

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, JULY 31, 2007**

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

Dick Downey	Chairman
Kit Shy	Vice-Chairman
Carole Custer	Commissioner
Kelley Camper	Deputy Clerk to the Board

Also present was Nora Drenner, reporter for the Wet Mountain Tribune.

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 AM and the pledge was recited.

County payroll and accounts payable were approved from the following funds:

County General	\$183,209.88
Road & Bridge	\$ 88,798.71
Emergency Services	\$ 11,432.82
Social Service Dept.	\$ 15,224.48
Capital Improvement	<u>\$ 9,185.92</u>
Total	\$307,851.81

Rusty Christensen, Landfill Manager, met with the commissioners to discuss several items. Rusty requested that when the county has a holiday on a Monday, that the landfill be closed on the previous Saturday, so that they may have a three-day weekend also.

He reported that the roll-off dumpster is in. He intends to put lids on it, and an axle under it so that it can be pulled around. Rusty said that by having the dumpster, and getting rid of the dump truck, they will eliminate gas, oil and maintenance time and money.

A gentleman who is doing demolition work on a building in Walsenburg, contacted Rusty about the possibility of using the landfill to dispose of material from the demolition. The man was preparing his bid for the project and needed a price from Rusty on what the County would charge him to use the landfill. Rusty quoted him a price of \$10.00 per square cubic yard. Rusty said this could generate \$10,000.00 for the county. Commissioner Shy asked Rusty whether or not the material to be put in our landfill would include any hazardous waste. We do not accept any material that includes any hazardous waste. Rusty assured the commissioners that there would be no hazardous waste accepted from this demolition material.

Rusty is going to try to start covering the pit in September, before winter. The state has to approve two new gas-monitoring wells before they can be drilled. The state also needs to approve the one water well that Rusty would like to abandon.

Rusty would also like a place in the Courthouse where he could access the internet with his laptop computer. This would allow him to contact the state and engineers more easily. Commissioner Shy suggested the commissioner's room with the wireless internet and access to the printer. Commissioner Custer offered to assist Rusty in setting up the connections.

Rusty also reported that the scrapper is getting old, and maintenance on it is costly. Each tire costs approximately \$4,000.00, and a new transmission will cost around \$20,000.00. Rusty suggested that the county lease a scrapper for one month out of the year, possibly June, for any of the digging that they need to do, and keeping the old scrapper to cover pits and any other odd jobs during the rest of the year. This would save wear and tear on the old scrapper so that maybe it will last a little longer. Commissioner Downey told Rusty to find out if a scrapper would be available in June. Commissioner Shy told Rusty to check on prices and turnaround time, and then get back to them.

Rusty again asked the Commissioners for permission to close the landfill on the Saturday prior to a Monday holiday. After some discussion, the Commissioners agreed to try closing the landfill on a trial basis for the Labor Day holiday coming up in September. Rusty agreed to make sure to get signs put up so that people will know that the landfill will be closed on Saturday, September 1, 2007. Nora Drenner, reporter for the Wet Mountain Tribune, agreed to put an announcement in the paper.

Commissioner Custer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Downey, to close the landfill on the Saturday prior to Labor Day in order to provide the landfill employees a three-day weekend the same as the other county employees with the understanding that the commissioners will re-evaluate the policy after Labor Day. Motion carried.

Commissioner Custer asked Rusty to start making a list of suggestions and recommendations regarding future changes that he would like to see at the landfill. Commissioner Custer, with input from other departments, will be preparing a planning grant to submit to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs in December.

Roy Masinton, Ken Smith and Joe Vieira, members of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) staff, met with the Commissioners to discuss the Arkansas River Travel Management Plan, part of which encompasses the north half of Custer County. The total area that the plan covers is 532,000 acres, of which 244,000 acres are BLM. Currently, the public is free to access any existing roads. The plan will close some roads and limit motorized travel to designated roads. The BLM has held several meetings in order to gain the public's input into this plan. They want to take care of public needs, but at the same time, limit resource damage. There is only a small amount of BLM lands in Custer County, many of which are surrounded by private properties, which makes them not legally accessible to the public. Therefore, the plan does not include any significant road closures in Custer County. The only proposed road closure is an existing road from Bull Domingo Ranch to BLM. New trails have grown from this existing road into the Grape Creek Wilderness Study Area. In order to protect the Wilderness Study Area, these roads will be closed.

