

SAGUACHE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Ken Anderson, at 9:00 A.M., with the Following members present:

Ken Anderson, Commissioner, Board Chair
Jason Anderson, Commissioner
Tim Lovato, Commissioner
Wendi Maez, County Administrator
Dominique White, for Trish Gilbert, Clerk to the Board

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Board Chair, Ken Anderson, invited those in attendance to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:

1. Wendi Maez added Lynette Grant under Administration time.
2. Land Use Interim Discussion during Land Use time.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED
SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON**

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Reading and Approval of Minutes:

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE
DECEMBER 10, 2019 REGULAR SESSION MEETING AS AMENDED
SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Review of Mail and Other Correspondence: 12/17/2019

1. **Board of Assessment Appeals, State of Colorado** sent a Notice of Hearing. (Received December 13, 2019)

Introduction of Guests:

Sandia Belgrade
Paul O'Connor
Kenneth L. Skoglund
Peggy Godfrey

Emmy Savage
David Lee
Elinor Laurie
JoAnne Kisen
Tristram Post

Public Comment:

Adoption of 2020 Mill Levy Certification

COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON RESEND HIS MOTION FROM DECEMBER 10, 2019 MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON RECERTIFIED FOR 2020 A TOTAL ASSESSED VALUATION OF \$77,668,371 FOR SAGUACHE COUNTY, COLORADO WHEREAS THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF SAGUACHE COUNTY COLORADO FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020 REQUIRES THE GENERATION OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUE FOR THE VARIOUS COUNTY FUNDS. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND AUTHORIZED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SAGUACHE COUNTY COLORADO THAT A PROPERTY TAX LEVY OF 18.831 FOR THE GENERAL FUND IS APPROVED, THAT A PROPERTY TAX LEVY OF 3.200 FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICE FUND IS APPROVED, THAT A PROPERTY TAX LEVY OF .500 FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH FUND IS APPROVED AND THAT AN ABATEMENT TAX LEVY OF .009 FOR GENERAL FUND IS APPROVED; AND THAT THE TOTAL MILL LEVY FOR THESE THREE FUNDS WILL BE 22.540 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO ACCEPT THE CERTIFICATION OF MILL LEVIES AND REVENUES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2020 FOR SAGUACHE COUNTY – SEE SUMMARY SHEET ON RESOLUTION

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Returned from Break at 10:05 A.M.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Jason Anderson

12/11 – Attended the Commissioners Work Session.

12/12 – Submitted a photo from Crestone for the CCI “Colorado All One” Project.

12/13 – Attended a meeting with Wendi Maez, County Administrator and Linda Warsh, Social Services Director. The purpose was to address an action plan for issues defined by the state from a state review. Received notice from Pam Rice of the Great Sand Dunes National Park of the Elk Management Meeting on January 30.

Attended the Saguache County Holiday dinner.

Attended a Holiday Dinner in Crestone.

Received information that the Eastern San Luis Valley Trails Coalition received a grant from the Gates Family Foundation for \$10,000 completing the required match of \$125,000 for the SRTS funds for the Baca Trail.

Tim Lovato

12/11 – Attended the presentation from Wet Lands Dynamic on the Closed Basin Project, in reference to the data they have compiled on the over pumping and the impact to the northern end of Saguache County. We also had a discussion on the Employee Handbook and the revisions but have not received critiques from the Department Heads and Elected Officials.

Picked up the wreaths for Wreaths Across America.

12/12 – Met with Jim Clare to discuss the various by-laws that the San Luis Valley All Hazards has been issued and yet they have not been adopted.

Attended the 4-H Achievement night

12/13 – Attended the Saguache County Sheriff's Holiday party at the Oasis. Individuals from the Sheriff's Office were recognized for their years of service and heroism in the line of duty.

12/14 – Drove County Road LL-56 and the employees have done a great job with snow removal. It's good to see the amount of moisture we have received so far this winter.

I, along with Andrew Martinez and Gretchen Nelson put wreaths out at the Crestone Cemetery. Tony and Jerry Mondragon put wreaths at Chicago Cemetery. There were over 330 wreaths put out in Saguache County. .

12/11 – 12/15 – Received several calls from constituents on Thanking the Commissioners on their decision to not give ownership of a portion of County Road 59.

Ken Anderson

12/11 – Attended the Commissioners Work Session. We had discussion about the Northern end of the closed basin. We also went over the board policies and employee handbook.

12/12 – Attended 4-H Achievement Night in Alamosa.

12/12 – Attended the Saguache County Road and Bridge Christmas Party, it was well attended and the food was good.

