Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on July 10, 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

Move Lois Widhalm to the beginning of the agenda; add Joe Carrica and Sandra Hostetter to agenda. Also delete Town of Hooper, they are unable to attend.

M/S Yohn/Dunne motion to approve the agenda of July 10, 2013 with changes. Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

Approval of Bills/Obligations

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

Public Comment

Hew Hallock was present. He would like to thank the County and everyone for the celebration. The music was a surprise to him and he had a lot of fun. It was amazing how many volunteers they had. He would like to thank the effort of all the staff to put that together.
Alamosa County Treasurer

Tax Sale Internet Auction Services Agreement

Lois Widholm was present. She thanked the Board for moving her to the beginning of the agenda as she has a foreclosure she needs to get to. The contract is with SRI to conduct the internet sale. It is no different than last year except the dates. They plan to have the sale November 12, 13, and 14th. She is asking to approve this contract. This is the fourth year they have been doing this.

Commissioner Yohn asked how many parcels were sold. They took over 650 parcels to sale. Some were paid before they actually were put on the internet sale. They had 99.99% sale. She truly believes they would not have this without the internet sale. Commissioner Yohn asked how many will they have this year. They sent out 4000 delinquent notices. She won’t know until August. They have an average of 400 for sale. The notice is being sent and will be given to the leinholder for the opportunity to pay. If they have a lein holder they will be given the option to pay and it will go to the lein holder. This allows the County to collect the taxes. Those who do have a lein holder they will go to sale. Commissioner Allen asked if a financial institution purchased a few properties in Deer Valley. APT Corporation an investment group purchased a group of the properties. They are trying to produce a list for counter sales of all Alamosa County’s properties on their website. They can pay the back taxes plus $4 and have that lein assigned to them. Commissioner Yohn asked if there can be parcels with multiple SRI charges. SRI only deals with the 2012 taxes only. It can have multiple leins but it will only be one sale.

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to approve Tax Sale Internet Auction Services Agreement
Motion was approved unanimously.

She would like to request to fill an employee vacancy. She has resigned as July 3rd to go back where she was before and serve as a deputy. This would be the same position and no change to the budget. She has a second person that has also stated they are looking for a position in Denver and has interview this week so she may come back to request replacing another position.

m/s Yohn/Dunne motion to approve replacing employee vacancy.
Motion was approved unanimously.

Alamosa County Land Use

Ken Vanlwarden and Juan Altamirano were present.

Activities Report for June was presented.

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<th>Building Permits</th>
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They did receive a check from RMS for $1999. The Coop Landfill they did their second sampling. Monday they had a problem because they had sediment so they brought in a tank. They didn’t have much success with that so they used hand bailers. Tuesday they were able to get a sample. They have a new project manager with Golder that they are working with. The results of the first testing had no red flags and no concerns. The water level dropped down for the first testing. All they are interested in is any problems that the landfill could cause the water. They have a good access road now with Commissioner Allen having Road & Bridge’s help. They were able to reduce the cost for the first event to $3541.87. April 2014 they have to give an annual report and in 2015 so this will cost a little more for those to prepare the report. Last sample should be March 2015.

The Food Bank Storage Building is going well. The concrete was poured by SLV Quality Concrete, Plumbing by Hussmann, Road & Bridge Department donated the backfill and prepared the pad, SLV Builders are putting the building up, and Discount Tires donated the building. He has made arrangements with the City of Alamosa to put an 8 in sewer line and a 6 in water hole. They are going to put in the road right away. They are working with Xcel and Rural Electric for gas and electric. Rocky Mtn Septic has offered to put in the water and sewer line. Valley Electric is donated labor to do the electrical. CIA Insurance has paid for the material. Southwest Ready Mix donated all the concrete. Commissioner Allen stated he is working with local asphalt companies to get a parking lot and also some landscaping. Commissioner Allen stated the Governor’s Office is going to send a representative here for the Grand Opening.

Commissioner Yohn asked about building inspection requests if only issued 15 building permits where do the rest come from. The requests come from the contractor or the homeowners.

Juan Altamirano stated they had 12 applications, four are completed and 8 are pending. Last year they had 14 applications. He doesn’t have numbers for blight but there have been
substantial changes that have been cleaning up. They have suggested having a tire day for the residents of Alamosa County. Ace in Your Pocket could allow a day for those who would like to leave tires with a fee associated with it. He would waive any set up fee, cut the tires into sections and bale tires. He would be willing to haul off bales. He does carry insurance and has worked previously with counties. Some of the fee schedule that would be appropriate would be passenger tires $2, truck tires $4, and Semi tires $7, and Tractor tires $12 per tire. This would help them alleviate blight issues. Some people have no way to haul to Landfill in Monte Vista.

