Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on May 8, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

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

Call the Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda


M/S Dunne/Yohn motion to approve the agenda of May 8, 2013 with additions.  
Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

The Following Minutes were presented:
  Regular Minutes-April 24, 2013  
  Nissley PH Minutes  
  Lucero PH Minutes

M/S Dunne/Yohn motion to approve the Minutes of April 24, 2013.  
Motion was passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills/Obligations

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

Ron Brink spoke. In East Alamosa the idea of the Trust for Public Lands that wants to purchase this property and an individual person who wants to buy for an RV Park he would like to address. The School Board had a meeting and they decided to make a decision tomorrow. He asked if the commissioners would push the school to sell the property. They really need an RV park. There would be parking there for all the events held in Cole Park. He was asked what his interest was in this. He owns some commercial property there and he could put some retail business there so that is his reason for pushing for this. The Trust for Public Lands all leads to Denver. His concern is what their plan is and what they are going to do. They rely on volunteers so how far would that go. This wouldn’t bring any money to the City.

Commissioner Dunne asked for clarification that they are going to have a public meeting regarding this. It is in the newspaper that they are.

Approval of Consent Agenda
CDPHE Amendment for Task Order #2
Resolution 2013-SUP-001 Maestas & Garcia
Resolution 2013-SUP-002 Nissley
Resolution 2013-S-2 Lucero
Otero Jr College Agreement
Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement – All American Investment Group

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

Public Hearings

Permission to mitigate City Annexation

SEE PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Mental Health has decided not to be part of the annexation of their building into the city, if the city determines they need to be included then they would have to be responsible for submitting annexation plots.

Commissioner Yohn asked where the boundaries of the exclusion were going to be. A map was presented.

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve the application to the city to annex those lots that the new building will be on.
Motion was approved unanimously.
Energy Performance Contract

This took place a year and half ago for lighting improvements. They looked at ways to conserve energy with an audit report. They made several recommendations. It is through Siemens Energy. Some of those measures of recommendation for improvement seemed unreasonable with costs that wouldn’t actually make any improvements as far as lighting. There was a legislative measure that was looking at phasing out T12 light bulbs that wouldn’t be manufactured any longer. There were rebates offered. The rebates were for 50% of lighting. They went to T8’s which are more efficient and cost saving. Part of this contract they would give a range of energy savings that they could achieve on an annual basis. If those savings were not met they would guarantee it. For example if they we were to save $11000 a year and at the yearly audit they only saved $9000 they would have to give them a check for the difference. There were other lighting fixtures they could have looked at improvements but those did not have the rebates that the T8’s did. Due to the cost they decided not to do this.

Commissioner Dunne asked for clarification if the building was updated for the building that is for sale now. Yes some of them were stated Mr. Altamirano. The Annex and the Airport Building will not belong to them next year. This building and DHS was not included because they were already updated.

Commissioner Yohn asked how the rebate comes back from Xcel. This goes back to the project by signing off on the rebates to buy down the project. The monitoring agreement is a subcontract where you pay for them to monitor to make sure the savings are there.

Xcel outsourced a proposal for Senate 252 increasing the renewable energy standards for coops and generators are driving the interest for submitting proposals. Our office won’t take a position other than if companies want to develop projects. At CCI they took a position to be in opposition to this. Mr. Altamirano received a call from the Monte Vista Middle School to do a tour of the solar farms.

Commissioner Dunne asked if he is involved in any discussions of the transmission lines south. At this point their office won’t be involved until maybe a public scope is done.

Some properties discussed as blight are being cleaned up. Some areas they have not approached are doing it on their own.

Cats Alive

Donna Ditmore and Vera Ballew were present. Ms. Ballew spoke. Every city and county in the San Luis Valley has the same problem, an over population of feral cats. There has previously been no fully organized effort to care for and reduce their numbers. Cats Alive was founded for that purpose.

We are registered non-profit organization with the State of Colorado and we are in the process of getting our Federal 501c3. We already have a long list of volunteers and vets willing to assist in these efforts. We have access to a mobile travel trailer that will be used as a mobile clinic for
our cat spay/neuter program. We plan to work with animal shelters not to become on but to find homes for kittens and tame abandoned cats.

Feral or alley cats are an important part of a city Eco system. They help to reduce the numbers of rodents, snakes, spiders, and insects. But when their numbers increase their colonies become a public nuisance and an expense to the city. They can develop starvation and disease. They also attract foxes and coyotes into populated areas to feed on them.

With a reliable long term spay/neuter program the population of feral cats can be kept at a level that is beneficial and not harmful to nature or people.

What kinds of traps are used asked Commissioner Allen. They have cat traps.

Commissioner Yohn asked if this was just citywide. This is valley wide stated Ms. Ditmore.

Jennifer Stoten ASC spoke in behalf of them. For the past five years she has been able to spay/neuter 25 cats and 15 kittens. She found a research project in 2006, one female cat and their offspring can produce 700 in her lifetime. The hard part is getting low cost spay/neuter.

**SLV Comprehensive Mental Health**

Clarissa Woodworth and Kristina Daniel were present. May has been Mental Health Month and they would like to proclaim May as Mental Health Month. Mental Health and Mental wellness should be treated just as any other physical health issue. They are asking all the counties for proclamations. They would like people to know what they are doing and the services are available. Ms. Woodworth stated they have lots of research coming in that shows 70% of Dr. visits have an underline emotional or social issue. There is stigma and discrimination that stop people from coming in.

Commissioner Dunne asked if the medical profession promote or reference people to them. They have a good relationship with the clinics. They have mental health providers located there.

