

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, November 18, 2008 with the following present:

Sam Pace, Chairman  
Mike Spearman, Vice Chairman  
Linda Joseph, Commissioner  
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney  
Lyn Zimmer, Co-Administrator  
Melinda Myers, Secretary and Clerk to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pace at 9:02 A.M.

Under Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:

1. Executive Session for legal matters.

**Joseph moved to approve the agenda as amended. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:09 A. M. for legal purposes under CRS 24-6-402 (4)(b). Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Spearman moved to return to regular session at 9: 28 A. M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Reading and approval of minutes:

**Joseph moved to approve the minutes of November 12, 2008. Spearman seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Review of Mail: No mail

**Introduction of Guests:** Matie Belle Lakish – Crestone Eagle; Matt Hildner – Pueblo Chieftain; Teresa Bennis – Center Dispatch; Clem Gasseling; Bilk Folk; Lisa Cyriacks – CBPC; Dara Blumenhein & Suzanne Foote – Manitou Foundation; Charlie Warren – Moffat School Superintendent; Marc Diament; Kim Smoyer & Steph Steffens – ScSEED; Don Geddes; Dale & May Engquist, Kitty Broadbent, JoAnne Kiser, Jennifer Thomson – WPC; Lorraine Davis; Bruce Blodgett, Bonnie Orkow – SLVCA; Vince & Mary Palermo – CSI; Kathryn Van Note – COEM; Will Porter.

## **Commissioners' Reports-Updates of Meetings:**

**Sam Pace** reported:

- November 16 - Attended the 2009 Budget Work Session with County Dept. Heads.

**Spearman moved to approve \$3,000 of General Funds to partner with the Governor's Energy Office in the Insulate Colorado Program, in an effort to promote energy conservation. Pace seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to partner with the GEO for a scholarship to attend an energy audit training program, up to \$1,100, and publish a request for letters of interest from San Luis Valley residents. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Met with Hew Hallock of the Governors Energy Office and Jason Anderson to discuss partnering to do an energy auditing program, Insulate Colorado Program, and possibly other solar energy partnerships. Commitment for matching funds is on deadline for this program.

**Mike Spearman** reported:

- November 16 - Attended the 2009 Budget Work Session with County Dept. Heads.

**Linda Joseph** reported:

- Nov 13 - Attended the SLV RETAC (Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Council) in Monte Vista. Randy Kuykendall, the State's Chief of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Section, reported on the Governor supported initiative to bring legislation that would change Title 42, which established the funding base for Emergency Services in the late 1980s, to come from a \$1 fee on Motor vehicle registrations, to \$2. They are seeking bipartisan sponsorship, ideally 2 Senators and 2 Representatives, with as many co-sponsors as possible. Jeanne Marie Bakehouse, who heads up the State grants program for emergency services presented on changes in the grant program for 2009. Prior grant recipients who have not kept up with data reporting will be ineligible. This applies to one Dept. in Saguache County; follow-up is needed.
- Nov 14 - Contacted CCI to learn if there are any opportunities at this late date for the Title 42 initiative to be presented to Commissioners during the Winter conference.
- Nov 14 - Attended the Crestone/Baca Annexation meeting where the feasibility consultant presented his findings. During clarification of issues, the subject of

road maintenance is a significant budget issue. The Town would need to take responsibility for certain roads to achieve the necessary "flagpole" configuration in order to annex. But, everyone agree that the County would be best to maintain those roads, and that this could be done through an IGA. Randy Arredondo can update us on his thinking regarding the roads involved.

- November 15 - Attended the ScSEED Annual Board meeting.
- November 16 - Attended the 2009 Budget Work Session with County Dept. Heads.

**Lynn Zimmer** - CO-Administrator report:

- Marc Diament with Marc Diament Architecture, PC will be in today to discuss possible projects for Saguache County. Mr. Diament has helped other Colorado communities with grants to upgrade/construct buildings. Handouts provided.
- Sales Tax letters and checks have been sent.
- Budget for 2008 outlook has been improved by sales tax grant for the Library and additional grant coming in for Nursing.

**Spearman moved to accept the recommendation of the Insurance Committee to contract with Genesis for employee insurance for 2009. Joseph seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Insurance committee is recommending changing to the Genesis Company for the county employee insurance.

Break

**Sue Gallegos** – Land Use report:

**Pace moved to declare that the Saguache County Board of County Commissioners does not have the legal authority at this time to declare the two footpaths up Cottonwood and Spanish Creeks where they cross private property as public access trails. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was two Ayes and one abstention.**

- RS2477 request decision. Spearman expressed the hope that the concerned groups continue the dialogue to reach a consensus and offered to participate. Joseph pointed to the collaborative efforts to deal with interim management issues associated with the National Park, which recently meant to discuss issues with hunter/camper parking at the temporary Liberty Gate access. The Baca Mt. Tract EA scoping process is the next step in that larger process.