12/14 – Attended the Sheriffs Christmas Party at the Oasis. The Sheriff presented achievements for his employees.

12/15 – Attended the hospital event in Alamosa. The money collected will be used for pediatrics.

12/16 – Attended the DRG and COG Christmas get together.

Returned from break at 10:05 A.M.

LINDA WARSH, DIRECTOR, SOCIAL SERVICES, Report Attached

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO GO INTO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Warsh presented the report for program expenditures on behalf of Saguache County Clients. Warsh is currently working on the audit from the state. Warsh stated they will be doing Sharing Christmas this week, they will be giving gifts and meals to Center, KV and Saguache.

Commissioner Jason Anderson asked Warsh if she has seen the new proposed Snap Regulations in the new Farm Bill and how it would affect the County.

Warsh stated it would affect us because it is based more on workforce. It would also affect outreach.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO COME OUT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

EVAN SAMORA, HOUSING DIRECTOR

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON TO GO INTO THE BOARD OF HOUSING

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON TO COME OUT OF THE BOARD OF HOUSING

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

RANDAL ARREDONDO, SUPERVISOR, ROAD AND BRIDGE

Arredondo presented bids for fuel and propane for 2020.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON TO APPROVE THE BID FROM ALTA FUELS FOR THE COUNTY FUELS FOR 2020 AND MONTE VISTA CO-OP FOR PROPANE FOR 2020

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

WENDI MAEZ, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Report Attached

1. Lynette Grant – CTC Employee Pay

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO GO INTO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Grant stated that back in January of 2019, under the CTC program there were two children that filled out their applications to work as youth volunteers. They didn't actually get hired until May of 2019. In

October 2019 the mother sent an email stating they want all the money for all the times they worked from May to October. Grant stated they didn't know these two children were a part of the program and that a new CTC Coordinator was instated. The timesheets and paperwork had been signed off on by the previous coordinator. Grant cannot verify the work they've done. Gloria Quintana is now working on bylaws, but they are not yet in place.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO PAY THE TWO CTC YOUTH EMPLOYEES \$1,920 TO OCTOBER 31ST THE REMAINING BALANCE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER WITH ADEQUATE DOCUMENTATION OF SERVICES WILL BE REVIEWED IN 2020

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Jason Anderson stated there has been multiple conversations about the CTC program. Anderson felt like this was a good program, in 2019 his decision is wavering.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO COME OUT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH
SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON**

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

2. Northern Saguache County Library District Yearly Appointments.

- Amy Garoutte – Saguache
- Lucia Waterman – Crestone
- Debra Westra – At – Large

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON FOR THE 2020 – 2021 NORTHERN SAGUACHE COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT APPOINTMENTS TO APPOINT AMY GAROUTTE – SAGUACHE, LUCIA WATERMAN – CRESTONE, AND DEBRA WESTRA – AT LARGE

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

3. Request from Veterans Officer for an Emergency Sales tax Grant in the amount of \$2,000.
MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON TO APPROVE THE EMERGENCY SALES TAX GRANT FOR \$2,000 AND REQUIRED PROOF OF DOCUMENTATION OF DISPERSAL OF THE FUNDS UPDATE AT THE NEXT MEETING

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

4. 2019 Budget Amendments

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO ALLOW ROAD AND BRIDGE TO SPEND \$115,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 2019 JOHN DEERE 410 AND A HALF TON PICK UP TO ADD TO THE ROAD AND BRIDGE FLEET

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Returned from lunch at 1:00 P.M.

WENDI MAEZ, LAND USE ADMINISTRATOR, Report Attached

1. Oakhorn, LLC, yearly review, 48256 County Road T. Code Enforcement has completed the site inspection on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

Alejandro Heredia, Code Enforcement Officer stated when he inspected this property viewed everything in order as approved. Buildings are in the correct location and the square footage matches. Water Meters were installed and there is a security and DVR room. Parking is in the correct location and septic has been approved. The non-cannabis greenhouse has not begun construction yet.

2. Thor's Mountain Limited, Yearly Review, 33766 County Road 58-EE. Code Enforcement has completed the site inspection on November 14, 2019 at 2:00 P.M. Currently, there are no buildings or greenhouses construction, all is still under construction. One of the buildings and greenhouses are up and when production begins, Mr. Heredia plans on visiting the property to insure compliance. Water Meters are installed, security and DVR room will be installed as construction proceeds, lighting and shading will be installed as construction proceeds and septic has been installed, but it is waiting for final approval.

