Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on April 25, 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
Belina Ramirez, Administrative Secretary

Call the Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

Ms. Widhalm Treasurer is not present but Jurice Montoya Deputy Public Trustee is present.

M/S Yohn/Allen motion to approve the agenda of April 25, 2012.
Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

The Following Minutes were presented:
Regular Minutes - April 11, 2012
Public Hearing - Ivan & Verma Hof
Public Hearing - Leroy Polkowske
Public Hearing - Sangre de Cristo School
Public Hearing - Waiver request for SLV Solar Farm LLC

M/S Allen/Yohn motion to approve the Minutes of April 11, 2012.
Motion was passed 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
March County Clerk and Recorder’s Report
Ratification of Medicare Enrollment Application
Ratification of CDPHE OEPR Public Health Equipment Upgrade and SNS Training
Otero Jr College Agreement
Department of Health Care Policy & Financing Contract Amendment No 3
Nurse Consultant for Competency Assurance Agreement –Lavern El-Mourad

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

Alamosa County Treasurer
Treasurer Monthly Fund Report
Public Trustee Quarterly Report

Jurice Montoya was present.

Quarterly Report for Period Jan – Mar 2012 was presented as followed:
0720 Public Trustee Account $34,510.38 Beginning Balance
Foreclosure Processing $28,139.22
And Misc Fees Collected
PT Fees –Foreclosures/Releases 6,095.00
$34,234.22 Total Receipts
Foreclosure Disbursement 25,568.69
Release Disbursement 1,461.00
Disbursement for PT 4,000.00
-31,029.69 Total Disbursements
Fund Balance $37,714.81 Fund Balance as of 3/31/12
Encumbered Expenses 35,800.00 Total Encumbrances
Actual PT Fund Balance 1,914.81 Actual Balance as of 3/31/12

33 Current Active Foreclosures + 4 Bankruptcies
18 New Foreclosures (Jan 7, Feb 3, Mar 8)
17 Completed Foreclosures (Jan –Mar, 2012)
10 Conf Deeds; 7 Withdrawal; 0 Redemption/Lienor; 0 Redemption/Owner
164 Releases (Jan-Mar 2012)

Monthly Fund Report for March was also presented.

M/S Allen/Yohn motion to approve Treasurer Monthly Fund Report and the Quarterly Report
Motion was approved unanimously.
Alamosa County Land Use

Juan Altamirano and Sandra Montoya HCP Administrator were present. They have a request from Rio Grande Water Conservation District re San Luis Valley Habitat Conservation Plan.

Ms. Montoya spoke. The Rio Grande Water Conservation District working with the US Fish & Wildlife Service and other partners, has developed a regional Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the San Luis Valley. The HCP provides for the long-term protection and conservation of the covered species while allowing for the continuation of ongoing and routine agriculture, community infrastructure, and riparian conservation and restoration activities. These covered species are the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and the yellow-billed Cuckoo. The final draft has been reviewed by the US Fish & Wildlife Service. It is awaiting their Implementing Agreement and the Environmental Assessment. Once they are approved then they will ask for applications for Incidental Take Permit by each county and municipality, in order for the HCEP and EA be submitted for final approval and so they could hold public comment. In the past you have showed interest so they are requesting application be completed by the end of May. After public comment has been addressed, the final drafts of the HCP and EA would be submitted with an IA signed by all participants for final approval from the US Fish & Wildlife Service. How does this affect Alamosa? It is going to protect southwest vegetation removal from flood ways, levee construction and maintenance, sediment removal, Infrastructure Construction, Infrastructure maintenance, and road & bridge maintenance. The US Fish & Wildlife proposed to declare the SLV as critical habitat so if there is a strand of Willow Flycatchers then they would have to comply on Section 7 and Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act. This shields and protects the normal things such as farming and grazing. Mr. Altamirano stated HCP ran into some issues with US Fish & Wildlife having to provide comments to Rio Grande Water Conservation District.

Commissioner Allen asked the National Fish & Wildlife came in with their plan so how does this work with them. Do they go hand in hand? No stated Ms. Montoya. They will meet with them tomorrow. Every county that is in the SLV is an applicant but why only four cities asked Commissioner Allen. Ms. Montoya stated only four are along rivers. What if any farmer or rancher doesn’t like this can they opt out. No stated Montoya that is why she is to go out and educate. If the board doesn’t adopt the plan than each individual farmer would be required to get a permit from Fish & Wildlife. Since Alamosa County has a strong feeling to keep agriculture economy going. He asked for changes in the wording because it would pose significant amount of responsibility on Land Use. The only concern from Conejos County is that some of the farmers want to wait and see what happens. They don’t want them to do that because it would put them in a situation. Mr. Garcia asked about the species. The birds are migrating to South America or Mexico so they stop for the night then move on. Under the easements there is suitable habitat for these birds so she will put these in for certain mitigation credits. They do not have anything secure yet. These easements have to follow certain regulations of what they could do to their land. They only role we would play is compliance stated Mr. Altamirano. The Rio Grande Conservation District would be called and take appropriate measurements, Land Use would send out a letter that they are out of compliance. Subdivision development on flood plains or critical habitat would not be covered under habitat. Commissioner Wilkinson asked why the species are migrating here. The greater food availability is coming here for breeding purposes or
to raise young. It is voluntarily to do easements but if no one wants to join HCP they will be in trouble. They received a request from US Fish & Wildlife for a letter of support of their plan but they should wait because they could pose some conflicts with both parties. US Fish & Wildlife wants to do separate easements and because they are federally funded they wouldn’t count as mitigation credit.

