Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on February 23, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present:

Darius Allen,
George Wilkinson,
Mike Yohn, Commissioner
Barry Shioshita, County Administrator
Jason Kelly, County Attorney
Carol Osborn, Administrative Assistant
Belina Ramirez, Administrative Secretary

Call the Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Approval of the Agenda

The addition of the Ratification of the MOU of School Districts to be discussed under Administrators Report and Child Support Legal Services Agreement to be discussed under Human Services Report.

M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to approve the agenda of February 23, 2011 with additions. Motion was passed unanimously.

Consent agenda Items:

Approval of General Business/Minutes

The Following Minutes were presented:
Regular Minutes, February 9, 2011

One correction under County Administrator Report the SLV Commissioners Meeting should be February 28 instead of September 28th.

M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to approve the Minutes of February 9, 2011 with correction. Motion was passed unanimously.

Approval of Bills/Obligations

M/S Wilkinson/Allen motion to approve the Bills/Obligations Motion was approved unanimously.
Public Comment

Joyce Gunn was present. She read there was a Line Item Revision on the Local Marketing Budget. She attended the last meeting of the Local Marketing District when David Broyles made the statement that he needed $100,000 that the Local Marketing District was going to pay off anyway. This reminded her of this article that she presented to the Board which discussed that inquiries were being made by FDIC. She went online to see if the inquiries had been satisfied and they have not as shown on the handout. In the article it discusses they have to increase their capital. David Broyles is the Treasurer of the Local Marketing District and the President of First Southwest Bank which is a conflict of interest. There was no vote for this at the meeting and if done in an Executive Session this is in violation of state regulations. The last three years the Museum has gone before the Local Marketing District and requested additional funds. The Local Marketing District has said they were not able to do this because all of their funds have been allocated. This appears to be saving First Southwest Bank and she doesn’t remember them being part of the referendum. At the last two meetings they were told on the advice of Jason Kelly and Commissioner Allen that the Local Marketing District would not spend any funds over normal operating funds until the Moyer lawsuit was settled. She would hope they would vote against this or set it aside and do some additional research.

Leon Moyer who resides at 19417 Ridge Driver was present. He wants to comment on the same issue of the budget item of granting $100,000 to pay off on the mortgage of the motorway building. It is owned by the Colorado Condo Association as a combination of DRG and the Local Marketing District. He was present at this meeting when David Broyles asked $100,000 be paid on this loan this year. They already budgeted $45,000 this year which is their usually payment. This would be a total of $145,000. This would be half of their budget to pay off the mortgage. This is not the mission of the Local Marketing District. He feels like this is a bank bailout. This was improper for Mr. Broyles to use his position as a board member to try to increase the standing and security of his own bank. There was no vote taken at that board meeting regarding paying this money. Statutes state they have to act to make payments they are supposed to have receipts and invoices before they pay any bill. He doesn’t understand the relationship with the County paying money with the dedicated funds to a Marketing District Board.

Approval of Consent Agenda

CaremarkPCS Health LLC Agreement
Ratification of Amended Agreement for Application Hosting & Technology
Budget Line Item Revision-Local Marketing District

Remove the Budget Line Item Revision to be discussed further.

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

The Budget Line Item Revision doesn’t change the bottom line of the authorized budget. This was requested by Local Marketing District for the funds that are there. Whether they vote to approve the $100,000 payout on the principle at their board meeting that would be up to them.
This just moves dollars in terms of an authorized line item to a different line item. They are correct under budget law. This is not a supplemental budget. The authority to spend the dollars is still up to the Marketing District. The note is $500,000, the pay down would reduce the note on the lease purchase probably down 4 years would save $192,000 in interest. Commissioner Allen asked if paying down the note was to save First Southwest Bank. Mr. Shioshita stated no.

**M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to approve the Budget Line Item Revision.**

**Motion was approved unanimously.**

**Alamosa County Treasurer**

Lois Widhalm was present. The Fund Report was provided for January 2011.

Commissioner Yohn questioned the Alamosa Weed Control line. The beginning balance is $63,688.46 and the actual current balance right now is $64,176.17. If you are requesting some specifics as to the activity during the month she can provide those but she doesn’t know right now what that activity was. The only activity for the month was $110.12 and she doesn’t recall what that was for. Commissioner Yohn stated the reason for his questioning that is the amount the Alamosa Weed Control Board actually has is small than that. Mr. Shioshita stated when you look at budget it won’t include undesignated fund balances. For example he might have a fund balance of $20,000 and may not need any of that in terms of looking at expenditures but maybe for the following year. Normally he would very conservative when budgeting to save some fund balance so the dollars based on when those dollars are posted may be reflective or subjective to adjustments, journal adjustments, and getting reports from the Treasurer’s Office. This depends on if there are any unpaid bills currently out there. Budgets are projections subject to change. This is why they did supplemental budgets in December to accommodate the payouts on transitional leave. That number is going to change based on financial activity. Commissioner Allen stated the budget shows what they budgeted for but it doesn’t show what is left over from the year before. Ms. Widhalm stated the budget numbers are independent of the total amount that sits within the total revenue for the county as she has recorded through her office.