Commissioner Dunne stated that is great idea and it would help with mosquito control.

Commissioner Allen stated it is less than what they charge at the landfill which would encourage people to bring them. They would need someone there to count the tires. They would take tires with rims as well stated Mr. Altamirano. He suggested checking with Julie Geiser they could use some money she had for advertisement.

Commissioner Yohn asked if they are charging the citizen when the citizen is not willing to pay the tire dealer when they purchase tires they are not going to pay now. Some times when you advertise as a county program then it makes it easier stated Mr. Altamirano. They could charge $2 a tire, where it costs Ace in Your Pocket $1.25 to take the tire and then the rest goes to an organization such as the Food Bank. This would entice the resident to get rid of their tire while making a donation. There is no other business that does this service in the valley besides Ace in Your Pocket. The other businesses do take the tires for a fee as well stated Commissioner Yohn. They used to have a free day. Last time they used to do this stated Commissioner Allen they had a fund to get rid of the tires. They also collected about 60,000 tires at that time. Mr. Altamirano stated people may not be aware of this program the businesses offer to take the tires for a small fee.

Mr. Altamirano stated there is a state law prohibiting more than 8 tires being transferred. Commissioner Dunne suggested using Deloris Day’s property as the dump site. Mr. Altamirano stated he would not go that route because it is private property and to advertise you could dump on this private property would not be good. Mr. Vanlarden asked what Ace in Your Pocket does with the tires after being baled. Commissioner Allen stated he gives them away to farmers for wind break.

Ms. DeHerrera stated they could advertise the businesses as drop off sites. Commissioner Allen stated he understands what Commissioner Yohn is saying if you don’t offer at a lower cost than what is offered now there is no incentive to bringing the tires in. They just need to find something to offset the costs. Commissioner Yohn stated being in the tire business the state charges a waste tire fee. Commissioner Allen they used to be allowed to shred tires and use as daily cover. They won’t let them accept that as recycling. They purchased the tire shredder. With this they would need 30,000 tires at a time to be worth it to run the shredder. Last year the landfill only collected 6,000 tires.

Commissioner Yohn inquired about the “Devils Playground” property. Mr. Altamirano stated they have contacted the Division of Oil & Gas. He explained to them they were concerned with the safety there. Randy Wright is also working with Mr. Altamirano regarding this property.
Show Cause Hearing

The last time they heard this case they decided this did have blight and gave 30 days to clean up the property. They still have blight. The debris that was on the property was collected but was stuffed into a few inoperable vehicles. They determined this was still in noncompliance. They have a rule that there should not be collection of inoperable vehicles. He drove by this morning; some of the vehicles were removed but there are still others and still debris. The next step is to refer to the courts stated Mr. Kelly. They will acquire an issuance of a warrant of entrance to clean it up ourselves and assess a fee. Mr. Vanlinden stated they had this a few years back and the judge told them they had to go with property owner and determine what is to be removed. It will be however the court directs stated Mr. Kelly. Commissioner Dunne asked if there is a legal definition of blight. It is stated in our Blight Ordinance stated Mr. Kelly. He is not sure if there is a statutory for blight.

Curley Signs

Ivan Curley was present. He would like to thank the County to allow him to have those signs. He has given $25000 to the county for allowing them. He would like to see how he could keep those signs since they are building there. Commissioner Allen suggested go forward with their building project and then see if the signs will be okay there. Mr. Curley stated when he first started doing this Alamosa County didn’t allow road signs. They got the Planning Commission to change that and he was allowed to put up his signs. He has three signs up now. Commissioner Yohn stated he does upkeep the signs well. Jason Kelly stated the agreement terminated in 2010 so they will need to do a new one. It was set up to renew every 5 years. Mr. Curley thought they had renewed he will look for that contract.

Charlotte Bobicki

Ms. Bobicki stated what an awesome job the County did on the Celebration. She has heard so many good things. The band was outstanding. They took their chairs close to the front and were right behind the dancers. She was privileged to see what a diverse community they live in. She wanted to thank all the workers. Commissioner Allen asked which band she liked the best. She liked both of the last bands Don Richmond and Ozomatli.

