

**SAGUACHE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR SESSION MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

Ken Anderson, Commissioner  
Tim Lovato, Commissioner  
Wendi Maez, County Administrator  
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney  
Dominique White, for Trish Gilbert, Clerk to the Board

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:**

1. Gibbons requested an Executive Session for Personnel during the meeting.
2. Maez requested an Executive Session for Personnel during the meeting.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 21, 2020 REGULAR SESSION MEETING AS AMENDED**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Review of Mail and Other Correspondence: 08/04/2020**

1. **La Puente** sent this month's newsletter. (Received July 24, 2020)
2. **The Colorado Division of Property Taxation Department of Local Affairs** sent a final tax exemption determination regarding Calvary Baptist Church, 2160 Sherman Ave. Legal Description Lots 13-14-15-16-17-18 Block 10, Centerview, Center CO. 325 South Warden Street. Property Tax Exemption request granted. (Received July 21, 2020)
3. **Saguache Combined Court** sent the Quiet Title Action paperwork notice. (Received July 24, 2020)
4. **The Secretary of the Interior Washington** sent an Executive Order on Building and Rebuilding Monuments to American Heroes. (Received July 27, 2020)

5. **Gunnison Conservation District** sent volume 39 of the Range Rider Newsletter. (Received July 30, 2020)
6. **The Colorado Division of Property Taxation Department of Local Affairs** sent a final tax exemption determination regarding Sufi Way, PO Box 720 Crestone, CO 81131. Legal Description Baca Grande Chalet Unit One Lot 641C. Property Tax Exemption request was granted. (Received July 21, 2020)
7. **The Colorado Division of Property Taxation Department of Local Affairs** sent a final tax exemption determination regarding Sufi Way, PO Box 720 Crestone, CO 81131. Legal Description Baca Grande Chalet Unit One Lot 638C. Property Tax Exemption request was granted. (Received July 21, 2020)

Introduction of Guests:

Sandia Belgrade  
Jim Vanderpool  
Steven Johnson  
Peter May  
Keven McConaughay  
Corez Hines  
Christina Lakish  
Clinton Brown  
Chris White

Public Comment:

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

**Tim Lovato:**

7/23 – I received several calls on requests to grade several County Roads as they are very rough and, in some places, they need gravel. I received the OEM Capital Outlay submitted by the County Administrator.

7/24 – I reviewed the financial plan for the Department of Social Services. I also received the MOA from the SLV Regional Emergency Group and spoke with the Colorado Homeland coordinator for this region.

7/27 – I reviewed the DSS financial plan and attended the SLV All Hazards Regional update for the past week and the status for various groups in the valley.

7/28 – I was made aware of the resignation of Linda Warsh, director of Social Services, effective Monday July 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 P.M. I had discussions with the two commissioners and the Saguache County Attorney, Ben Gibbons. I spoke with Housing Director, Evan Samora, on concerns he had with a tenant. I attended the Forum on Rio Grande State of the Basin from 5:20 until 7:20 P.M.

7/29 – Spoke with David Wykoff from the Pitch Mine Project near Sargents and Mr. Wykoff will give the commissioners a presentation on the 11<sup>th</sup>, on their proposal for changing the status of Marshall Creek.

7/30 – I received a request from Mrs. Cathy Garcia needing information to attend the August 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. I returned several calls on the conditions of the county roads and lack of maintenance.

8/1 – I attended the SLV All Hazards update. I received a call from Mr. David Frees inquiring if there was a need for hand sanitizer, as there are donations from a company in Houston through Homeland Security.

**Ken Anderson**

Drove up to La Garita to see the markers of the 10 acres that are supposed to be blocked out.

Drove some roads, things are looking good. There was a good rain last week.

BEN GIBBONS, COUNTY ATTORNEY:

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL PER C.R.S 24-6-402(4)(f)(I) INVOLVING MAINTENANCE**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Returned from Executive Session at 10:06 A.M.

Janet Beiriger, Public Health Report

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO GO INTO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

There are 108 cases, no active at this time.

There is a case of Chronic Hep B.

New CDC recommendations, 24 hours fever free, symptom free for release of isolation.

Harvest Fresh outbreak is officially closed.

Maez presented car bids and stated the Public Health is severely out of storage room.

Commissioner Lovato suggested holding off and getting more bids for a vehicle.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO COME OUT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Trish Gilbert, Clerk & Recorder – Desert Sage Liquor License Renewal**

Hilltop Unlimited Inc doing business as the Desert Sage

1. Application has been received
2. No violations per Sheriff's Report
3. Required fees have been paid

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE APPLICATION FOR DESERT SAGE FOR RENEWAL**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO APPROVE THE SALARY INCREASE FOR THE ELECTION JUDGES AND THE EXPENDITURES FOR EQUIPMENT AND OTHER**

**EXPENDITURES (BALLOT DROP BOX - \$5,500, EQUIPMENT AND OTHER MATERIALS- \$6,500, COMMUNICATIONS - \$1,100, AND PPE - \$700.)**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:**

**RANDAL ARREDONDO, ROAD & BRIDGE SUPERVISOR:**

Arredondo gave the update for July's Road and Bridge work and the Road and Bridge plan for this August's work.

