

November 10, 2015

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, Washington County Colorado, held at the Courthouse in Akron, Colorado on Tuesday the 10th day of November 2015, there were present:

Terry Hart, Chairman	present
David Foy, commissioner	present
Lea Ann Laybourn, commissioner	present
Garland Wahl, clerk of the board	present
Peter 'Larry' Vana, county attorney	present
Chris Packer, county administrator	present

Commissioners met in a work session until 10:45 a.m.

Invocation was given by Pastor Mike Kenney, Four Square Church.

The 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, and Justice Center, payables for November 10, 2015 with a value of \$48,739.05. 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 November 10, 2015 with a value of \$12,013.30. 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 November 10, 2015 with a value of \$3178.56. 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 **October 20, 2015 Minutes**. 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 **October 27, 2015 Minutes**. 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 **November 3, 2015 Minutes**. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

**Chris Packer, County Administrator Report:**

- Kit Carson County is sending a letter to Colorado Technical Services Inc. (CTSI) asking them if they can change the verbiage in their policy that will pay for a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) exam every year instead of every two years. Some employees have to get physicals every three months and it costs \$100 per physical.
- I've asked the county attorney to write a document for Jim Evans position and others that were discussed with commissioners.

**Sheriff Jon Stivers, Captain Amy Stivers and Under Sheriff, Ken Kimsey** reviewed a proposal for medical management contract at the Justice Center. We are looking at switching from our current provider Health Care Provider, LLC (HCP) and going with Correctional Health Partners (CHP) to save costs and get better services.

The State Sheriff's Association put together a Records Management Manual and it was recommended that the commissioners pass a resolution adopting the use of the manual.

Commissioner Laybourn asked about body cams for officers. Kimsey stated there is no budget for them at the present. We put them in the new budget to purchase some. There are too many strings to go for state funds.

The state will be doing a pre-audit in February 2016 as part of the Prison Elimination Act. It will cost \$50,000 to do the audit. Packer asked about the deficient in cameras in certain areas in the building. Packer said there are funds to purchase half of the sixteen cameras needed. The other half can be purchased next year. Stivers will turn in a Request for Capital Purchase for eight cameras today.

Sheriff stated they were short employees in the jail. Catherine Danner will finish at the academy December 3, 2015 and she will be an asset to the department.

Sheriff stated they will hold off on purchasing radios until the end of the year. It will cost \$4000 for 12 radios. It would help with radios if we had half way towers. 800 MHz radios cost \$3000 each.

Sheriff stated parts can't be found for the intercom system. It will cost \$97,000 to replace the intercom system at the Justice Center.

Sheriff reported that the \$3000 tool bought for Tom Hottinger, maintenance has saved us a lot of money. Hottinger and the new part time maintenance person have cleaned all the connections to the copper before they were hooked together and have done a good job. Green copper should have been put in at the Justice Center but there is red copper out there.

Kimsey ordered more fire sensors. Some showed problems.

It was moved by Commissioner Laybourn and duly seconded by Commissioner Foy to approve the Request for **Capital Purchase for Washington County Justice Center** to purchase eight **new cameras** for the Justice Center for \$23,400. On roll call vote, all votes being yes, the motion passed.

Commissioner Laybourn said she likes the Sheriff's Report on Facebook. Sheriff Stivers reported he also emails the commissioners his report.

Packer asked if all the road officers have cell phones. Kimsey said they don't have enough if they are going to change them all. Packer said he would see that all road officers have cell phones.

**Val Foutz, Zoning Official presentation:**

Foutz had the commissioners review the Road Cut violation letter she is going to send to Kenneth Kuntz for cutting across County Road 41 between County Roads PP and QQ without an application for a permit. Commissioner approved the letter.

Foutz reported she had an inquiry about shipping container home regulations in Washington County. Foutz said she emailed Department of Local Affairs – Housing Division for information. Commissioner Foy suggested she talk to the Planning Commission and see what they come up with.

Foutz said there is Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) training in Pueblo in January.

Present at a **meeting for discussion of roads** were: Commissioners – Terry G. Hart, David Foy, Lea Ann Laybourn; Clerk of the Board – Garland Wahl; County Attorney – Larry Vana; County Administrator – Chris Packer; Road and Bridge Supervisors - District #1 & 2 – Jason Lockard and District #3 – Steve Williams; Citizens - David Gebauer, Dan Gebauer, Marvin Brandon, Rick Jefferson, Ed Basler, Leo Basler, Sumner Rule, and Brad Schrock.

Discussion points are as follows:

- Rain makes some roads impassable and travel difficult for school busses and everyone.
- Why is there a lack of gravel?

It takes up to a year to get through paperwork to open a gravel pit. Washington County doesn't have many good pits. Some pits have small gravel and it just sinks into the dirt.

- Haven't seen gravel taken out of Starlin pit in a long time and we are close to that pit.
- We need roads fixed.
- Are there enough employees to do the job of taking care of the roads?
- Would it help to increase pay for employees – don't pay much - don't take pride in work. Farmers that worked part-time for the road department took pride in their work – they lived in the area.

Many of those employees retired and some districts have a crew that averages four years of experience. It takes a long time to train a new employee.

- Appears there is a lack or disconnect of employees and road bosses. Do employees understand what their main job is?

Some understand and some don't.

- Would it help to bump wages or pay for insurance? You just get someone broken in and they move. Talked to the sheriff and he has the same problem.

Commissioners gave a good size raise in 2015 to the employees. Have to figure in benefits also. Take home pay is \$29,800.

- Hauling gravel 40 miles takes forever.

One road district is working on accumulating materials to do a mixture of adobe and rock. Will do three miles and see if it works. To get rock delivered here is expensive. Commissioners talked to Railroad about putting a side car to hold rock so we are looking at all alternatives.