Alamosa County Road & Bridge

They are laying asphalt. They should finish tomorrow. Conejos County had a project at the school and they may need assistance. It is 2 ½ miles they asphalted. That road was heavily traveled so he is sure it will continue stated Commissioner Allen. They will then start on weeds and mowing. Commissioner Yohn asked how they will help Conejos. It is for a parking lot and help with the tandems and the labor. It is good to share resources stated Commissioner Yohn. Commissioner Dunne thanked him for putting those tractors in for the parade. She did hear some people say they went so fast through the parade that they didn’t really get to see them. Mr. West stated he thought about putting them at Cole Park but they needed someone to watch them. He also got a comment that they should have put the bales of straw where the officials could have seen both sides of the parade.
Alamosa County Assessor

Sandra Hostetter was present. She presented the Real Property Abstract, Personal Property Abstract, State Assessed Abstract, Disposition and Register of Protests, and Personal Property Late Filing Report. They need to set up a date for property protests. They have at least one she knows of that wants to appeal. They settled with another one.

Alamosa County Department of Human Services

Joe Carrica was present. He has to submit a plan to the state explaining to them how they are going to spend funds for Chafee for foster children. They work with them to get on their own. They get around $35,000 for this program. He needs a signature to submit the plan to the state. This includes the six valley counties. They have been doing this for a few years. Commissioner Yohn asked how many cases are Alamosa. They have 60% of cases in Alamosa County.

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to accept this contract for Chafee
Motion was approved unanimously.

The second is the Core Contract with Marianne Sandstrom at the San Juan House. Their projection is for $2700 per family for 14 families.

m/s Dunne/Yohn motion to support this contract for Marianne Sandstrom.
Motion was approved unanimously.

South Central Colorado Seniors

Frances Valdez was present. August 16th is their Trade Fair from 10am to 2pm. Commissioner Dunne asked for clarification on Meals on Wheels is it out of their program or Senior Center. They use the senior’s kitchen so it is prepared there but it is through their program. Are they only taken 2 mile radius of senior center asked Commissioner Dunne? They cannot have a set radius stated Ms. Valdez. The volunteers cannot go too far out of town because they are using their own car. They are planning on using funds to have someone go farther the distance to deliver the meals. Moffat and Crestone are too far even if they are using a paid driver. They are looking at approval from state to send frozen dinners that are delivered by UPS. As a policy there is not a policy on the radius though. Could they really advertise they need volunteers to deliver meals out of town? The cost is difficult. The requirements are a background check and a little bit of food safety. In terms of Alamosa County they have a volunteer that will go out to 12 South. They have trouble in Conejos County with someone going out to Capulin. They did cut back because they were short days. Beginning July 1st they could deliver four days a week and additional two days for homebound. What is the cost per meal asked Commissioner Yohn. They are figuring around $9 for a congregate meal and $9.75 for homebound meal. They are between $2500-$2500 a day to run the program. How many days do they use the kitchen at the senior center. They were doing 5 days, they cut back to 3 days but now they are back to 4 days a week.
Alamosa County Lease Purchase

Brittney DeHerrera discussed the acceptance. They received two proposals. It was advertised on newspaper, website, and to the local banks. Alamosa State Bank proposed 3.75 which is a variable rate which is fixed for 10 years. SLV Federal at 3.9 will be fixed for entire lease. Commissioner Dunne asked they had one with SLV Federal. Yes stated Ms. DeHerrera for DHS. They have graters leased elsewhere and they did have the jail security leased but they paid that off early. Commissioner Yohn asked for the closing costs for each one. Alamosa was at $22553 and SLV Federal gave a range so it could be $28000. One of the reasons they are looking at it was the interest rates are low at this time. He honestly doesn’t think they will have these rates again. He thinks the fixed rate is advantageous because they could change in 10 years. Commissioner Dunne stated she would like to talk to Mr. Martinez to consider that so they could give each bank business. They do all the checking with Alamosa State Bank. They invest with all their local banks. Part of their bid process is done not to have any prejudice with one rather than another stated Mr. Kelly. The banks also submitted a timeline and they both were very similar. Commissioner Allen asked which one do you recommend as CFO. Ms. DeHerrera would have to say with SLV Federal because of the fixed rate. When they did the jail security they had 6% rate. It is easier to budget year in and year out with a fixed rate stated Commissioner Allen.

m/s Yohn/ Dunne motion to approve proposal of Lease Purchase with SLV Federal Bank subject to finalization of
Motion was approved unanimously.

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

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