**Joseph moved to approve the Lot Consolidation for Julia Vailey Voss on Baca Grande Chalet Unit I, Lots 2100 & 2101. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Julia Vailey Voss – Lot Consolidation request for Baca Grande Chalet Unit One Lots 2100 and 2101. CBPC recommended approval of this request during their regular meeting on November 12, 2008.

**Joseph moved to approve the Lot Consolidation for Henry Weier Muller and Elizabeth Ann Rosen on Baca Grande Chalet Unit I, Lots 1979 & 980. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Henry Weier Mueller and Elizabeth Ann Rosen – Lot Consolidation request for Baca Grande Chalet Unit One Lots 1979 and 1980. CBPC recommended approval of this request during their regular meeting on November 12, 2008.

**Ben Gibbons – Attorney report:**

- Lexam exploratory wells on the Baca Wildlife Refuge issues need to be addressed. Gibbons can send a letter to Lexam to request a permit from Saguache County.
- There is no money in the attorney budget for outside litigation and the Board needs to look at that for future budget.

**Joseph moved to enter into Executive Session at 11:35 A. M. for personnel purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(i) and for legal purposes under CRS 24-6-402 (4)(b). Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Spearman moved to return to regular session at 11:52 A. M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Jail Tour

Adjourned for lunch at 12:00 P.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1:03 P.M.

**Randal Arredondo – Supervisor Road & Bridge and Land fill report:**

- Town of Crestone has requested some of the rejected soil material from the landfill to bed the new waterlines. The County offers that material to the general public at no cost – so there would be no problem donating it to the town. They also inquired about having the county haul it, which would have to be worked out in an IGA and would not be a bid.
- Arredondo has worked out agreements with some landowners to remove brush close to the road to alleviate drifting problems on roads. This would entail County equipment on private land, but for County purposes.
- Attended the Annexation meeting in Crestone, and recommends that the County retains ownership and/or maintenance of the main roads in the Baca.

- Has received several proposals from Jessica DeBoe on setting up new recycling programs in conjunction with the schools. The students would collect and sort the materials into trailers, which would be picked up by the county and hauled to the landfill. She has researched getting grants for the trailers, and also a baler.
- Spearman spoke to a county resident who hauled his trash to the landfill after he called first to make sure that it was open. However, when he showed up and it was closed due to high winds. Arredondo will put a message on the answering machine that high winds could cause closure.
- Has been baling aluminum and rebuilding the recycle bins.

**Donna Newsom** - Nursing Director

- The Colorado Development Block Grant application for the Public Health Building acquisition has been sent to DOLA. The Environmental Impact Study is complete and will be sent today to DOLA following the meeting. We have been advised that the funding for this project should occur in December. The owner of the property has agreed to repair the sewer line from the building to the city main prior to completion of the sale.
- The lease arrangement with Valley Wide for space in the Haskins Building began Nov, 1, 2008. Valley Wide has agreed to replace the carpet in the building following a water leak that occurred over a week end. It apparently was caused by a faucet left on by the Valley Wide cleaning crew.
- Ileen Rivale and Pearl Brewer have completed the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey process with three school districts. The survey results will be back in February and should reveal much needed data for sustainability funding as well as project planning for the coalition. Jeannie Norris the Director of Social Services has informed the Prevention Coalition that her department can provide future “brain development trainings” with funding from TANF. This is a much needed training as the Prevention Team continues to educate the public and other stakeholders in the community. This demonstrates the much needed buy in within a county department and Mrs. Norris leadership is much appreciated.
- The PCP Agency completed a training class this month. Fourteen personal care providers were certified. This is the first training that included CPR and AED certification. The PCP’s were introduced to the Chronic Disease classes being offered by Saguache County Public Health. These classes will be promoted throughout the county and will become the wave of the future in public health. The agency currently has 106 active clients.
- The Chronic Disease staff attended a statewide chronic disease management conference hosted by CDPHE. Saguache County was highlighted by the CDPHE chronic disease team as forward thinking in our planning and training staff to teach these evidenced based classes. Newsom attended the funding break out and received valuable grant information from several sources. We will be submitting a grant to allow for growth and sustainability for our wellness initiatives’ as well as diabetes and chronic disease management. The indications from CDPHE and others demonstrate that this will be the direction of public health within Colorado as well as the nation in the next decade. As we in public health complete our goals for 2009, they will reflect this. Our main goal is to be poised for growth of these

programs as we strive to have a healthier county. As of May 2008, SCPH has begun offering support groups for diabetes, asthma and soon arthritis. These groups are being conducted in Spanish as well. Our bilingual staff member will be trained in March by CDPHE for outreach for our disparate Latino population. This is an important milestone as we seek funding for our programs.

