

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 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

Meeting was called to order at 8:40am.

Present in the audience at the beginning of the meeting were:

Nora Drenner – Wet Mountain Tribune reporter
Alan Urban

Commissioner Hoag made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shy to renew the liquor license for the Lodge at San Isabel. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hoag made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shy to approve the request from “The Friends of Beckwith Ranch” for a special events liquor license to hold a fundraiser at the Beckwith Ranch on May 27th. Motion carried unanimously.

Chuck Ippolito met with the Board to update them on the computers in the courthouse. The following items were brought to the attention of the Board:

- ❖ There is a \$2,500.00 maintenance fee due on the GIS software.
- ❖ Chuck is currently working on a tracking system for the sheriff’s office. Craig has asked him to create a program that will allow the office to track individual names with case files. This program would also allow past history to be added into the system.
- ❖ Chuck will be notifying at least three vendors to request information on their equipment that would be comparable to ACS, along with price quotes.
- ❖ Chuck is continuing to work on internet service to the Social Service Office and the Treasurer’s Office.
- ❖ Chuck has not contacted the Economic Development Committee concerning a website yet. Commissioner Shy suggested that Chuck visit with Cindi Howard since she is involved with the Economic Development Committee as well the Chamber of Commerce.
- ❖ Chuck is continuing to maintain the computers in the Zoning Office.
- ❖ Chuck is going to check with each individual office and update their anti-virus program on their computers if needed.

The Board asked to Chuck to contact Vince Jordan with Ridgeview Tel concerning internet service to the Road & Bridge Department.

Chuck has been in contact with Xerox Company concerning an overcharge to the county of \$4,476.21. Xerox has confirmed that there was a billing error and they will be issuing a credit. The Board asked Chuck to contact their billing department and notify them that the county would like a refund, not a credit to their account.

Hal Julson, Susan Frostman, and Robert Gilchrist, representing “Dark Skies”, met with the Board. Mr. Gilchrist shared with the Board that this organization has been receiving complaints about light pollution in the county. Dark Skies would like to see the county adopt an ordinance that would regulate residents and businesses to limit direct illumination by sources of 100 watts or greater to the confines of their own property. They explained to the Board that their efforts have been to educate and help fund the cost of hooding lights in the county. They shared their latest project of hooding the lights at the Round Mountain water treatment plant north of Westcliffe, along with an example of what they would like to see adopted in an ordinance. Commissioner Shy suggested that their organization participate in the public meeting on February 28th concerning building codes since this is where an issue of this kind would be found. Commissioner Downey asked Ric to contact Saguache and Chaffee counties to see if they could get a copy of their ordinances to review.

Office of Emergency Management Director, Craig Feldmann, met with the Board to give his monthly report. Craig has been working on the Home Security Grant and asked for more consolets from the law enforcement side of the grant. This would allow additional dispatch channels on the console at the Sheriff’s Office.

Commissioner Downey asked about the future availability of federal and state funding. Craig noted the information that he got, was that much of the funding was going to dry up and that what money was available would be prioritized to larger communities. Craig advised the Board that he is filling out paper work to try to recover funding that was not properly filed for in the past year. He also explained the process for the EMPG funding for the next year. The fact that Craig is a county employee increases some of the incoming funds. The total request for this grant cycle is \$50,920.00. Under the CERT grant, he will be paying an administrator to run the Citizens Corp, due to the fact that as a first responder, he cannot run the program. The Citizens Corp will consist of emergency medical, fire, and sheriff posse members. The CERT grant will be separate from the OEM funds.

Jim Johnson, representing Horn Creek Conference Center, informed the Board that Horn Creek is willing to financially help the county with road maintenance to Horn Creek. Mr. Johnson advised the Board that in December of 2005, his board authorized him to make contributions to the county in the amount of \$2,500.00 per month, for a total of four months, beginning in June of this year. He also updated the board on their efforts to upgrade their water acquisition plans.

Mr. Johnson also said that it was his opinion that a proposed lodging tax would apply to Horn Creek, and as a county citizen, he felt the idea was reasonable. Horn Creek spends a substantial amount of money a year on marketing and advertising and feels this also “markets” the county. Other items of interest Jim shared were the fact that Horn Creek is currently raising money for improvements to their facility. The total cost will be approx. 5 to 7 million dollars.

Mr. Johnson indicated to Commissioner Shy that he would support and help with a Pike Interpretive sign near the intersection of Horn and Macey.

Commissioner Shy made a motion seconded by Commissioner Hoag to approve the minutes of January 31st, February 6th and 7th as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hoag made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shy to transfer \$1,331.95 (interest earned on money) from the County General Fund to the Conservation Trust Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hoag made a motion seconded by Commissioner Shy to transfer \$9,865.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund to the County General Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed the elected officials salary survey and decided to address it once the legislation has ran its course.

Tim Christenson, representing DLR Architects, along with Fred Jobe, met with the Board to discuss the possibility of building a justice center or expanding the current jail facilities. Mr. Christenson has offered to do a half-day workshop with all interested parties to work on a need assessment. DLR will charge \$4,000.00 to do this assessment, which will include sketches of floor plans and a monetary work sheet. The Board asked Mr. Christenson to write up a proposal letter that would state the price to do a needs assessment and list everything it would include (1/2 day workshop, sketches of floor plans, monetary work sheet, etc.). We agreed to contact Deb Downs about grant funds for planning.

Being no further business the Board adjourned at 3:15pm.