

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, NOVEMBER 21, 2006**

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTER COUNTY MET IN
REGULAR SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dick Downey	Chairman
Kit Shy	Vice-chair
Dale Hoag	Commissioner
Ric Ferron	County Administrator
Debbie Livengood	Clerk to the Board

Also present were: Carole Custer/Commissioner Elect, Nora Drenner, Clint Engelhart, and Dave Trujillo.

Mel Porth met with the board in reference to a grant that the Town of Westcliffe is applying for. According to Mr. Porth, the town is applying for a grant through DOLA to purchase some vacant ground across from All Aboard Westcliffe on Rosita Street to be used as a parking lot for the town. The purchase price for the property is \$180,000.00. All Aboard Westcliffe has agreed to donate \$3,000.00 of in kind work to the project and was soliciting to the county to also make an in kind donation. They would like the county to donate labor and machine time to the project. This would consist of doing the dirt work needed to get ready for road base, and spreading the base. If the county is willing to make an inkind donation, the Town of Westcliffe needs a letter from them stating what the dollar amount of the labor and machinery time is worth so that it may be attached to the application. Clint Englehart, the Road & Bridge Supervisor, who was also present, stated that he did not have a problem with helping with the project. The Board also agreed that they had no problem with the in kind donation. However, they did want Clint and Dave to go look at the location and project a dollar amount as accurately as possible before a letter is written to the town.

Jean Mavromatis met with the Board to give her monthly report. She reported that the county has received funds from STEPP in the amount of \$24,515.63 and from ADAD in the amount of \$5,000.00. There has been a "Quit Line" available for those seeking help throughout Colorado to find out more information on how to quite tobacco use. In our county, for the month of August, there were eight calls made, and in September, there were an additional six calls made. According to Jean, this is a high turnout for our size county. There are 20-27% of individuals across Colorado attempting to stop tobacco use. Jean also conducted a survey of the Smoke Free Colorado Law that went into effect this summer. According to the information she received, the Silver Dome Saloon reports that their business has dropped 50% since the law went into effect. Poag Mahones's Irish Pub reports that they have seen an estimated 35% increase in their business since July 1st. Also reported was that Mr. Synar who is a tobacco code enforcement agent for our county reported that all the business in Custer County have been in compliance in selling tobacco products since December 20, 2004.

Donna McDonnall met with the Board to give the Public Health Nurse Report. There was only one child immunization given in the month of October; twenty-two adult immunizations were given; eighty-one flu shots given at the clinic; ten flu shots given to homebound individuals; and twenty-five health screenings were done. There was also a reportable illness of bubonic plague reported. Donna reported it to the regional epidemiologist. According to Donna, the plague was reported in three cats owned by one couple. She has been to the couple's home and investigated the reported area for nearby neighbors and prairie dog infestation. Neither was found to be problematic. She will revisit the area in one month to evaluate the trap system that was put in place in the area.

The "Vaccine for Children Audit" that was done October 4th by Debra Zmbrano from the VFC department went very well. This audit included patient records, our Colorado Immunization Information System input, our policies and procedures, and vaccine storage. There was only one problem that was identified. There was no temperature log posted on the refrigerator door in the medicine room of the clinic. Since the audit, Donna has placed an approved temperature log on the refrigerator door and clinic personnel have agreed to assist with twice-a-day recording.

The "Mass Vaccination Exercise" that was held on November 4th went very well. There were nine-hundred, thirty-three shots given that day, along with forty pneumonia and twenty-seven tetanus shots. The Custer County Community Foundation funded the flu vaccine exercise, with a total of \$13,000.00. On hand that day were personnel to handle traffic control inside the building, volunteers to give out forms, cashiers, vaccinators, the posse checked photo ID's, and guarded the vaccine storage unit as recommended by the CDPHE. The Red Cross brought the Emergency Response Vehicle at no cost to the county and distributed refreshments. In addition they helped with the first aid station. The Emergency Response and Preparedness evaluators from CDPHE reported it was an awesome volunteer effort. Their evaluation of our exercise was very positive.

Donna will give the county disaster plan to Chuck Ippolito for placement on the website perhaps as a .PDF.LINK.