Alejandro Heredia, Code Enforcement Officer stated when he inspected this property there were not any buildings or greenhouses built but the layout did match. The square footage matched and septic was approved. Parking was in the correct place.

Heredia stated he will be going to County Road Z to give a "Red Tag". Two of the greenhouses are emitting a lot of light and have had three different opportunities to bring their buildings into compliance. We have received multiple complaints about the light. They will have 48 hours to come into compliance.

Interim Land Use Administrator

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON TO APPOINT AMBER WILSON AS INTERIM LAND USE ADMINISTRATOR WITH ALL RESPONSIBILITIES AND MOVE HER PAY TO \$18.00 AN HOUR

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Emmy Savage, Closed Basin Project letter of support request

Peggy Godfrey Saguache County one of the representatives on the Rio Grande Water Board stated they are asking for a letter of support from the Commissioners to recommend Wetlands Dynamics be invited to the Rio Grande Water Conservation District's next work session to present the study they have conducted at the northern end of Saguache County on the Closed Basin Project wells. This is a Federal project; the water rights belong to the water conservation district. The wells are called Salvage Wells but there is nothing to salvage. The Rio Grande Canal brought in water from the Rio Grande to use for flood irrigation, the water table was brought up to the surface and it was saturated in the past. The salvage project was used for recycling water back into the Rio Grande through drainage ditches. There was too

much nitrogen in the ditches therefore they had to filter the water. Eventually the groundwater dropped and the salvage water no longer was filling the ditches. Rain is not salvage water. We are working towards everyone playing by the same rules, which they are not at the moment. Commissioner Jason Anderson stated the Board is willing to sign a support letter and will get the letter to the RGWCD before their next work session.

Tristram Post, Public Lands

Post stated that Montrose Forest Products is hauling down the 855 Road. Baxter should be starting to operate in Cecilia. We were able to sell two small units of timber worth \$182.00. Firewood and Christmas tree tags are still available but will expire at the end of the month. There were unauthorized cows running around South Carnero Creek, the cows are gone, but there are still four horses running around. Those owners have been issued a ticket.

Budget Amendment

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON FOR 2019 BUDGET AMENDMENT AS NECESSITATED BY THE GENERAL FUND, ROAD AND BRIDGE, PUBLIC HEALTH, CONSERVATION TRUST, SALES TAX, AND TOURISM FUNDS NOT APPROVED AT THE TIME OF THE 2019 BUDGET ADOPTION IN DECEMBER 2018, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SAGUACHE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THAT THE 2019 APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE GENERAL FUND, ROAD AND BRIDGE, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND TOURISM FUNDS ARE HEREBY INCREASED OR DECREASED AS SHOWN ON THE ATTACHED FORMS IN ORDER TO MEET THOSE EXPENDITURES WITHIN THE 2019 SAGUACHE COUNTY BUDGET

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION FOR SUPPORTING THE CONTINUATION OF RAILROAD SERVICE AND RAILROAD ACTIVITY WITHIN SAGUACHE COUNTY AND THE SAN LUIS VALLEY

SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Commissioner Tim Lovato suggested having the Code Enforcement Officer, Alejandro Heredia, start driving by the airport and taking care of it. No further discussion or approval given.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO TO GIVE ALEJANDRO HEREDIA, CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER THE AGREED UPON \$1 AN HOUR INCREASE EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1ST FOR 2019

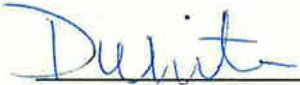
SECOND BY COMMISSIONER JASON ANDERSON

VOTES IN FAVOR: 3

VOTES AGAINST: 0

MOTION CARRIED

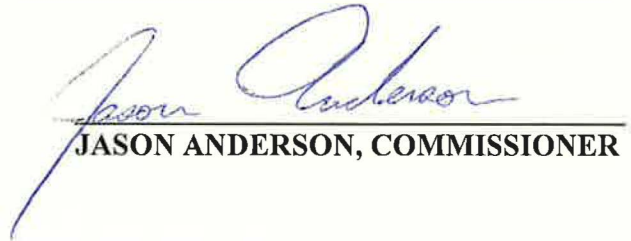
Seeing no further business, Commissioner Ken Anderson adjourns the meeting at 2:55 P.M.
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



**DOMINIQUE WHITE FOR
TRISH GILBERT, CLERK & RECORDER**

DATE MINUTES APPROVED: January 7, 2019



**KEN ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER,
BOARD CHAIR**

JASON ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

TIM LOVATO, COMMISSIONER

**ATTEST
TRISH GILBERT
CLERK & RECORDER**

