

August 25, 2015

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioner, Washington County Colorado, held at the Courthouse in Akron CO on the 25th day of August, 2015, there were present:

Terry G. Hart, chairman	present
David Foy, commissioner	present
Lea Ann Laybourn, commissioner	present
Garland Wahl, clerk of the board	absent and excused
Peter 'Larry' Vana, county attorney	present
Val Foutz, assistant to BOCC	present

Invocation was given by Mike Kenny, Pastor of Akron Four Square Church

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

It was moved by Commissioner Foy and duly seconded by Commissioner Laybourn to approve the **Agenda with additions**. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Foy and duly seconded by Commissioner Laybourn to approve the **Schedule of Bills for the County** from the General, Road and Bridge, Health Care, TV Translator, Landfill, Capital Expenditure, and Justice Center, payables for August 25, 2015 with a value of \$96,441.28. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Laybourn and duly seconded by Commissioner Foy to ratify the **Schedule of Bills for the County** from the Road and Bridge payables for \$350.00. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Foy and duly seconded by Commissioner Laybourn to approve the **Schedule of Bills for the County** for the August 31, 2015 payroll with a value of \$459,698.09. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Laybourn and duly seconded by Commissioner Foy to approve the **Schedule of Bills for the Nursing Home** for August 25, 2015 with a value of \$43,641.93. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Foy and duly seconded by Commissioner Laybourn to approve the **Schedule of Bills for Pioneer Haven** for August 25, 2015 with a value of \$303.43. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

Brenda Rhea, **Nursing Home Administrator**, reported there were 29 residents today. One resident will move out this week. Training for the new building went well. All the leadership staff attended and one board member attended. Brenda inquired about the Education monies to loan those who want to go to school. One of the employees wants to look at using \$1000.00 at this time. Commissioner Foy said they would prefer the employee get the prerequisites out of the way first. Either way the employee will have to sign a contract to either pay the money back or work for a specified period of time after completing their schooling. Most of the time it is used for CNA training. There is a line item in the Health Care budget for Education.

Brenda reported that Pioneer Haven has one tenant that is moving out so we will see if Jim McCracken can fix up apartment right away. We have someone who is waiting to move in.

Cheryl Lewis, the Nursing Home bookkeeper, is doing well but has more to learn. She is not ready to do billing yet.

Chris Packer asked what the Wern Air check was for. Brenda said the Wern air check was for the walk in freezer, air conditioner and the cooling system on wing A.

Chris Packer, County Administrator:

- Budget packets are ready to hand out. I will give the Commissioners theirs now. The individual departments will only get what applies to them.
- I received an email and letter regarding the federal regulation for sales tax on aviation fuel. It has to be used for aviation related purposes. I have asked the treasurer for the figures from the time we started collecting the tax.
- Nadine Ferris would like to donate a piano to Pioneer Haven. We probably need to dispose of the one that is currently there, since it is not in very good shape.

It was moved by Commissioner Foy and duly seconded by Commissioner Laybourn to accept the **donation** of a piano from Nadine Ferris for **Pioneer Haven**. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Laybourn and duly seconded by Commissioner Foy to dispose of the current piano first by sending an email to Elected Officials and Department Heads to post for their employees stating the piano is free to anyone willing to remove it from the premises. If there is no response, we will then use face book to announce the free piano. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

Chris Packer continued:

- CTSI – Health Insurance meeting is September 17th for next year’s insurance plans and rates.
- Is Board interested in discussing early retirement? – Commissioner Foy wants to look at the information.
- Larry Griese wants a letter of support for Logan County to do topography, to help with the Grant they are applying for.
- Commissioner Foy wanted to inquire from DOLA if there are funds available to build or rebuild a shop.
- The list for license renewals for vehicles was wrong from one of the districts. That led to some trouble in the Clerk’s Office with the State because some of the vin numbers were already licensed to someone else.
 - Chris suggested we start over with our inventory lists to make sure we have the correct inventories.
- We need to start budgeting for the move to the new building.
- Landfill – we need to keep track of upgrading of equipment and compliance issues with the state. Commissioner Foy suggested having Wagner look at rebuilding the compacter vs a new purchase.
- Do we want to look at a baler – we should look at Phillips County, they are closer in size to our landfill.

Attorney:

- I spoke with Larry Berkowitz, 911 Authority Board about W-Y Communications. He said that Feldman, Yuma County Attorney is on board and we are prepared to adopt a resolution. He and I would like to know what the board wants us to do.
- I also spoke with Sheriff Jon Stivers, he said the officer that we have had problems with needs to be suspended for 5 days. Jon feels that in the Sheriff /Justice Department the introductory period should be one year because it takes that long to see if the employee will be a good fit for the job . He would like to have an addition to the personnel manual under the introductory period for the Sheriff's office and Justice Center. We need to eliminate the dual personnel manual.

The Commissioners inspected the Elrick gravel pit on Highway 34 west of Otis today. A substantial amount of gravel has been mined out. The pit appears to be in good shape as far as the current condition of the slope and surrounding area.

