Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on February 22, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present: George Wilkinson, Chair
Mike Yohn, Vice-Chair
Darius Allen, Commissioner
Jason Kelly, County Attorney
Mark Garcia, Interim Administrator
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator

Call the Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Add Patrick Guinness, Lincoln Renewables and Jason Kelly, Alamosa County Attorney to request an employee.

M/S Allen/Yohn motion to approve the agenda of February 22, 2012.
Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

The Following Minutes were presented:
Regular Minutes- February 8, 2012

M/S Allen/Yohn motion to table the minutes.
Motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of Bills/Obligations

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

Public Comment

Approval of Consent Agenda
M/S Allen/Yohn motion to pull the Consent agenda items to discuss. Motion carried unanimously.

**County Treasurer**

*Business Active Assets*

*County Treasurer Investment*

*Resolution 2012 F 002 Authorizing the County*

Lois Widhalm County Treasurer was present.

Add a section #7 with the statement. There is a resolution within the investment of the account.

Ms. Widhalm took the existing policy and as they move forward to changing some of the investment plans; they made the decision to invite investment firms to do presentations. They felt comfortable and made sure they are within statutory guidelines and that the requirements of an investment firm i.e. Morgan Stanley would be agreeable. Ms. Widhalm approached the State Treasurers Association and the State District Treasurers Association and they will use the similar investment policy as she presented it to the county attorney.

**M/S Allen/Yohn to approve the investment policy and the 2012-F-002 with the amendment as noted.**

  Motion carried unanimously.

**M/S Allen/Yohn to accept the application for Morgan Stanley Barney.**

  Motion carried unanimously.

Now that the board has approved the above and are considering some approval of other obligations she would like to visit the idea what they want to do with some bond investing.

Ms. Widhalm did not know if there is a minimum amount to keep the account open.

Ms. Widhalm has brought in an intern from ASC to help the process of the tax payments. She has used Kay Haslett and worked mainly in the office during peak times and she would solicit approval from Ms. Haslett to assist in processing the payments. Ms. Widhalm stated they go with the postmark and will be processed as it is received.

**Alamosa County Clerk and Recorder**

Great Sand Dunes Oasis Liquor License Renewal

**M/S Allen/Yohn to approve the Sally Corp Great Sand Dunes Oasis Renewal Liquor License.**

  Motion carried unanimously.
Ms. Wood Woodward is asking for approval for a mail ballot election. The primary election is June 26, 2012. She asked for comments on this that she posted in the newspaper. She received only one and in favor of this.

M/S Allen/Yohn to approve the Resolution 2012-E-001 authorizing the Mail Ballot Plan. Motion Carried unanimously.

Patrick Guiness – Lincoln Renewables

Mr. Guiness was present to re-introduce himself and to give a quick update. A 1041 permit was granted two years ago on the Coop road and since then they have been doing all other development activities. They have been getting an agreement to cross the culvert. There are multiple Xcel transmission lines that cross over the project. They are working with Xcel that has taken some time. They are working on critical habitat and endangered species. Xcel energy is the natural buyer because they are across the road. In October, Xcel came out with the reduced their projected load growth from around 1000 mgw to around 290 mgw. Xcel essentially does not need any new electricity. Their goal is request proposals for new power at the end of this year or next year. They would like to do is put their request in with those proposals. The last RFP from Xcel was they approved 200 mgw CSP plant and a portfolio that includes a 200 mgw CSP plant as well as 105 mgw of solar PD. Last May they requested to defer 45 mgw of the 105 mgw of solar PD. They delayed those mgw until the next solicitation. They want to push the Commission for Xcel to buy an additional 200 mgw of solar CSP or PD. His is working with various Colorado based firms to pull a group to lobby Xcel and the Commission to build a native Colorado Project. They are talking with General Electric which just announced opening a PD Plant in Aurora so they want to work with them to use their panels. They are making a coalition with the Colorado Companies to secure the 45 mgw that was delayed.

Possibly the County could get involved with the docket commission to help persuade the Commission to require Xcel Energy to come up with another 45 mgw of PD in their next solicitation.

They will be coming forward to request extending their permit. He believes it expires in November.

They feel comfortable with the study and capacity for 130 megawatts to export to the Front Range. There is a lot of construction on the Coop and inquired if he knew anything about that. That would not have anything to do with their project. Mr. Guiness is working out of the Denver office and just completed construction of their first 10 mgw project in New Jersey.

County Attorney Jason T. Kelly

Request for Vacancy. Mr. Kelly is requesting an employee since his secretary is leaving.

