

Phillips County Commissioner Meeting

October 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Chairman Harlan Stern and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were Commissioners Harlan Stern, Joe Kinnie and Don Lock, County and Administrator Randy Schafer.

A motion was made by Joe Kinnie, seconded by Don Lock, to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2014 meeting as corrected. Motion carried.

The board met with Keith Sagehorn. He has rented the Event Center on November 22, 2014 and would like to serve alcohol. The board approved the use as long as he provides liquor liability insurance and the required alcohol deposit.

The board met with the Weed & Pest Manager Kerri Doleshall to review his six month performance appraisal. Kerri informed the board of the upcoming CWMA meeting December 3rd and 4th in Colorado Springs. There are openings on the State noxious weed board. The board approved Kerri submitting his name for consideration as an appointee.

Phillips County Economic Development (PCED) President Nici Bishop and Executive Director Julie Worley met with the board to present the Economic Development 2015 budget request. They requested that the county annual contribution remain at \$25,500.

The board met with Holyoke Chamber Director Mary Tomky, PCED Director Julie Worley, and Haxtun Chamber representative Barb Schafer. They requested an allotment of \$1,000 in the 2015 county budget for promoting tourism in Phillips County. The board took the request under advisement.

A motion was made by Don Lock, seconded by Joe Kinnie, to approve a step increase for Weed & Pest Manager Kerri Doleshall, having received a satisfactory performance appraisal. He will move to G40 Grade 26, Step 3 at an annual salary of \$33,945.60 (\$2,828.80/month), effective October 1, 2014. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Joe Kinnie, seconded by Don Lock, to approve a step increase for David Reitz, Road Worker for District 1, having received a satisfactory performance appraisal. He will move to RB Grade 16 Step 4 at an annual salary of \$27,747.20 (\$2,312.27/month), effective October 22, 2014. Motion carried.

The board met with Emergency Manager Bob Heldenbrand. He reviewed all the different plans he is working to update. He also outlined his goals for 2015. He and the board discussed the workload for 2015 and Bob indicated he felt it would require a minimum of two (2) days per week. The 2015 EMPG grant will guarantee 50% of last year's salary. The balance of the grant will be based on pay for performance defined goals.

A motion was made by Joe Kinnie, seconded by Don Lock, to pursue EMPG funding for two days per week for 2015. Motion carried.

Randy provided an update for the 125th County celebration scheduled for Sunday, October 12, 2014. The day will include a mini soccer tournament with 3rd and 4th graders representing Amherst, Holyoke, Paoli, and Haxtun, a disc golf tournament, and five (5) storytellers who will relay stories from their early lives in Phillips County. The water feature and bike path will be dedicated as part of the activities. A light meal will be provided during which music by Joe Hall and friends will be playing. Face-painting and an inflatable slide will be available and the Haxtun FFA kid train will be running as well.

This is the deadline to recertify an enterprise zone project. Since the Event Center is finished and has been paid off, it will be dropped as a certified event. The county will apply for approval for the new fairgrounds building project.

There was a brief discussion regarding purchasing land adjacent to the fairgrounds.

A motion was made by Joe Kinnie, seconded by Don Lock, to adopt a resolution to oppose Amendment 68 on the November ballot. Motion carried. A copy is herein attached:

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF AMENDMENT 68

WHEREAS, The State of Colorado, in a General Election in 1991 approved an amendment to the State Constitution allowing, under strict oversight and control, limited stakes gaming for the three historic mining towns of

Blackhawk, Central City and Cripple Creek, and subsequently required individual votes of the electors in those cities for implementation of gaming in their jurisdictions, and

WHEREAS, The voters of Colorado have repeatedly rejected a total of seven (7) attempts to expand gaming to other areas of Colorado, and

WHEREAS, An initiative is being proposed by out-of-state operators to establish casino gambling at horse racetracks (Racinos) in Arapahoe, Mesa and Pueblo Counties and is specifically worded to provide for exclusive permission for only one facility in each of the three counties, instantly creating a regional gambling monopoly for the operators propagating the amendment, and

WHEREAS, The operators currently espousing a massive increase in full-scale casino gambling tried a similar ballot initiative to add Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) slot machine devices at racetracks in 2003, which was overwhelmingly rejected by Colorado voters, and

WHEREAS, The operators are actively misinforming the voters on the impact costs to local subdivisions of government as well as the negative impacts on their constituents. The proponents of the amendment have deftly reinvented the previously rejected ballot issue to be more acceptable to Colorado families by earmarking the tax dollars the casinos may generate entirely to K-12 education funding, and

WHEREAS, None of the 178 school districts in the state of Colorado, as of August 28, 2014, have endorsed the measure, and

WHEREAS, Amendment 68 does not guarantee a revenue stream to help local governments in the impacted communities or finance any additional costs that might arise from the proven fiscal and social impacts of hosting casinos, or provide for a local election to permit the establishment of casinos in their communities, and completely ignores even the most rudimentary concepts of local control. And

WHEREAS, this measure would be devastating to the three existing gaming communities, would create fiscal hardships to the effected communities and would exponentially benefit the current operators of the exclusively qualified, or likely future Racinos who are directly responsible for the aggressive propagation of this initiative,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Phillips County Commissioners hereby resolve to OPPOSE the passage of Amendment 68.

Meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Submitted by Randy Schafer

Phillips County Administrator



Harlan Stern

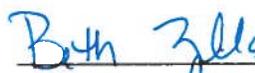


Donald J. Lock



K. Joe Kinnie

Attest:



Beth Zilla, County Clerk