Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on November 5, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present:

Mike Yohn, Chair
Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair
Darius Allen, Commissioner
Jason Kelly, County Attorney
Peter Kampfer, County Administrator
Carol Osborn, Assistant 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

Ms. Osborn asked for addition of request letter of support for Rio Grande and addition of COA support letter to Consent Agenda. She would request them to be pulled off Consent Agenda for further discussion.

M/S Dunne/Allen motion to approve the agenda of November 5, 2014 with additions.
Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

The Following Minutes were presented:
Regular Minutes-October 22, 2014
Public Hearing Minutes-Charles Heald
Public Hearing Minutes-Dog Ordinance #13 Amendment

Commissioner Yohn stated under Consent Agenda discussion of recommendation to SLV Community Action Agency it states “SLV Housing Coalition” and should be “SLV Community Action Agency”.

M/S Dunne/Allen motion to approve the Minutes of October 22, 2014 with correction.
Motion was passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills/Obligations
M/S Allen/Dunne motion to approve the Bills/Obligations
Motion was passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Approval of Consent Agenda
Ratification of Contract H3CDB13007 Amendment-SLV Housing Coalition Rehab Program
Support Letter for Rio Grande Water Conservation District
Support Letter for COA Application


M/S Allen/Dunne motion to approve Consent Agenda without Letters of Support for Rio Grande Water Conservation District and COA Application to discuss further.
Motion was approved unanimously.

Letter of Support for Rio Grande Water Conservation District

The Support Letter for Rio Grande Water Conservation District is for the Habitat Conservation Program they already have but to exclude all federal lands as well.

Commissioner Dunne read the letter addressed to Sacramento Fish & Wildlife Office as follows:

The Rio Grande Water Conservation District and other entities in the Valley (San Luis Valley Partnership which includes Alamosa County) have implemented significant ongoing conservation activities that already protect or will protect the western yellow-billed cuckoo and its habitat.

As you all know, the District has completed a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) that will protect the cuckoo and its habitat in a much more effective, collaborative and cooperative way than any Critical Habitat administration could possibly achieve. Funded by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the State of Colorado and local partners, the Plan incorporates cooperative and proactive processes to conserve and recover the western yellow-billed cuckoo.

We request that the service acknowledge the recovery efforts of the Regional Habitat Conservation Plan as an effective and workable alternative to any designation of critical habitat in the Valley including any and all federal lands within the San Luis Valley. Therefore, we join with the District in supporting the current decision to exclude private lands from critical habitat designation, but request that exclusion apply to all lands within the Valley.

This HCP fosters the participation of local entities and landowners in recovery of the Flycatcher, while allowing on-going approved water and land use activities.
Thank you for your consideration of this truly Colorado solution to species recovery.

Commissioner Dunne is on the Board of Directors for the Habitat Conservation Plan and will be meeting next week. She hopes to present this at the meeting along with the other counties. The plan has worked very well for the Willow Flycatcher. Every time they met they talked about the Yellow Billed Cuckoo be included.

Commissioner Yohn stated he would be glad to support this but the deadline was October 14th. Commissioner Dunne stated they moved the deadline to the end of November. Also the letter talks about both the Willow Flycatcher and the Yellow Billed Cuckoo is that the way you wanted it. The Habitat Conservation Plan was for just the Willow Flycatcher but they want to amend it to include the Yellow Billed Cuckoo stated Commissioner Dunne.

m/s Allen/Dunne motion to approve Letter of Support to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District

Motion was approved unanimously.

Letter of Support for COA

Ms. Osborn stated at the SLV County Commissioners Meeting they asked for a letter of support to attach to the application. She did not have the letter completed. Commissioner Yohn stated he did not know how they could take action on something they haven’t seen. Commissioner Allen stated he thought they already had provided a letter of support. They did but Mr. Kampfer said at the last SLV Commissioners meeting there would be another letter of support. Mr. Kampfer stated the support has been for the Airport Board and not from the Board of Commissioners. It is a simple standard support letter. Commissioner Allen asked if the letter would be similar to the one they did from the SLV Commissioners Association. Mr. Kampfer asked if they could approve to write a support letter. Mr. Kelly asked why we are writing a letter for support when we are the applicant. Mr. Kampfer stated it is to mark off a checklist of letters of support they need for the application. Commissioner Dunne asked if it is a cover letter for the application. This would be appropriate.

m/s Allen/Dunne motion to write a cover letter for COA Application

Motion was approved unanimously.