Roy informed the Board that the BLM is applying for a grant to remove the public restrooms that the BLM has at Lake DeWeese. These restrooms are no longer usable so they want to remove them. The BLM is hoping that the Department of Wildlife will come in after they are removed, and replace them with other restrooms.

Jerry Lacy and Amber Hansen, with the Veterans Service Office, along with five other community members and members of the American Legion, met with the Commissioners. Jerry & Amber reported that the Veterans Affairs Town Meeting that our Custer County American Legion Post 170 coordinated recently and held at the school went over well. A total of thirty presenters from various veterans' service agencies and approximately eighty participants attended. The American Legion had a box lunch available for attendees for \$5.00.

Commissioner Custer asked Amber to provide her with a list of the presenters, so they could be acknowledged. Commissioner Custer also pointed out that in the future, it is important that the Veterans Service Office, in their monthly report, inform the Board of County Commissioners when they are planning events in the county.

Amber provided a Veterans Service Officer job description and a list of anticipated Veteran's Service Office (VSO) operating expenses for 2008, for the BOCC to review. The total projected operating expenses are \$7,620.00, and that includes a state match of \$2,400.00. They are asking the county to fund the remaining \$5,220.00. Commissioner Custer pointed out that the county might be able to help with office space if a grant the county has applied for is successful.

Commissioner Shy asked Jerry about other funding sources for the Custer County VSO. Commissioner Shy also asked Amber to contact Governor Ritter regarding potential new state legislation that would support county maintained VSO's throughout Colorado.

Elizabeth French and Jackie Hobby, both with Planning & Zoning, met with the Board regarding a plan to support implementing 2-1-1 services in the county. Commissioner Custer had asked Elizabeth if she would be interested in serving as Custer County's 2-1-1 representative. When Elizabeth indicated she had an interest, Commissioner Custer confirmed with her supervisor that this was o.k. The 2-1-1 responsibilities would be in addition to the duties she performs as Administrative Assistant for the Planning and Zoning Department. Elizabeth said she has enough time, and is looking forward to doing the 2-1-1. The 2-1-1 duties will include:

1. Reviewing the current 2-1-1 Custer County database to ensure its accuracy.
2. Updating that database to reflect current information regarding that agency or service.
3. Transmitting the updated information in the format requested by the 2-1-1 call center in Pueblo.
4. Adding agencies and services to the Custer County database.
5. Maintaining the Custer County 2-1-1 database.
6. Tracking the usage of the 2-1-1 services on a quarterly basis and providing a report to the BOCC.

Commissioner Downey asked Elizabeth how much time she would have to work on the 2-1-1 project above her zoning duties. Elizabeth responded that she will be able to work on the 2-1-1 during times when she does not have a zoning responsibility. Commissioner Shy asked Elizabeth to keep track of the time and expense she puts into the 2-1-1 duties to track the amount of time the job will take. Jackie asked the Commissioners to compensate Elizabeth for the time

she works on 2-1-1. Commissioner Downey pointed out that when an employee is taking on an entirely new job, that is the time to reevaluate an increase in pay. If the employee is just adding additional duties to an existing job, that doesn't automatically justify an increase in compensation. Commissioner Custer pointed out that if a supervisor or employer ask an employee to add additional duties to an existing job description, and it benefits the organization, the employee should be compensated. Commissioner Shy pointed out that in the last year, both Elizabeth and Jackie have gone above and beyond their assignments in the Planning and Zoning Department, and they need to receive compensation for that. This issue is a discussion topic for an upcoming BOCC meeting.