- Nursing Service has given 457 influenza vaccinations. We will continue providing vaccinations throughout November and December or until the vaccine is gone.
- The newly formed Health Care Coalition held a meeting at Public Health in October. The coalition continues to focus on pandemic influenza planning and medical surge capacity within the county. The SLV EPR team is assisting with this vital planning.
- Epidemiology Report: Two reported cases of Varicella have been reported both in school age children from the Center area. There are no reported cases of influenza in the county or the SLV. It is sporadic within the state.
- Public Hearing on the DOLA Grant for the Nursing

#### **Penny Bruce** - Library Administrator:

##### Programs –

- Headstart story hour started in September and has happened every week, with the exception of two weeks when the school was closed for repairs in October.
- TeenReads book club continues to hold meetings every two weeks, on the average, with attendance ranging from one to three kids. This program has turned out to be a great way to explore all the new (and old) literature that's geared for the Junior or Young Adult reader, with both students and librarian discovering some great new reading, we've read more than 20 books so far.
- We have just learned of a program offered by Neilsen Library at Adams State which brings computer classes to local communities and we hope to contact them this week.
- The Library will be hosting a meeting of the Community Greenhouse and Garden Project next week, and continues to host the monthly meetings of the Saguache Book Club and the Friends of the Library. Has also partnered up with ScSEED to research grants and do library advocacy.
- Will be attending the Saguache Downtown Revitalization planning meeting.
- Food for Thought "Bookmobile" for the Seniors is going well and several seniors are now frequenting the library.

##### Fund-raising

- The Gates Foundation Grant money has been spent, the new computers are up and running, and all but one survey has been completed which will fulfill the reporting obligations entailed in accepting the grant.
- The Library was awarded \$1,000 through a grant from the Wal-Mart Corp. This is

money that can be spent for any library expenses and comes from their Community Giving program.

- The Friends of the Library raised \$300 at their Pumpkin Baked Sale at the Fall Festival and their letter asking for donations was mailed out in October to every library patron. The cost of the mailing was only \$25 for postage, as everything else was donated, and the Friends have already received \$200 in response.
- We were pleased once again that the Commissioners chose to accept our proposal for the Sales Tax Revenue grant and we're gratified to have your continued support for our efforts.
- We have sent a letter of intent to the Helen and Arthur Johnson Foundation and they will advise us after their December meeting if we are a suitable candidate to receive their funding. If so, we'll then be writing a full proposal.
- We have applied for a Picture America grant from the NEH, which would provide us with twenty reversible posters showing works by American artists.
- We also applied for a grant from the Staples Foundation and we should be hearing from them in January.

#### Other News

- Head Librarian Mondragon was advised that she needed to use some vacation hours before the year's end and she's taken two short trips, with a little more time off to come. Just two years ago, when this happened, the Library was forced to close its doors every Friday in the month of December, which frustrated our patrons a great deal. We're truly thankful that this year, there is enough funding for the part-time staff to substitute in her absence and the Library can stay open during all scheduled hours.
- The new co-chairwoman for the Friends, Marge Hoglin, and Library Administrator Bruce have requested a meeting with Lyn Zimmer to clarify some of the Library Dept.'s budget process, specifically how revenue for the Library is earmarked for spending, and we hope to get together soon to resolve our questions.

**Chella Coleman** - Housing Director:

**Pace moved to convene as the Housing Board at 2:42 P.M. Joseph seconded. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved to adjourn the Housing Board and return to regular meeting at 2:58 P.M. Joseph seconded. The vote was three Ayes.**

Break

**Marc Diament** – Architect

- Works with rural communities to help secure funding for projects. He had spoken to Wendi Maez and thought he might offer his services. He had ideas on energy efficiency, lighting, new buildings and other possibilities. Mr. Diament offers to complete building inventories and needs assessments, and helps match those to sources of funding, with an interest in implementing projects funded. The Board took this offer under advisement and will revisit the topic.

**Stephanie Steffens and Kim Smoyer** – Economic Development Task Force update

- Reported on the Economic Development Task Force, the consistent core of which has been people on the ScSEED board, the small business representatives, and Tourism Council. The Credit Union has recently joined in. ScSEED presented a working draft MOU to officially designate ScSEED as the County's non-profit partner in economic development initiatives.
- Details of how this partnership might work were discussed, and basic roles defined. A working session was proposed for the future.

**Kitty Broadbent** – Water Protection Coalition:

- WPC requests that the County require the oil & gas regulations to apply to Lexam's exploratory well. They feel the County has jurisdictional authority in three main areas:

Emergency management

Hazmat transport

Road and bridge usage

The Board reiterated their position on asking for a full EIS as has been communicated to the State and the Federal agencies in earlier rounds of comment. WPC has applied a FOIA request for the documents around the EA and will forward them to the Board. After reviewing these documents, the Board will decide if further action should be taken.

- Attorney Gibbons will send Lexam a letter that a permit is needed before drilling can proceed.

Bill Paying

**Spearman moved to adjourn at 5:47 P.M. Joseph seconded. The vote was three Ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted

Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved December 9, 2008

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Chairman of the Board

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Attest

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Commissioner

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Commissioner