Commissioner Yohn asked what some of preventive measures they are taking are. They have a mentoring program where they put a young adult to mentor a child stated Ms. Woodworth. They have suicide prevention efforts with trainings. The biggest thing they can do is promote access and care. There isn’t enough money in Mental Health Prevention and Promotion but they do realize if they don’t take care of it early then they will pay for it triple after stated Ms. Daniel.

Commissioner Dunne asked if most insurances cover mental health. Insurance does cover it but limits the sessions. It is not where it needs to be. They will work with people they will not turn anyone away.

Proclamation was presented as followed:

Mental Health Month 2013
“Pathways to Wellness”
WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and

WHEREAS, promotion and prevention are effective ways to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is strong body of research that support user-friendly tools that all Americans can access to better handle challenges, and protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, faith-based organization, health care provider, and citizen has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

WHEREAS, the San Luis Valley Community Mental Health Center, through its unique approach to serving children, adolescents and families, is effectively caring for the mental health and behavioral health needs of children, youth, and families in our communities;

THEREFORE, I Alamosa County do hereby proclaim May 2013 as Mental Health Month in Alamosa, Colorado. As the Chairman, I also call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Alamosa, Colorado to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

n/s Yohn/Dunne motion to approve Proclamation for Mental Health Month 2013
Motion was approved unanimously.

**Alamosa County Road & Bridge**

Phil West was present. He is hoping to finish the parking lot tomorrow. He asked if they have bid out the concrete yet. They have to wait until August for the grant stated Ms. DeHerrera. The Food Bank Building they could start on the pad once they are finished with the Annex property. They lack 1 ½ on County Rd for pouring cracks. They will go on County Line on Waverly Rd S. They will haul down on the state roads. They did pour cracks on the alligator road.

Is road from Mosca to Sand Dunes good for tourism asked Commissioner Dunne? They will keep patching it.
Mr. Altamirano stated he had discussion on the Fish & Wildlife grant application and it may be possible to have that road included in their project. He will have to get together with Mr. West to get some costs.

They have a few potholes on Lane 5, on the Stanley, and on the 11. It costs about 80 dollars a ton to make and they gave $81.50 last year.

Commissioner Dunne asked about East Alamosa. They did Bonney and Maple last year. Sunnyside and Curtis it would be nice to put some overlay on them.

Commissioner Yohn stated on the work on the property for the new building they did a good job as far as dust control. They probably had to use a lot of water.

BREAK

Blue Peaks

John Kreiner Executive Director was present. This year their system received cuts. They have had to cut some of their services and downsize their agency. Their children’s program lost some funds which is a state program. They have had a change in their system. Until recently waiting list was held in the area so when they had an opening they could pull someone from his waiting list. Now it is a statewide waiting list. Consequently resources would migrate from smaller boards to larger boards based on the need. They cannot raise the price since they are a nonprofit. At this point they are in the whole. This year the Governor has put some money into their program. This means they won’t be cut. They spend a lot of money on transportation. Part of the money for the services go to the transportation. They haven’t given staff raises in the last five years. CSBG money they changed the conditions so they can’t get any of this. They have about 150-200 clients. They have people that live in their group homes. They provide all the services themselves except BOCES. They do have a yard service and office cleaning. They had to do away with the recycling center. They do have a few people working with WSB Recycling.

Land Use is working with Blight issues could they refer clients to Day Services for clean up asked Commissioner Yohn. They can talk to Tim Johnson and as long as they are not doing things beyond their ability.

Commissioner Dunne asked if the waiting list was legislative or structural decision. He believes it is legislative.

Who is on their board asked Commissioner Allen? They have 12 and 6 are from the county. It is a pretty diverse group stated Mr. Kreiner.

Veteran’s Affairs

Frank Muniz was present. Everything is recorded such as visits and calls. He had 5005 calls. He had 556 public contacts, 15 outside his office, 168 letters and faxes, 41 POA (new veterans), medical case waivers (when VA refuses to pay medical cases), 1 loan guarantee, 25 medical
benefit claims, 26 state benefit claims, 40 military record requests, 53 compensation, 12 DIC, 17 pensions, 13 death pensions, 13 insurance, voc rehab, 294 misc, aid to dependents, and 52 meetings.

Mr. Muniz has helped in getting medical services here for veterans instead of traveling to Denver for these services stated Commissioner Yohn.

**Board/Staff Updates**


m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve appointment for Jim Ehrlich for a two year term to Rio Grande Basin Roundtable.

  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

Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator

Darius Allen, Chairman

Mike Yohn, Vice-Chair

Marianne Dunne, County Commissioner
Minutes of the Public Hearing for City Annexation Mitigation was held on May 8, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

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

He would like permission to move forward with an application to the City of Alamosa for annexation of areas here for proposed new annex building specifically lots 2 & 3 & the remainder of Lot People’s Place Division of land. In order for the new proposed Annex building to be in compliance with state law the building needs to be placed within the county seat. The County seat is in the City of Alamosa. The building will house all current departments plus Veterans Affairs. The County Clerk & Recorder and Treasurer have to be in the County Seat. An annexation plat has been drawn up by Russell Surveyors as well as an application completed. He has prepared an application to be submitted to the city.

Commissioner Allen asked if anyone is in favor of or opposition to this application

There being no further business, the Public Hearing for City Annexation Mitigation was adjourned.

ATTEST:

Belina Ramirez, Office Manager
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator

Darius Allen, Chair
Mike Yohn, Vice-Chairman
Marianne Dunne, County Commissioner