Commissioner Shy made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Downey, to recess for lunch. Motion carried. Meeting was recessed at 12:15 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 1:35 PM.

Upon reconvening, Commissioner Downey discussed his participation on the CCI Legislative Committee and asked the other commissioners about his continuing role as the Custer County BOCC representative to that committee.

Commissioner Custer made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Shy, that Commissioner Downey remains as Legislative Committee member. Motion carried.

A Geographic Information System (GIS) request was then made by Chuck Ippolito, IT Director/GIS Coordinator. Also in attendance were Brian Clince, Planning & Zoning Trainee, and Jackie Hobby, Planning and Zoning Deputy Director. The group met with the Board to request that Chuck and Brian attend the "GIS In The Rockies" conference in Denver on September 12 and 13, 2007. Chuck pointed out that their participation in this conference supports the County in implementing the GIS. Chuck presented a preliminary budget that included conference fees, travel, lodging and meals for two attendees at under \$1,000.00. Part of the funding will come out of Chuck's budget and the balance will come out of the Planning and Zoning budget. The Commissioners approved the proposal and budget request for Chuck and Brian to represent the county at this conference.

Dave Trujillo, Road and Bridge Supervisor, met with the Board to give his monthly report.

Work completed:

- Blade patching CR 255, Rosita Rd, Horn, Macy & Schoolfield Rd
- Set up pump on Grape Creek and pumping
- Road count on CR 255
- Graded CR 323, 191, 192, 254, 271, Muddy, Alpine and Willow

Work planned:

- Chip seal Rosita Rd. and Wetmore; 4 miles total, start Aug. 6 – Aug. 9
- Grade
- Hand patching

Dave told the Commissioners that the next road count is scheduled to be taken on Rosita Road and the upper part of County Road 255. Commissioner Custer requested to have more road counts done so the BOCC will have new and updated totals to present at the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Program Grant Application Hearing that will be held in Custer County in October 2007.

Dave reported that the Peterbilt truck at the Wetmore Road and Bridge Shop has a blown engine. Dave doesn't think that they will be ready to have the August 11th Open House that was scheduled in Wetmore to promote the mil levy increase. They have been going over the bridges in Wetmore to see what needs to be done to upgrade them. He discussed the possibility of applying for a grant to help get the bridges updated.

The cost for the asphalt for the blade patching was \$53,219.36. They will start hand patching soon, and Dave estimates the cost for that to be about \$5,000.00. They will start chip sealing on Monday, August 6th.

Dave hired Randy Myers and will be hiring one more new employee. Commissioner Downey reminded Dave that he needs to run a background check on Randy and whomever else he hires, to insure that the new employees have and meet the required CDL endorsements to operate county equipment.

Sue Hutton met with the Commissioners to discuss changes in a DOLA grant application from the Wet Mountain Clinic. Previously, Chris Riggs had asked the Commissioners for a letter of support for a grant that the clinic was applying for to get a new ambulance. Sue reported that the Clinic is no longer applying for that grant, so they will not need that letter of support. Instead they are applying for a grant for clinic supplies, and are asking for a letter of support for that grant. Commissioners Downey informed Sue that he would like to talk with Deb Downs, before he commits to providing a letter of support, to insure that a BOCC letter of support for the Clinic's grant would not in any way jeopardize the county's DOLA grant application. Commissioner Custer asked, as a matter of BOCC policy, to see the Clinic's grant application, before a letter of support. Commissioner Custer reiterated Commissioner Downey's concern about jeopardizing the county's grant application to DOLA.

Sue reported that she, as Silver Cliff Town Clerk, and Kathy Reis, as Westcliffe Town Clerk, would like for the five entities (Custer County, Westcliffe, Silver Cliff, the Fire Department and the clinic) that will be involved with the DOLA grant hearing that will be held in Westcliffe this coming October, to have a reception prior to the hearings. They would like for each entity to contribute \$300.00 towards this reception. Commissioner Downey asked if contributing towards this reception would be in conflict with Amendment 41. Commissioner Custer will contact CCI regarding this.