- Pulling an employee off a maintainer to mow doesn't help either.

An employee drives truck, runs the maintainer, does the graveling and takes care of mowing. When we rebuild a road they have more to do. Have hired additional employees but don't know if there will ever be enough. This year it was so wet we couldn't do anything then it was so dry we couldn't do anything.

- Have you considered spraying roads instead of mowing?

One district has had good luck with doing that by spraying with a 6' boom. Another district hired a certified sprayer but he got sick. Grinding concrete and putting it on as a good road base is a possibility.

- There would need to be a good magnet on equipment after roads would have the cement put on the roads to get the mesh wire off the roads to prevent flat tires.
- Each district has own road boss. Heard two districts have one boss – how is that working?

Kit Carson and Phillips Counties have one road boss and three foremen and Morgan County has one road boss and has been successful. Phillips County in its entirety is the size of 'one' of Washington County's Road District. The two districts that combined can use six trucks instead of three, buy in bulk but has the same things going on. Districts are still driving the same amount of miles. Washington County has 2700 road miles. We get HUTF funds and have to keep track of road and lane miles.

- Ultimately the commissioners are the bosses. Washington County has more road miles than other counties do they need three road bosses.

Each road district has a foreman. They report to the road supervisors and the road supervisors report to the Commissioners. The supervisors and district foreman work weekends to keep up with paperwork. There is a new person coming in January that will do a lot of the paperwork for the road foremen. One commissioner checks regularly with the UPS man and the UPS man reported that compared to other counties Washington County Roads are good with the exception of the County Road north of Clines. This is a graveling year. Some districts try to do 70 miles a year and have done 62 miles so far this year. Typically mowing is done in the fall and graveling is done in the spring.

- Would it help to hire a contractor to get caught up?

There are contingency funds that we could pull some of the reserves and hire additional people. Commercial Drivers Licenses (CDL) are getting harder to get. Road and Bridge requires a CDL for employment. This is the first time in a long time that we have had thirty-three employees. We have good equipment and we have a bookkeeper coming to help with the paperwork.

- Road supervisors weren't hired to do paperwork.
- There's a pipeline coming through part of the county – use some of the money from that.

Revenues won't be realized until 2017 or 2018 from the pipeline. County could see some revenues from sub stations. They are state assessed. Oil and Gas in Washington County has been huge but it is fading away. Road crews spent six months in the Messex area of the county after the South Platte flood and it hurt other areas. The moisture was appreciated this year and gave us a process to work out ruts.

- There are culverts that have been cut or are just gone.

Nursing Home Board members – Roma Brandau, Ruby Rinker, Rex Pieper, Colleen Johnson, Carol Benjamin, and Maggie Eskew, presentation:

- August 2014 the Nursing Home Board was asked to submit names for the Green House Project units and streets.
- Nursing Home Board presented names and what each name means to present a community feeling. The names are to be home names and get away from a nursing home feel.
- Nursing Home Board came up with Heritage Lane, Harvest, High Prairie, Harmony, and Homestead.
- The board was under the impression it would save the Commissioners time. The board put a lot of time in on this and thought their opinion would be valued otherwise why would they, a board appointed by the commissioners, have been asked to do something that they don't have the lead on.
- Why did the commissioners ask for everyone to give their opinion at the fair?

Commissioner Hart said the names all sound the same. A decision won't be made until March 2016.

- Word on the street is that the units will have the names of old school districts.

Commissioner Foy said the old school names came from other citizens. The commissioners asked Chris Packer to get a copy of minutes from the Health Care Board with the names and send to them. Commissioner Laybourn said he did.

- The Nursing Home Board would like to have an open meeting so they could get more information to the people. People think the Green House name is a place to grow marijuana.
- It would be nice to call the homes by name rather than refer to them as 1 -2 - 3 - 4 or A - B - C - D. Commissioner Laybourn agreed that the units need names for articles to go in the paper.
- Nursing Home board had Commissioner Laybourn and Hart's word that we liked those names.

Commissioner Laybourn said she was ashamed she didn't remember the names but it was in 2014 that she heard them.

Packer said he goes to the construction meetings and the farthest thing from their mind is naming the units. Nothing has ever come to me about putting articles in the paper. The Nursing Home board is being petty about this. How many of our homes have names. I do fully agree that each home needs to have a name. Right now the contractor goes by the address of the building 556, 555, 554, and 553. The Town of Akron has to have naming rights on streets. Packer said he told the Town they would have to maintain the streets and that the county attorney and the town attorney would work together on a resolution. Commissioner Laybourn agreed that the county can't name the streets. Laybourn had told Johnson to talk to the Town. Johnson talked to the Town and at the time she talked to them the Town was looking at the access to the units to be private drives because of the size of the access as shown on the drawings were too small for equipment to maintain.

- The Nursing Home board is trying to get the residents excited about the new facility. The board would like to put pictures in the paper and it would be nice to start putting names of buildings in the resident's heads. Benjamin has attended Green House Project training session on promoting the project. The idea of community not just Washington County is what the board is trying to achieve.

County Attorney, Larry Vana suggested that a public hearing be set and have the advisory committee make their presentation and make a recommendation.

- High Prairie is the name of a former school.
- The Nursing Home Board has talked to the public and the public likes the names.

Hearing will be November 24, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

- Members of the Nursing Home Board take their job seriously.
- Nursing Home Board asked about a statement from a commissioner in the paper about Washington County residents having first chance at residing in the new Nursing Home. Packer said he had multiple issues with that quote.
- Nursing Home Board would like to keep Wagon Wheel logo for the new facility.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Garland Wahl  
Garland Wahl, Clerk of the Board

Terry G. Hart  
Terry G. Hart, Chairman Board of County Commissioners