Road and Bridge has had 8 employees resign in the last few weeks.

Work is being done to pave roads and blading of county roads.

**DAN WARWICK, COUNTY SHERIFF:**

Warwick requested the County Fire Ban be lifted; due to all the moisture we have received lately.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO REMOVE THE FIRE BAN IN SAGUACHE COUNTY**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Warwick stated he is looking to purchase a new commercial dryer.

Warwick went to Archuleta County's to review their new jail and suggested that the Commissioners go and look to get an idea of what Saguache County's jail is lacking.

The patrol side is down 4 employees and the jail side are down 5 employees, Warwick stated it is primarily the financial aspect.

Jason Medina, Small Business Development Center – Discussion concerning help to support Saguache County Businesses. Medina requested the Board review an MOU that would help with local Saguache County businesses.

There is a representative in Saguache County to help with rural businesses.

A local business office will include everyone.

SBDC would fund the local business office.

Medina will present an MOU to the attorney for review.

Returned from lunch at 12:58 P.M.

**AMBER WILSON, LAND USE ADMINISTRATOR, Report Attached:**

1. County Owned Lot Bids

- Baca Grande Unit One, Lot 410 – Minimum Bid is \$4,000. We previously received two bids with the same exact amount for this property. Both parties submitted bids again for this property.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE BID OF \$5,100 FOR**

**BACA GRANDE LOT 410 SUBMITTED BY JUSTIN BILANCIERI**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Wilson stated there has been Medical Marijuana licenses. Last Strip LLC is surrendering their Medical License only. Northern Gateway Holdings has surrendered all Saguache County licenses.

WENDI MAEZ, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, Report Attached:

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE AGREEMENT FOR THE STEPP GRANT WITH RIO GRANDE COUNTY**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

1. Discussion concerning OEM/ Code Enforcement/ Road and Bridge vehicle exchange. The Board directed Maez to follow through with the vehicle exchange.

2. Review of bids for the air conditioner installation at the Saguache Clinic.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM STEPHAN PLUMBING AND HEATING FOR THE WEST SIDE OF THE SAGUACHE CLINIC OF \$4, 445 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN AIR CONDITIONER UNIT TO BE PAID FROM CARES ACT FUNDS**

**SECOND BY TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

3. Review of bids for the remaining desks/tables for the BOCC Meeting room.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE BID OF \$3,800 FOR A RECORDERS DESK, EQUIPMENT TABLE, AND PRESENTERS DECK FROM BLUE EARTH DESIGNS**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. PayScale has been sent to the Department Heads for discussion on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Forest Service Title III Project Proposal Request Review.

Projects received are Daniel Johnson, Saguache County FireWise Program, Kundalini Fire Management and the Community Firewood Project.

Keven McConnaughay spoke on behalf of Daniel Johnson with the Saguache County FireWise Program. Keven stated that the work and mitigation that they are doing is vital to the whole valley. The funding is going to keep everyone employed. "We have a long way to go and the funding is going to help with future projects."

Jim Vanderpool stated that they are all doing the same job. It is very important to keep these projects going. They are understaffed because there are not enough funds to hire people, which is what the funds would help with.

Christina Lakish that they are taking the wood that gets created through the mitigation projects and giving it to elderly or disabled people who need wood. The main goal is to remove fuel. The funding will help with bills that Christina and Corcz have and will also allow them to help many more people. Corez stated they get a lot of support from the fire department and the fire mitigation program. With the help they can help out more people.

Peter May stated that he has been doing this since around 1996. May's goal is to be able to teach people safety, to get out of a fire, and to have a plan.

The Board approved all three proposals and directed Maez to advertise all of the requests.

Social Service Update

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER KEN ANDERSON TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF LINDA WARSH, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR EFFECTIVE JULY 27, 2020**

**SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TIM LOVATO**

**VOTES IN FAVOR: 2**

**VOTES AGAINST: 0**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Clint Brown, Highway 285 Mile Marker 114 -119 Speed Reduction Request

Brown requested support from the Commissioner to request a reduction in speed on Highway 285 Mile Marker 114-119.

There have been 5 fatalities this year and multiple semi-truck crashes. Brown will provide the Commissioners a petition to give to CDOT at their meeting.

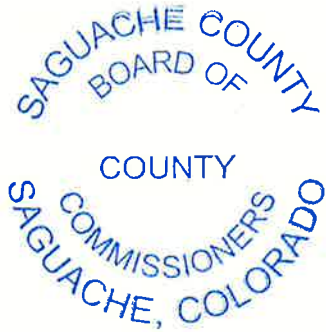
Seeing no further business, Commissioner Tim Lovato adjourns the meeting at 2:24 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

*Debit*

DOMINIQUE WHITE FOR  
TRISH GILBERT, CLERK & RECORDER

DATE MINUTES APPROVED: August 18, 2020



*Jason Anderson*

JASON ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER,  
BOARD CHAIR

*Ken Anderson*

KEN ANDERSON, COMMISSIONER

*Tim Lovato*

TIM LOVATO, COMMISSIONER

*Trish Gilbert*

ATTEST  
TRISH GILBERT  
CLERK & RECORDER