Other issues that Donna wanted to discuss were as follows:

- She wanted to thank the Board for allowing Gail Stoltzfus to help her give child vaccinations.
- She is looking for volunteer help in the office. Her paper work is piling up and she believes it is a better use of her time to render nursing services to the clients and manage grants then spend time filing and scheduling.
- The ERP personnel agreed to pay a \$100.00 stipend to twenty health professionals and other volunteers who rendered exceptional service with our mass immunization clinic. The final approval for this stipend has not been received yet.
- ERP also donated an additional \$1,000.00 to the immunization exercise. Food, drinks, and snacks were purchased with these funds.

- Tonda Scott withdrew her application for consideration for the open position for county health nurse.

Brian Cline, the Planning and Zoning Interim, and Chuck Ippolito, met with the Board and updated them on the GIS and E-911 mapping project. Chuck advised that we would need to buy some software for our GPS instruments to update and obtain new data. Chuck will also be attending a training class in the use of the GPS equipment and will then train the zoning office personnel on how to use the equipment so they can begin taking GPS readings when they do site visits and various zoning inspections.

The Board met with Elizabeth French to discuss a personnel issue. When the Board explained to Elizabeth what issues were going to be discussed, they asked if she would prefer this meeting to be in executive session, or a open meeting. She chose to have an open meeting.

County Administrator, Ric Ferron, stated that he was directed by the Board to do an investigation into some complaints that the Board had received on Elizabeth's actions in the office. There were three contractors and an owner of a local campground that had expressed concerns about they way they were being treated, information that was given in error, permits that were not done in a timely matter, wrongful information that was given to a realtor, along with workman comp issues. Elizabeth was then asked if she had any comments she would like to make. When Ric stated the complaints that were made, he made no mention of anyone's names; however, when Elizabeth commented on each issue she identified the person(s) that she thought might have made the complaint and what she remembered each instance being. Her comments are as follows:

- Aspen Acres Campground / wrongful information to a realtor – In the conversation with Elizabeth, the individual(s) was talking about turning the area into a hotel, resort, or condominiums. Elizabeth commented that they probably could not get the water for that kind of project.
- Andy Kagan / drawing/sketch – Andy presented a drawing to Elizabeth concerning the height of his building. She told him it was not correct and he needed to do a new drawing. He was upset and left. When he returned he had the same drawing. They were discussing the drawing when Christy came into the main office and reviewed the sketch. She then resolved the problem.
- Ron Keyston / wrong information – Elizabeth gave him the paperwork that he needed to fill out for a permit. When he brought it back to the office, there was no perc test with it, so she told him it was incomplete. He was very upset. At the time of telling him it was incomplete, she did not realize he was doing a replacement system, and there was already a septic system in place. Because it was a replacement, there was no perc test needed.
- Chris Work also reported that it took way too long to get a permit issued. Elizabeth was unresponsive, but when he brought the issue to Christy, she dealt with it right away.
- Workman's Comp Issue / not able to file – Elizabeth told Christy verbally that she could go back to filing. Christy stated that she needed something in writing

before she would allow her to go back to normal activities. Elizabeth called yesterday (November 20th) and had the doctor's office fax a release form that was then given to Christy. When asked by the Board why she waited so long to give something in writing to Christy, she replied that she thought that the doctor's office would send the county something. The release was dated October 24th.

Elizabeth then asked why she was not told sooner that there was a problem. Commissioner Downey responded by stating, that when there are allegations made concerning an individual, there needs to be an investigation done. That is what the Board directed Ric to do before we met with you.

The Board suggested that Elizabeth, Christy, and Ric all meet together and go over Elizabeth's job description so she would be very clear on her duties. They strongly suggested that she only answer individual's general questions and not offer any advice or technical information.

Commissioner Hoag made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shy to have all documentation of this meeting put into Elizabeth's personnel file and have this meeting be noted as a reprimand. Ric and Christy were directed to put together a corrective plan of action that will be presented to the Board in two weeks for their approval. This will also become a part of Elizabeth's personnel file. Motion carried unanimously.

Elizabeth informed the Board that she would like to be more involved with the different areas of the zoning office (compliance, septic inspections, etc.).

Being no further business, the Board adjourned at 2:20pm.