M/S Allen/Yohn to replace the employee for Jason T. Kelly. Motion carried unanimously.
Interim County Administrator - Mark Garcia

Attended the City County Managers Conference and stated the economics for the nation looks very good. There were some very useful sessions they attended.

Mr. Garcia reported that Juan Altamirano and Ken Vanlwarden have been working with a Pagosa Company on the Mosca Sewer plant installing aerators. One aerator was installed yesterday and they were monitored to see how it works.

They completed interviews for DHS and will be working to decide who the final candidate will be.

Alamosa County Victims Advocate - Janice Holman

It is time to do a new application for the VOCA funding. The application is the same with the exception of Rio Grande County. The reduction is approximately $24,000. The reduction was for the salary for the Rio Grande Coordinator. They are doing the two year application and will have to do a new SOGA but that is all. The application process is two years but the contract is renewed yearly. Rio Grande County will be writing their own grant. They will be responsible for the financial end of it. Rio Grande County has always had a unit and have always had a coordinator but there have been communication issues between them so it is better they write their own grant.

The funding options are limited for the Victims Advocate Unit. The grant basically stays the same from year to year.

M/S Allen/Yohn to approve the victims advocate grant application with final approval from the County Attorney.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Alamosa County Sheriff

The Year End Report for the Detention Division was presented. The daily average was 113 inmates from January 1-31, 2011. The daily average was 33 housed out in Chaffee or Bent County. The total transports conducted with mileage and fuel usage were presented.

The monthly detention report showed the average for the month is 124. The daily average housed out is 40 inmates for the month.

Commissioner Wilkinson inquired about Costilla County. There were two females that were housed in Costilla. It was based on an emergency situation.

The pretrial release program has interviewed about 30 to 35 inmates.

The Civil Process Statistics Report by officer for the month of February showed a total of 98.
Mr. Stong presented the inmate Medical Insurance Proposal Application for Sheriff’s department. In the past the payout was $103,000 and went to litigation. There was a gentleman who had a safe dropped on his foot. The average is approximately $12,000 per year. If there was an inmate with no personal insurance it would have kicked in. It didn’t pay in that instance and he was in the Sheriff’s care and control.

The fire alarm system is out of date and to replace it from Valley Lock is $28,247. That is of the utmost importance to have the alarm system brought up to date. The system is for the entire detention center. This proposal is for the entire fire alarm system. It has always been maintained by Valley Lock and Security. Mr. Garcia stated it might be advantageous to get some other agencies to bid on the system.

The water billing increased 50 cents for 1000 gallons and last year water usage was 234,000 and is now at 421,000.

Commissioner Yohn mentioned an MOU would be appropriate with E911 Telephone Authority. Mr. Kelly wants to know what to put into the MOU. The figures that Sheriff Stong gave is if they had to rent space to put it in but the actual cost to keep it would be approximately $80 per month. An MOU would be important to have. As a county and county’s property it important to have an MOU. This would be a discussion to have with the San Luis Valley County Commissioners. Commissioner Allen stated it would be good to have a meeting with all parties involved such as the EOC, E911, and BOCC.

There are many hurdles in getting the classroom to the range. They received one quote of approximately $20,000 to move the classroom. Land Use is saying the building is commercial and would have to have a large sewer and would cost a large amount of money. If the County does not want it; he will give it back to the School District. The building is cost prohibitive right now.

They changed the Records Management System from Sleuth to Archonix. That is not quite cutting the bill and is asking to take some of the phone cards and generate into cash to pay for the Archonixs system.

Mr. Stong stated they are done with the compliance but the state is dragging on using the system. Everything they have now is being used. They won’t know until May what else they will need.

He presented an Intergovernmental Agreement for Saguache County. There is an email from Chaffee County regarding inmate care status.

The Sheriff presented a draft policy for gun purchases to the County Commissioners.

