how to reduce illness and death associated with that kind of organism. Also to minimize social disruption. It is based on guidance from CDPHE, CDC, and the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Revisions made: None, plan was just developed.

Vulnerable Populations Plan
This is for residents who may not be able to comfortably or safely access and use the standard resources offered in disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery. We need to make sure we have these people identified and can reach them appropriately if we need to help support them in an event of an emergency.

Revisions made: Updated organization and individual contact information throughout.

*Point of Dispensing Plan*

This helps us determine how we would get vaccine and antibiotics out to the public in brief time as possible. There are national and state guidelines that we try to adhere to. For our local county population our plan helps us establish these points of dispensing to get those people the vaccine or antibiotic within 1-3 days’ time. It also lays out the goal of vaccinating or prophylaxing our visitor population within 3-10 days.

Revisions: They are still modifying documents for this plan.

*Continuity of Operations Plan*

Continuing functions of a crisis or disaster.

Revisions made: Standardized formatting with other newly revised plans; updated to incorporate COOP workbook from CDPHE. Updated contact information.

*Legal Authority*

This is a supplement which is a set of references and resources.

Revisions made: This was put in a table format so it is easier for us to review and utilize in the event we need to.

*Mass Fatality Plan*

We are not the lead agency for this. It is the Coroner. We are a support role. This plan will be revised in the coming year.

*Alternate Care Facility Plan*

This was a plan for providing care for people with influenza that were unable to care for themselves at home but could not be in the hospital. This plan was inactivated due to changes since its development. Red Cross has decreased capacity and public health does not have capacity to staff.

Commissioner Allen asked how often you change this.
Della Cox-Vieira stated on an annual basis but as staff and changes happen it is important to make these changes to make current as possible.

**SLV DRG**

Michael Wisdom and Roni Wisdom were present.

Incentives for Business Development offered by Alamosa County Report was presented. Enterprise Zone Tax Credits Report as of August 31, 2015 was presented. A quick summary of DRG for their major programs, resources, and project involvement was presented. A profile of Alamosa County was presented. They also have a profile for Hooper and the City of Alamosa. SLV Business Revolving Loan Fund as of August 30, 2015 was presented. A brochure for this was presented. A total of $6,973,407 was funded. 746 jobs were created. The Mushroom Farm just got their Safety Food Qualifications that enables them to sell City Market and Safeway. Roni Wisdom has been appointed to Venture Capital Authority.

Commissioner Yohn asked for more information on gap financing.

Roni Wisdom stated they are in the second position because they might not have enough equity or collateral. They have helped All 4 Paws, Fit Republic, and Rubi Slipper. Their goal is creation of jobs and keep existing businesses strong.

**SLV Regional Solid Waste Authority**

Commissioner Allen stated Jim Clare was unable to come. He presented a report. The SLV Regional Solid Waste Authority was established in April of 1993 with an intergovernmental agreement between Alamosa County and Rio Grande County for funding to start the project. This facility is one of the best run and the cleanest operation in the State of Colorado of its size. The facility continues to keep the financial reserve positive and to have a specific amount set aside for the final closure of the facility.

Commissioner Yohn stated at one time you were concerned with insurance for that.

Commissioner Allen stated the State requires you to keep money aside for post closure. They feel it should be by a percentage of landfill you occupy so if you are 20% complete you only keep 20% instead of having it all upfront. It is a process but he is going to attend a meeting where they will discuss this.

**SLV TV**

Jim Horton was present.

2-4 times a month he visits the TV site. They take care of maintenance of the TV generators. They have an engineer that takes care of transmitters who is Kelly Cornum. Last month they went twice. This started in 1981. They have 15 stations right now. He is requesting $47,990 for the 2016 budget.
**Worksession**

Road & Bridge Department discussion of graders.

**Board/Staff Updates**

*CCI 2015 Legislative Committee Member Appointment*

m/s Dunne/Allen motion to appoint Michael Yohn representative for CCI Legislative Motion was approved unanimously.

*MOA SLV Behavioral Health and Sheriff’s Office*

Jason Kelly stated there are three different names in the contract so this needs some clarification. He would request to correct these and bring for the next meeting.

**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

Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair

Mike Yohn, County Commissioner