Mr. Shioshita stated the only concern is the Mosca General Improvement District. Notices were sent out to those consumers. This continues to be an issue in the past. They are taking options of sending to Collections because some of these have been delinquent and have been carried over from previous years.

**M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to accept this fund report**

**Motion was approved unanimously.**

Foreclosures Information was presented. This information was presented at the Public Trustees Meeting she attended. The Legislation has passed a Deferment Program statewide to provide Housing Counselors. HB 1023 is for continuation of the deferment program and HB 1136 will provide funding for Housing Counseling Agencies to be approved by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Has this Deferment Program been used in our county asked Commissioner Allen. Ms. Widhalm stated yes but she has never had one go completely through the complete process. She has had some eligible but never went through the
process. She does not know why none have gone through the process, if it is because of the homeowner, counselor, loss of financing, or loss of interest. This information is for 2010 but it doesn’t include 2011. Alamosa County had 41 deferment applications but none have gone through. Mr. Shioshita stated according to the total statewide deferment applications of 22,199 and only 575 qualified the rules must be difficult. Her opinion is that there are few counselors available and that few people are aware of the program. Also few people may be guided through the entire process.

The bill for publications online was pulled.

**Alamosa County Public Health**

*Revenue Expenditure Summary*

Julie Geiser was present. HCBS (Home Care Based Services) is $40,000 in the whole. This is concerning to her. Public Health is down $15,000. They pay rent of $20,000. They are at 99.53% total expenditures. She attended last week the Public Health Nurses Association meeting. Amendment 35 cuts where their nursing contracts will be affected. The STEPP Tobacco program was cut 3.2 million, COPDE cut 5.9 million, and Health Disparities 3.9 million. Medicaid enrollment has increased by 40% in the past ten years. They have never exceeded budget but they should adjust for the next fiscal year. He could run a supplemental budget to give some additional spending authority.

They have had lots of cases of Influenza going around the San Luis Valley. They still have flu vaccine available. She has been struggling to decide how much flu vaccine to order for next year. She ordered 400 last year but this year they got a lot of free vaccine. They need to get rid of that so it doesn’t go to waste.

She would like to do Facebook for Public Health. She was looking at a grant from Allstate for Teen drivers and Fatalities. Juan Altamirano attended a Social Network meeting and they talked about this on their website. There is a positive side but there is also a negative side so maybe they could meet together to discuss this. Commissioner Allen suggested they get together with Jason Kelly also. Mr. Shioshita stated the concern is more about security issues.

They have a couple of nurses in training here. Ola Bovin is handling this.

April 1st is our 9 Health Fair.

**Alamosa County Home Health**

They are struggling with Humana to get paid. They have quite a few patients that they don’t want to write off. They did write a letter with Colorado Access stating they are not going to do business with them anymore and this got a good response so she would like to do this with Humana.

**Break**
Alamosa County Clerk & Recorder

Melanie Woodward was present. They are going to do a mock election with the state starting February 28th through March 11th. They will also be doing a Polling Place Accessibility Survey. They make sure everything is ADA compliant. The Mail Ballot Bill did not go through. March 22nd, 23rd, and 24th is going to be their Regional Conference here in Alamosa. This will be held at the Inn of the Rio Grande.

County Clerk Distribution Report

M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to accept the County Clerk Distribution Report
Motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Yohn asked about the SME fees for equipment that the IRS was looking at. SME Equipment 2% rental is where Alamosa gets 2% on their rental equipment. They are trying to change this where the county they are registered in will get the 2% fee instead of the county that they are working in. Commissioner Wilkinson stated there was also something about agriculture equipment that farmers would be penalized for equipment that can be used for a farm and a construction job such as a bobcat excavator or loader. She was not aware of this but she knew of the late fees to reduce to $10. Commissioner Yohn stated a lot of the Construction Equipment is not registered and/or licensed. Ms. Woodward stated maybe that is the one where they would be fined $500. They want this equipment registered because they move the equipment from one site to another. Commissioner Yohn stated this is to deter theft of the equipment so they can track it and to register it for highway use also. Commissioner Allen stated Action 22 breaks down all the bills.