Public Hearings

Ordinance #13-Alamosa County Dog Ordinance

Dave Stong, Donald Soapes, Diane Hamilton, and Karen Hobbs were present.

m/s Dunne/Allen motion to bring this issue back to the table.

Motion was approved unanimously.

SEE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Commissioner Dunne stated she believes this is clear. It is like insurance.

Commissioner Allen stated the whole intent was to vaccinate dogs. He doesn't want to punish people. He suggests giving 15 days to present proof of vaccination. This is a public safety issue.

Commissioner Yohn stated he agrees but cannot mandate to use a certain vet because they might prefer someone else. As far as the Land Use Code there is a limit except for breeders. They just get into something when it reaches the State limit which is 12. Commissioner Yohn stated it doesn't have to be in this Ordinance. It does address this in the Land Use Code.

*m/s Dunne/Allen motion to accept the amendment to Ordinance #13
Motion was approved unanimously.*

Commissioner Dunne thanked the Valley Humane League for the work they do.

**Alamosa County Sheriff**

_Traffic Division Request_

Sheriff Stong, Sergeant Judy Jackson and Deputy Rick Martinez were present.

Some time back officers came and requested for additional patrol officers. The response was where the additional revenue was going to come from to offset the costs. The Patrol Division took it upon themselves to address where they would develop revenue. They have in turn developed a Traffic Division which would generate additional revenue.

Sergeant Judy Jackson stated after the meeting they went back to the office and the officers asked what happened. They basically needed to know how to generate revenue. Deputy Martinez wrote a proposal of a traffic division. She asked all the division employees if they could do a traffic care once a while. They agreed they would do that. They were able to write quite a few tickets and generate some revenue. She searched about studies enforcing traffic or speeding ordinances. In New York they decided to enforce all spitting ordinances which includes jay walking and such. For some reason when they did this it made their crime go down because it was visible that law enforcement was on streets.

Deputy Martinez stated if they are able to do this they would have to fill some positions for this to work so people can stay and take calls. For example he was working alone and got three burglaries and he was the only one on duty. With help from other agencies he was able to apprehend the suspect. With 5 new officers they would go on a two man traffic team alone then they would not have to break for emergencies. If they took a two man traffic team they could write 10 tickets a day per officer. This would not be overly excessive. This helps with the safety of the citizens also. He write almost 10 tickets a day now when he is not responding to felony calls. There 10-19 speeding ticket right now is $143 x 10 tickets a day would be $1430 x a 16 day work period equals $22,880 they could potentially generate. If you multiply this by 2 officers it would be $45,760 x 12 months it would be $549,000 they could generate for the
County. He knows hiring 5 new officers is expensive and then take into consideration the cost of cars and maintenance but he has figured that out. For each officer would be $80,000 with a car and this would be covered by what they make in revenue. This doesn’t include those officers that are not on traffic patrol right now that issue tickets as well.

Sergeant Jackson stated if they had officers to cover calls they would be proactive where right now they answer calls and do investigations.

Commissioner Dunne asked if he calculated correctly. Sheriff Stong stated this is for a typical ticket as far as a speeding infraction. Some tickets are more or less but it is kind of an average. The initial expense would be $80,000 but would reduce over the subsequent years. It would drop to $30,000. It would benefit with visibility of officers.

Deputy Martinez stated maybe you’re thinking it would get inactive with no more tickets being able to issue. That will never happen they will never run out of writing tickets. Sheriff Stong stated the State Patrol that is what they are business to do.

Commissioner Allen stated he is not opposed but they have a new sheriff coming in and he would like to run it by him. He could see this working. He was thinking what if the tickets drop off and then they are stuck with the officer’s salaries. He is glad to see they are thinking there is a solution. He would suggest having a worksession and discuss with the new Sheriff.

Commissioner Yohn stated he had a concern if they stop all the locals they would learn their lesson next year. Do we need to spend so much time on patrol? Sergeant Jackson stated for the most part they are just taking calls. They have 9 on patrol. They don’t have time to traffic unless someone is doing something horrible wrong they won’t stop the person. This is not just locals it is tourists who are here for hunting or the Sand Dunes stated Sergeant Jackson.