Mr. Altamirano asked motion that the incident application would be signed. It doesn’t mean we will participate in the Habitat Conservation Plan but just that we are looking at it.

**M/S Allen/Yohn motion to proceed with the Incidental Take Permit**  
**Motion was approved unanimously.**

Road reimbursement for Cogentrix will be taken care this week. The Community Development Fund for Iberdrola facility will be deposited.

There will be Land Development Code changes, text amendments regarding 1041 language at next meeting.

**Alamosa County Department of Human Services**

Joe Carrica was present. They had a vacant position they received 19 applications with 6 interviews for next week. Another position was a temporary position for food stamps which was a roll over from filling in another position so he is asking to replace this position. He thinks of it as grant money so as long as the money is there that position will be held. They do plan on making this aware to applicants that it is as long as the money is there. Commissioner Wilkinson suggested something be signed stating they are aware it is a temporary position.

**M/S Yohn/ Allen motion to fill temporary vacancy for DHS**  
**Motion was approved unanimously.**

Investigation Report was presented. This showed four cases completed where one was suspected of forging work activity and another where there was dual participation. Child Support Collection Comparison and Recovery Collection Comparison reports were presented as well. We get a percentage and the state gets a percent of collections.

**Ongoing Workload Summary**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Financial</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>28 down</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Medical</td>
<td>611</td>
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<td>15 up</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Medical</td>
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<td>Food Stamps</td>
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<td>62 up</td>
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<td>Long Term Care</td>
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<td>23 down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Savings Program</td>
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<td>1 down</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4610</td>
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Food Stamp Issuance showed Alamosa issued $542,464 with 1937 cases.
They get allocation report yearly. The 2012 allocations for child care have been revised down in the amount of $3000. When they closed out in June the legislators looked for money and seen Child Care turned back of $593,548 so the budget committee took it and used it for something else. This could impact other counties as well. Two letters were presented from Lake County. There has been a child welfare allocation committee set up in statute. Every year they relook at the formulas. This committee if they get a census voted on using the formulas with floors/ceilings limit. The next month the committee re-voted to leave out the floors/ceilings and 5%. They are going to appeal this. No counties were shown what the allocations would do to them. He knows Alamosa gained part of it probably because of past expenditures.

Mr. Garcia asked about the transportation issue with Public Health if he could expand on this. There has been a formal appeal. This situation is for Medicaid transportation where an agency is contracted to provide transportation. They have one provider so if they don’t serve the person they don’t know because they are able to direct bill Medicaid. He contacted Health Care & Policy of this situation. What if there are other clients that were not served but were billed to Medicaid. The client is saying forget they will withdraw. The state is saying these people are eligible and they should do it. They may not do a contract with the provider and issue checks for transportation so they know the clients are being served.

**Alamosa County Sheriff**

Dave Stong is not present due to being on vacation.

**M/S Allen/Yohn motion to approve vacancy for the cook position**

**Motion was approved unanimously.**

**Break**

**County Administrator Report**

Land Use Department-He is continuing working on the Land Use Development Code. He is making some revisions on the draft. They will take the draft to the Planning Commission on May 6th for their consideration.

Mosca General Improvement District-They met with the Mosca Committee group regarding formation of a new board and adoption of a new operating plan. They welcomed the idea but want to meet independently to discuss. He would like to advertise for the board members. Mr. Altamirano replied to questions on septic systems and future management. He is awaiting a call from them.

Juan Altamirano stated he talked with some of the members of Mosca and they are concerned that the County is going to dissolve itself completely from them. Weavers Septic gave them a list of what should be and shouldn’t be disposed if in the septic system. Mr. Garcia stated they haven’t formally adopted the fee schedule. Mr. Altamirano stated he suggest include them in the actual fee schedule. Mr. Garcia stated they need to apply the fees to their expenses. They also need to take in replacement costs also. If they build a district they could also take on the park.
Weaver’s have made some recommendations with USDA loans or grants that could assist them as a funding mechanism. Mr. Kelly stated they have nothing formally set for fees and some of these they are actually never going to collect from.

Department of Human Service-He met with Joe Carrica to discuss staff issues and functions within the department. One area was discussed the arrangement with Amy within our building. He felt she should be located within their department. He apprised Mr. Carrica of the duties mingled between Amy, Brittney, and Connie and backup support. Mr. Carrica discussed hiring practices and his desire to change a few things.

Airport Authority-He has been working with Carol Osborn on efforts with the airport. She facilitated a workshop with the Authority Board to work with challenges identified in FAA audit.

Management Team Meeting-They incorporated an ice breaker and a webinar for the meeting. The session was informative and beneficial.

National Day of Prayer –May 3, 2012

Commissioner Yohn stated this has been going on a long time and it is Nationwide so he doesn’t have any objections.

M/S Yohn/Wilkinson motion to approve request of a room and waive the fee.
   Motion was approved unanimously with Commissioner Allen abstaining

Board/Staff Updates

Worksession

Adjourn

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

ATTEST:

Belina Ramirez, Administrative Secretary
Carol Osborn, Assistant Administrator

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