**SEED PARK ~Jim Mietz**

Mr. Mietz read a statement regarding developing of the seed park. The sustainable and development seed park is ready to install iron in the ground. Over the last six years they have had twelve feasibility studies completed. There are several entrepreneurs who want to locate in
the park. One problem is SEED has no land or water to place iron in the ground. The purpose of SEED is to demonstrate agricultural forestry renewable energy enterprises operating in a zero waste environment improving the communities we live in by offering permanent jobs to local people, growing the economic phase, educating the public on substance, reduce the money leakage in the San Luis Valley. This is where the Alamosa County Commissioners could play an important role in assisting the SEED board in implementing a wonderful concept that needs to go forward. They ask to deed to SEED parcel 043 Section 14 & 15, Township 37, Range 11 which is 115 acres in Eastern Alamosa. In the period of five years of donation it would become a property tax generator, sales tax would be applied to green diesel at 6.5 cents per gallon times 4 million gallons equaling $62,500, at the end of the period 31 full time jobs and 3 part time jobs could generate in 1 million gross in employment, potentially some unemployed welfare recipients would become employed, some permanent jobs would provide health insurance benefits reducing costs in Medicaid Insurance and lower bills, it would turn non productive land into productiveness, it would attract other enterprises also known as clusters, make the railroad more profitable, and bring another attraction to the San Luis Valley.

Commissioner Wilkinson stated he thought they were looking at some property located west of Alamosa. Mr. Mietz stated the property was too big. If one is implemented it would have to be much smaller. They would have had to get surface water rights and would have been very costly. The amount that is allowed is not what it says in water court. It would be wiser approach to find a smaller piece of property in order to implement something. Mr. Young was in here for a poultry operation at this same location and now this is different state Commissioner Wilkinson. Mr. Mietz stated they are working on this for six years and if the poultry project came forward they would work with them. This could be a very complimentary project. They have a very interested party to have wood biomass classification. They are ready to move forward and that could serve as one of the anchors to move forward. The other is the dehydration of food such as potatoes. Mr. Mietz is going tour a dehydration industry in Lubbock Texas.

Commissioner Allen asked Mr. Mietz about the 115 acres. Commissioner Allen is hesitant in taking county assets he would like to see a business plan with some depth and cost allocations. Commissioner Allen asked who the Board members are. There are seven board members who are Nick Parker, Lubbock TX; Mary Hoffman, Roger Doene, Erwin Young, Dean Nelson, Denver; and Kip Walker. The Board was formed by people who had an interest in this idea. There are terms in the bylaws with regard to how the positions are selected and how long the term. A copy of the business plan will be forwarded to the Commissioners. They are awaiting approval for the nonprofit status.

Commissioner Yohn and Commissioner Allen have many concerns. Mr. Young has been working with the Land Use office and has been in communication with them. Mr. Young wants to change the zoning of the property. Commissioner Allen believes there is the cart before the horse. The property is zoned as exempt right now. Mr. Altamirano stated there are a series of issues that would occur with the property. The application is under review but no guarantee that it will be approved. There are issues that Mr. Altamirano would have with the property. Commissioner Allen wants to start with Mr. Altamirano then go to Planning Commission and begin putting things together. The property was an old landfill and there might be rules or regulations on what can be done with the property.
George Tinker CTSI

Mr. Tinker did a quick check with CTSI (County Technical Services Inc) regarding the Sheriff’s office for Inmate Medical. They do have to policies but they are not through CTSI. CTSI helps the County’s get access through Gallagher to provide those coverages. They are catastrophic medical and cover in a secondary mode after the inmates own medical insurance. They will be happy to assist.

Mr. Tinker thanked the Commissioners for being a member of all the pools. The amount of the money returned to the pool by membership was 4.2 million dollars in total. 3.7 million from CAPP (Casualty and Property Pool) and 500,000 in CWCP (County Workers Compensation Pool). He is not sure if this will be the same picture as last year and giving back 3 to 4 million dollars a year. The insurance industry continues in the country’s economic situation. They are trying to get yearly commitments from carriers but would still not affect the costs.

Many of the County commissioners are coming up against term limits and wanted to as they are replaced; they will have a CTSI training for new commissioners. Many of them are pool board members and there will be openings.

The Alamosa Contributions in 2012 received $35,000 in CAPP and $20,000 in fees monies that were returned and $1,700 in CWCP. The contribution for 2012 was calculated from 07, 08 and 09. The average for the three years is 65 percent loss rate and the year percent of the pool losses was .07 percent and the percent of exposure was 1.4. The loss rate was 0.49 which is exceptional.

For CWCP the average is 92 and next year will be for 08, 09, and 10 and will be the highest years. 2011 was a good year and moving forward. For 2012 the percent of losses is 1.6 and percent of exposure 1.62. The top loss cause is slip, trip and fall. There are over 7,000 slip, trip, and falls since its inception in 1986 and tops over 40,000 in severity.

Adjourn

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

ATTEST:

ABSENT
Belina Ramirez, Administrative Secretary
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator

George Wilkinson, Chairman
Mike Yohn, Vice-Chair
Derius Allen, County Commissioner