Commissioner Yohn stated when he traveled through Blanca and was stopped he learned pretty quick it is 40mph there. Another idea of theirs was to consider part time division. Deputy Martinez he thought of this but it is more costly to train and no one wants to work part time. They hire someone and train then they leave and have to fill that position again and train again. It is a vicious circle. Commissioner Yohn stated they might have retired officers that would be interested. He appreciates they are trying to find ways to help the department. Sheriff Stong stated it is not their priority for traffic. It shouldn’t be stated Commissioner Yohn. Sheriff Stong stated if they are violating the law then you are violating the law it would make Alamosa community safer.

Commissioner Dunne stated the number one priority is crime as Sergeant Jackson stated. There are different issues in the community that three more deputies would be helpful. Would they rotate? It is not very everyone stated Deputy Martinez you have to like it. Sergeant Jackson stated she assigns those to what they are good at. They might have to do some training for them and there would have to be a desire to this. There is an art to it stated Deputy Martinez. He often gets a “thank you” after he issues a ticket. Most felons are caught by officers doing traffic.

Commissioners decided to meet with the new sheriff and run it by him for further discussion.
Detention Report for the month of October was presented. This showed a total of 97. They had 12 out of facility in Conejos. He does not have Calls Report because State Patrol's system has changed and is not allowing to print a typical report. Calls are maintaining at a high level. They are still getting false alarm calls.

Commissioner Dunne asked if their bed count has gone over 100. No it is maintaining around 97 haven't reached 100 in some time.

Commissioner Yohn asked if they are tracking anyone from Community Corrections. Sheriff Stong stated they are not but they have some that have regressed. Commissioner Yohn stated Intervention has withdrawn their proposal so it is back to Mental Health. Maybe they need to come back and meet with them with their concerns stated Sheriff Stong. The have huge numbers compared to those across the state. They become their problem when they make mistakes.

Commissioner Dunne stated basically they have all women in Conejos. Stong stated they have 8 here. The one in Chaffee County is DOC commitment which they bill them for.

How many inmates are transported asked Commissioner Yohn. Sheriff Stong stated more and more miles are being put on the vehicles. Commissioner Dunne asked about the inmate that is in the Mental Hospital. Sheriff Stong stated he is still his responsibility.

Commissioners thanked Sheriff Stong for his work and years of service.

**Worksession**
*Approval of Publication for False Alarm Ordinance #18*

Board of County Commissioner's came out of public hearing.

**m/s Dunne/Allen motion to approve publication with changes**
Motio[n was approved unanimously.

**Public Hearing**
*Alamosa County Chief Finance Officer-Final Hearing 2015 Budget*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SEE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES.

Commissioner Dunne suggested to make it clear for the Local Marketing District portion that the funds are administered through them instead of the County. There was a presentation at the last SLV Commissioners Association meeting on a water economic study by Hew Hallock and they didn’t make any budgetary allowances for that. Ms. DeHerrera stated right now she has it budgeted under the Community Development Fund.

Commissioner Yohn stated he didn’t see any reason for changing this for the Local Marketing District. They are under the County and the County appoints their Board members. Ms. DeHerrera stated ultimately the Board is still responsible they approve the budget and how funds are used. Mr. Kelly stated the Board approves their Operating Plan.
Commissioner Allen stated we do approve their Operating Plan and approve how they spend their money. They will have one more opportunity to meet before the final budget adoption. The change of health insurance is not in this budget. The 1% cost of living and bonus of $500 is in here. She will have a better picture of the health insurance after the Open Enrollment. She has to see how many people will add families to their insurance. The biggest expense is the Sheriff’s Department. The Deputy Sheriff is not in this either. The problem with the Sheriff’s Department is they cannot stay fully staffed to have a good picture. She can only go by what it costs. With turnover they don’t know the effects until later. December 18th will be a special meeting for Adoption of Budget and Certification of Mill Levies. The Certification of Mill Levies has to be done by December 20th and you cannot certify the Mill Levies until you adopt the Budget.

Equipment request: Treasurer’s Office requested 4 printers. Discussion to replace as needed. Land Use requested items and they decided on 1 large screen TV. With ARC Ms. DeHerrera was going to clarify with Rachel how many user license’s they needed. Sheriff’s Office request they decided to hold off until new Sheriff comes in. Radios they requested she had a note that they may be able to talk to E911 on a matching grant to help purchase those. Buildings & Grounds request they decided no on the tractor and yes for the snow plow. Seal coating for the parking lot there was some discussion. Mr. Kampfer stated they do not have an estimate yet. Commissioner Dunne asked if we should meet with the Sheriff before the Budget meeting. Ms. DeHerrera stated they can wait they have funds in the Internal Service Equipment Fund. Commissioner Yohn stated the vehicles they did get took forever them to get. Commissioner Allen asked how many vehicles they got. They got two expeditions from Douglas and a Durango from El Paso.