Alamosa County Sheriff

Dave Stong was present. Their daily average of inmates for the month of January has increased to 111. They have 20 in Chaffee County and 5 in Conejos. Activities report was presented. Commissioner Allen asked if the animal complaints were for dogs. Sheriff Stong stated the majority is dogs and Donnie Soapes handles those.

The Ministerial Volunteer Program Report for January 2011 was presented. The GED program they do not have because the inmates are not there long enough to instruct. Commissioner Yohn asked about the five inmates for Community Work detail if they are trustees and if this average for this time of year. Sheriff Stong stated 9 times out of 10 they are trustees. Most of that is helping maintenance crews for the County and the City and at the recycling plant. They are monitored by those who pick them up. Commissioner Yohn asked if there was a pool there of more than work if there was someone supervising them because he feels there is plenty of work out there for them. Sheriff Stong stated about 60% of their inmates could participate. They would have to pull officers from detention to watch over them for those projects such as trash pickup. He would have fewer people monitoring the jail so this is a problem. Commissioner Yohn asked if the two more officers he had requested for could be used for monitoring the inmates for detail. Sheriff Stong stated maybe but his priority is the facility then detail.
Commissioner Wilkinson asked about overtime for transportation if they could hire someone just to transport to save money on the overtime. Sheriff Stong stated they could hire a transport officer. Sheriff Stong stated this would help him for instance yesterday he had 18 inmates for court. Commissioner Wilkinson stated he meant for long distance such as Antonito and Salida. Right now their population is high but when it drops then that person wouldn’t be busy stated Sheriff Stong. Commissioner Wilkinson suggested maybe someone on call or maybe a reserve officer. Mr. Shioshita stated you might need two, one for females and one for males.

Commissioner Allen asked about the floor of the freezer. They have gotten bids. There is also the issue of racks having rust. He has had the cooks clean it but it doesn’t come off. Commissioner Yohn stated it seems easier to replace those. Rubber/plastic coated racks was suggested by Commissioner Wilkinson. Commissioner Yohn suggested free standing shelves so they don’t have to take it out to clean the floors.

Commissioner Allen asked how he would feel about where they have carpet if they would pull that out and paint the floor. Sheriff Stong stated that would be fine especially the entrance. Commissioner Allen stated maybe they could do this in phases. He also questioned if they need any painting and if they want to open up the little room next to the control room. Sheriff Stong stated this used to be the corporals office but it could benefit ventilation.

Commissioner Yohn asked about WSB being there if they wired for the cameras. Sheriff Stong stated the visitation room did get wired for cameras. This was because visitors were leaving paraphernalia and the inmates were picking it up so they are going to put cameras there.

They obtained a $50,000 technical grant so they will be used for computer ports and maybe another vehicle.

Alamosa County Department of Human Services
December Preliminary Financial Report
Foster Parenting

Larry Henderson and Laurie Rivera were present. Ms. Rivera spoke regarding Foster Care. In January the San Luis Valley Department of Human Services staff particularly those working in Foster Care and church leaders in the valley were represented in a meeting to initiate a project called San Luis Valley Foster Alliance. Alamosa County needs more Foster Care homes and because of this they send a lot of the children who are in their custody out of the Valley to Residential Child Care Facilities and Child Placement Agency Foster Homes. Jim Moon the Pastor with Seventh Day Adventist Church here in Alamosa got this idea from a couple of churches in Colorado that started an initiative of gathering their congregation to recruit, retain, and train foster homes in their area. The idea was to have more foster families waiting for children rather than children waiting for foster homes.

They learned how other places in Colorado did this so they had a second meeting to discuss this. They put together different groups to what will be an Expo event where church congregations or anyone to adopt, be a foster parent, mentor, tutor, or those who want to support foster families. The Foster Care Alliance has come up with a motto of “A Home for every child and a
Community for every family”. They will be having another meeting next week to continue planning the expo. They will be advertising that date as soon as they get one pinned down. They will have brochures. They have a photo gallery called “The Heart Gallery” where they display children that are waiting to be adopted. They will display this around the Valley at banks, churches, and the surrounding counties. In Alamosa they have 8 children waiting for adoption.

As the result of the first meeting there was a four part of a series in the newspaper for this effort. Commissioner Allen stated he read the articles. He was told it started in Longmont or Loveland but all of sudden they have more foster parents than foster kids now. He went to the meeting along with his wife and he volunteered to get brochures out. He would like someone from Human Services such as Laurie Rivera to attend their six County Commissioner meeting to discuss this with the other counties. Ms. Rivera cannot attend but Barbara Gonzales would be able to attend. The counties in the Valley share foster homes and they all have the need.

Child Support Legal Services Agreement

M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to approve the Child Support Legal Services Agreement

Motion was approved unanimously.