Sue also reported that Charles and Dorothy Bogle had gone to a state trails meeting and they will be asking for a letter of support for a trail grant application. Sue is still working toward a comprehensive trails system connecting parks and open space between the two towns Silver Cliff and Westcliffe and the valley floor. She said there is a group of youth, called Colorado Legends

and Legacies that will help with the construction if they are provided with the equipment and a place to stay.

Rhoda Reid and Jack Canterbury, both members of the Fair Board; and Suzie Coleman, a 4-H and FFA parent, met with the Board to discuss the Premises ID program and the issues that citizens have with requiring county 4-H and FFA youth to comply. Also in the audience were Karen Crumbaker, CSU Extension Director; Beverly Goertz, Extension Office Manager; Roy Gillmore, Fair Board member; and Lia Coleman, 4-H and FFA member. The Premises ID program was initiated by the USDA as a way to track animal movement when there is an outbreak of illness. Initially, the USDA made the program mandatory, but sometime last fall, decided to make it voluntary. The Colorado State University (CSU) 4-H and FFA programs have made this a mandatory program in order to show livestock. Jack feels the Premises ID requires youth to register property that they don't own in order to remain and participate in 4-H or FFA. Jack, Rhoda and Suzie feel that by making this program mandatory, the 4-H and FFA will loose members. They would like for the Commissioners to adopt a resolution against mandatory Premises ID registration for 4-H and FFA members.

Commissioner Downey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Custer, to draft a resolution that is not against Premises ID itself, but against making it mandatory for 4-H and FFA kids because it will affect participation in the 4-H and FFA programs. Motion carried.

(See attached resolution # 07-08)

Rhoda asked the Commissioners if they would support a Custer County Fair, instead of a 4-H and FFA Fair, if CSU continued to make Premises ID a mandatory program. The Commissioners all agreed that something would have to be done differently so as not to exclude county children and youth from showing their animals and participating in competitions at the Custer County Fair.

Kaye Rocheleau, the Useful Public Service (UPS) Coordinator, met with the Commissioners to give the county UPS report. Also present was Linda Swift, the previous UPS Coordinator. Kaye informed the Commissioners that she had received a scholarship to attend the 2007 Colorado Alternative Sentencing Program Annual Conference in Pagosa Springs on October 2 and 3, 2007.

Kaye provided a financial report for February 1, 2007 thru July 31, 2007. Commissioner Shy asked about the line item for long distance phone calls. Kaye replied that she has to call defendants that live outside the local calling area and she also provides services to defendants that transfer here from other counties. Linda reported that the UPS program basically pays for itself. All the fees that are taken in from defendants pay for Kaye's salary, benefits and operating expenses. Every defendant has to pay a fee for UPS, and some defendants pay a fine on top of that.

Being no further business, the Board adjourned at 4:00 PM.

CUSTER COUNTY RESOLUTION # 07-08

A Resolution of the Commissioners of the County of Custer, State of Colorado, opposing mandatory premises registration for Colorado's 4-H and FFA programs.

WHEREAS, the Director of 4-H Youth Development Programs at Colorado State University has implemented mandatory premises registration for all Colorado 4-H livestock project animals (beef and dairy cattle, sheep, swine, goat, poultry, llama and horse);

WHEREAS, 4-H and FFA are voluntary programs that, by law, must be administered without prejudice or discrimination;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's proposed national animal identification system is voluntary and has not been mandated by Congress;

WHEREAS, premises registration is still in debate both nationally and locally; and

WHEREAS, the application of premises registration as a requirement for county and state fair participation may cause a decrease in local 4-H and FFA enrollment.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners of Custer County, State of Colorado, is presently opposed to the premises ID program being mandatory for 4-H and FFA participation in the Custer County Fair.

Approved and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2007 by the board of County Commissioners for Custer County.

Dick Downey, Chairman

Attest:

Debbie Livengood, Clerk & Recorder