Board/Staff Updates

Adjourn

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

ATTEST:

Belina Ramirez, Office Manager
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator

Mike Yohn, Chairman
Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair
Darius Allen, County Commissioner
Minutes of the Public Hearing for Amendment to Animal Ordinance #13 was held on November 5, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present:

Mike Yohn, Chair  
Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair  
Darius Allen, Commissioner  
Peter Kampfer, County Administrator  
Jason Kelly, County Attorney  
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator  
Belina Ramirez, Office Manager

Sheriff Dave Stong, Donnie Soapes Animal Control Officer, Diane Hamilton President of Valley Humane League, and Karen Hobbs Vice-President of Valley Humane League were present.

Dave Stong stated they were asking for amendment to their existing Animal Ordinance to address the dog tag sales and the penalties they would like to assess.

Mr. Kelly stated at the last meeting there was some discussion to table this because the direction he got from that meeting was the Board was they were not as concerned as to have a dog license but they wanted to make sure the dogs were inoculated and vaccinated. If they failed to do so then there would be a fine or penalty assessment. This amends the ordinance from the last meeting to deleting the dog license section. Section 3 & 4 of the Ordinance covers inoculation and rabies. So the change is going to be under the Penalty Assessment Schedule. Rather than failure to have dog licensed it will be failure to have dog vaccinated and have a rabies tag. 1st Offense will be verbal warning, 2nd Offense would be fine of $60, 3rd Offense would be $100, and subsequent offense maximum of $300. You could revoke Amendment #13 and rename it or amend the Ordinance. His recommendation would be to amend the Ordinance because you are making so few changes. All the changes have been published. It can take affect 30 days after publication so it can go into effect November 9th.

Commissioner Yohn asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of or opposition to this amendment.

Diane Hamilton asked what the Valley Humane League’s role was here today. Are they going to be involved in getting the dogs rabies? Mr. Kelly stated this raises a question what if the dogs is picked up do they release them obviously there is going to be a fine assessed. Before they had the Valley Humane League in the Ordinance to get the dog license. The Board did not want to pursue a dog license. Are you going to assess them the fine before the dog is released?
Donnie Soapes stated he thought it would be a prudent thing to have the dogs inoculated before released. The Vet could give a paper showing the dog has been inoculated. If they do not bring this back within so many days they would be fined. I don’t think we could say our facility is the place to get it.

Karen Hobbs stated they have had people already inquiring about getting a license because apparently they seen the publication.

Mr. Soapes stated it would make sense they come to the Sheriff’s office to show proof and then it would be on record. If not shown then they would give a fine.

Sheriff Stong stated it like a speeding ticket if someone is stopped and doesn’t have proof of insurance they are given the opportunity to bring proof of that. If they do then the fine is dropped but if not then they are fined.

Donnie Soapes stated the County doesn’t have a dog limit in the Ordinance but Land Use Office has one. Do we need that?

There being no further business, the Public Hearing for Amendment for Animal Ordinance #13 was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Belma Ramirez, Office Manager

Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator

Mike Yohn, Chair

Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chairman

Darius Allen, County Commissioner
Minutes of the Public Hearing for 2015 Budget Final Hearing was held on November 5, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present:  
Mike Yohn, Chair  
Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chair  
Darius Allen, Commissioner  
Peter Kampfer, County Administrator  
Jason Kelly, County Attorney  
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator  
Brittney DeHerrera, Chief Financial Officer  
Belina Ramirez, Office Manager

Ms. DeHerrera stated this is just a hearing per their statutory requirements of their budget process. This gives the public an opportunity to come in and ask any questions or speak towards our budget. She is still working on the final budget for December 18th to be adopted.

Commissioner Yohn asked if anyone is in favor or opposition to the 2015 Budget.

**There being no further business, the Public Hearing for 2015 Budget Final Hearing was adjourned.**

**ATTEST:**

Belina Ramirez, Office Manager  
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator  
Mike Yohn, Chair  
Marianne Dunne, Vice-Chairman  
Darius Allen, County Commissioner