The LEAP season ends the end of April. He presented the LEAP report showing 1537 total applications processed, 1156 approved, 131 denied, 250 pending, and $316.07 is the average benefit for Alamosa County. The state totals were total applications processed of 126,838, 99,406 approved, 18,541 denied, 8,891 pending, and the average benefit of $274.77.

The Ongoing Workload Summary was presented as followed.

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Food Stamp Issuance Report for January was presented. Alamosa County issued $515,528 with 1885 total number of cases. The state wide total issued was $62,390,554.32 with 194,859 of total number of cases.

The Investigation Report, Recovery Collection Comparison, and the Child Support Collection Comparison were presented.

The Statement of Expenditures and Statement of Revenues were presented.

The State did pay an additional $219,000 for TBR for FY2010-2011.

County Administrator Report

Ratification of Amended CCOERA
M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to approve ratification of Amended CCOERA. 
Motion was approved unanimously.

MOU between Alamosa County and Alamosa, Center, North Conejos, Sanford, Sangre de Cristo, and Sargent School Districts

This is for the Federal Forest Secure School payments and the school districts have each signed it. Under HB1250 25% goes to Road & Bridge, 25% goes to school districts, and the remainder 50% is negotiated on an allocation basis by three representatives of the county and three representatives from the school districts. They had this meeting. The feds are supposed to backfill any dollars they are to give to education. If the feds do not backfill then the school districts give us back that 50%.

M/S Wilkinson/Yohn motion to approve Federal MOU between Alamosa County and School Districts
Motion was approved unanimously.

They had a Medical Marijuana Webinar with several attendees.

Commissioner Wilkinson and Mr. Shioshita will attend the SLV Tourism Conference.

FAA the senate decided to a resolution on 101 Aviation/Aeronautical Federal bill. There was concerns of EAS would be cut with an Amendment being proposed. This would cut Great Lakes from our airport. The Airport Improvement Program they get $150,000 where they collaborate with two other airports. This was on the chopping block at one time. They eliminated the EAS proposition so they look a little better than before.

State Budget Cuts, they talked about the TBR and how the 1 million dollars JVC would cover what they actually projected to be budgeted in the 2011-12 budget.

It would cost the County more money to do the two positions for the Sheriff’s Office. This doesn’t include payouts for John Bianca’s transition leave time. Some of the correctional officers are serving as security at ball games and treating this as overtime. Commissioner Wilkinson stated the schools should be paying for this if they are requesting security.

County Administrator position they worked on the job qualifications and notice.

Lunch

Crossroads Turning Points

Martin Malouff was present. He presented a report. They have a 10 bed facility where clients are brought in by law enforcement but they do get some enter on their own or by a family member for detoxification. The largest number of clients comes from the Alamosa Police Department. Alcohol is the primary drug used as shown as 93.9%. The recidivism rate is 77.7% for one timers (one episode) for this quarter. Commissioner Allen asked if the City funds them
being the City Police refects the most. They did get funded last year from the City but they are not allowed to request funds so this year they did not get funded by the City. Commissioner Allen asked how their budget is. They are struggling stated Mr. Malouff. On staff they have 9 in detox, 3 outpatient counselors, and 3 Core Counselors. He did speak to Leroy Lucero about the 3 year extension of the property. Commissioner Yohn stated it has not been extended yet but closer to the expiration date of November/December they need to do discuss that.

**SLV Habitat/Alamosa Community Greenhouse**

Audrey Liu Treasurer of Community Greenhouse was present. They partner with the Food Bank. They are planning for the new school to designate an area for the garden there since Polston and Boyd Schools are closing. The funding is an issue because the schools do not have the funding to run a garden. The Community Greenhouse, Food Bank, and Gardens Coordinator are trying to get this start so gardening is part of the schools and maybe someday the School District will have a garden coordinator and incorporate gardening into their curriculum. She passed out a mint starter plant for everyone. She thanked them for the CSBG funds that they use to purchase seeds for starters.

She is also the Executive Director for SLV Habitat for Humanity. They help low income families who are not able to buy homes through a bank or a traditional mortgage to become homeowners. They raise their funds through volunteers, supporters, and the homeowners. They have 13 homeowners. They have had 1 who has paid off their mortgage. They started a project in Creede and they are looking for a homeowner due to their existing one had a change. They are going to build another home in Alamosa hoping to start in the spring.

**Worksession**

*Alamosa County Assessor – Legislation regarding Petitions for Abatements*

**Board/Staff Updates**

**Adjourn**

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

**ATTEST:**

Beibina Ramirez, Administrative Secretary

Carol Osborn, Administrative Assistant

Darius Allen, Chairman

George Wilkinson, Vice-Chair

Mike Yohn, County Commissioner