Mark Hart, Financial Advisor & Treasurer, Deb Cooper:

- Mark - New York Life is one of the highest rated investments in the world. It does have a 5 year maturity but it also has a 15% liquidity factor, 1.9% interest rate and we can take out the interest anytime. This makes it a gray area when it comes to the definition of fixed asset vs liquidity.
 - We spoke to Cynthia from DORA, she said it could be used with the Prudent Man Standard.
 - It looked like the best plan for the County
 - We were building a bond ladder so the investments would be in the safest position
- Deb Cooper - Read an excerpt from Legal Investments for Colorado Local Governments regarding the guidelines under which they chose their investments
- Chris Packer - If the State says we have to divest the investments with the prepay penalties Mark's company may be liable for the penalties per the audit report.
- The Commissioners asked Mark to write a letter explaining the investments so that if it comes up with the State per the audit report, the investment plan for the county will be explained.
- The Attorney reviewed the statutes for investments CRS 30-10-710. The treasurer must report within 90 days any issue with the audit. They will do that with the letter from Mark Hart.

Elected Officials Meeting:

Present at the **Elected Officials** meeting were: Commissioners – Terry G. Hart, David Foy, Lea Ann Laybourn; Treasurer – Debi Cooper; Sheriff – Jon Stivers; Assessor – Larry Griese; Coroner – Cheryl Kraich; Assistant to the Board – Val Foutz;

- Terry Hart, Chairman - Asked for comments regarding the thoughts on the salary increases proposed by Senate Bill 252?
- Deb Cooper, Treasurer - I talked to other treasurers and some of the other treasurers want to go with 30% because if we do nothing it will go there anyway. About 10 or 12 responded. A few want to petition out and to go to the 10 or 20% increase.

- Larry Griese, Assessor – We are caught between catch 22 whether we can give employees a raise or our position an increase.
- Cheryl Kraich, Coroner – I don't need more myself but to get deputies I would need to offer them more. Where will the increase come from?
- David Foy, Commissioner – Demographically speaking we have the highest salaries of any of the counties in northeast Colorado. All of the elected officials will get the increase in the next 4 years
- Terry Hart, Commissioner - A 20% increase is about \$90,000 to the county.
- Jon Stivers, Sheriff – I am more concerned about my retirement than my take home pay. I have to find a way to keep people here. I keep losing them because of money.
- David Foy, Commissioner – Small counties pointed out that the large counties pull away from the small ones when it is time to go to the legislature. They go for the big change rather than a smaller change.
- David Foy, Commissioner – I can live with the 10%; 20 % is more comparable to the time I spend at the job. If forced to do so 30% I would take it.
- Deb Cooper, Treasurer - Are there any benefits we can increase in lieu of the salary increase.
- Maybe pay the elected officials health care package
- Terry Hart, Commissioner - I would like to look at 20%
- Terry Hart, Chairman called for a straw pole vote of the seven of eight elected officials present on the percentage increase
 - 10%-3 Increase
 - 20%-3 Increase
 - 30%-0
 - 0%-1 No increase

It was moved by Commissioner Foy and duly seconded by Commissioner Laybourn to allow Chairman to sign **Abstract of Assessment** for Assessor. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

Community Resource Center – Larry Worth

- Steering Committee for Rural Philanthropy Days has been in the area recently. Purpose to let NE Colorado know about projects /foundations in the area.
- The plan for Philanthropy Days is as follows
 - Wednesday afternoon-even - social meeting
 - Thursday – Meeting with foundations and Elected officials
 - Friday – Tables with 8 foundations around table. Each presenter will have a few minutes to present their case for funding. Funder may give foundation Red, Yellow or Green light, green being the best score for possible consideration for funding. 20minutes per table for presentations. Then move to another table
- The 2016 meeting will be in Holyoke. They offered the best plan for accommodating the event.
- We are budgeting \$18,000 from 9 Counties and hope to get \$1000 from Washington County.
- Commissioner Laybourn asked specifically what the money is used for.

- Larry Worth replied:
 - It is spent on speakers, or cost of food for the three days and other administrative expenses
 - We will hire an event coordinator, and seek other sponsors such as Anschutz.
 - The total cost is \$35-50k for conference
 - The Registration fee for the event will include the meals. It is usually around \$75.00.

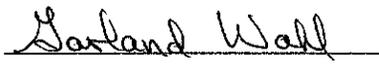
It was moved by Commissioner Laybourn and duly seconded by Commissioner Foy to allow the Chairman to sign the **Farm Service Agency** Form for the Agricultural Risk Coverage - County Option and Price Loss Contract on Farm # 5443 for 2015. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

It was moved by Commissioner Foy and duly seconded by Commissioner Laybourn to allow the Chairman to sign the **Letter to the ASCENT Program** for Keisha Reim. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

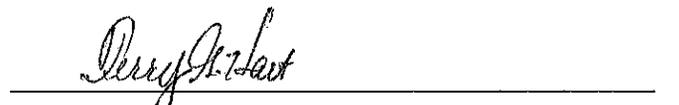
Commissioner Discussion:

- The Landfill needs cover dirt, it was suggested that we try to haul fence row dirt to the landfill.
- Parking Lot trees – Three trees in the south parking lot need to be trimmed or removed after the lightning strike and wind storms.
- Have Jim McCracken get an estimate on trees from the two tree removal companies that are close. One is in Brush, the other in Otis.
- There are other smaller trees that are dead and need to be removed but those can be taken care of with the County equipment and personnel

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.



Val Foutz, Assistant to Board of
Board of County Commissioners



Terry G. Hart, Chairman Board of County Commissioners