

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, March 15, 2011 with the following present:

Sam Pace, Chairman
Mike Spearman, Co-Vice Chair
Linda Joseph, Co-Vice Chair
Wendi Maez, Co-Administrator
Lyn Zimmer, Co-Administrator
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney
Renee Hazard, Acting Secretary to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chair Pace at 9:02 A.M.

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.

1. Add Executive session for legal and personal.

Pace moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:03 A. M. for personnel purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(i) and for legal purposes under CRS 24-6-402 (4)(b). Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Pace moved to return to regular session at 9:25 A. M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Joseph moved to approve the agenda. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Reading and approval of minutes of March 8, 2011.

Joseph moved to approve the minutes of March 8, 2011. Spearman seconded motion. The vote was three Ayes.

1. **The Rio Grande Water Users Assoc.** sent the Notice of the Annual Membership Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 23 in Monte Vista at the United Methodist Church at 1:30p.m. (3/8/11)
2. **The Mountain States Children's Home** sent a letter for the 2011 Annual Phone Campaign asking for Contributions for the support of the Children's Program. (3/8/11)
3. **United States Board of Geographic Names** sent a letter denying the application proposal to change the Name of the highest point on Kit Carson Mountain to Tranquility Peak. (3/8/11)
4. **The State of Colorado Public Health** sent the Notice of Meeting & Agenda for the Air Quality Control Commission for March 17, 2011 in Denver. (3/9/11)
5. **Colorado Rural Electric Association** sent an email asking for support on the SB 11-045 Streamlined Process for Transmission Siting. (3/10/11)
6. **Claire Barker** sent an email for her concerns regarding the SB 11-045. (3/10/11)

7. **Charlotte Bobicki** sent an email regarding the Media Release on Grants Available to Eradicate Noxious Weeds. (3/10/11)
8. **US Army Corps of Engineers** sent a Public Notice on the Proposed Regional General Permit under section 404 of the Clean Water Act. (3/10/11)
9. **State of Colorado Public Health** sent the Colorado Board of Health Agenda, for March 16, 2011 at 9:00a.m. in Denver, Co. (3/11/11)
10. **Caroline Irwin** hand delivered a letter asking to be re-appointed to serve on the Saguache County Tourism Council. (3/14/11)
11. **Ellie Mueller** sent an email in full support of the petition to send Tessera away. (3/15/11)
12. **Gayatri Devi** sent an email saying No to Tessera. (3/15/11)
13. **SLV Renewable Communities Alliance** sent an Open Letter to the Saguache County Commissioners concerning the matter of the 1041 application made by Tessera. (3/15/11)

Introduction of Guests: Matie Bell Lakish – Crestone Eagle; June Savage; Marge Hoglin, Penny Bruce & Lindy McDaniel – RSVP; Pam Kennedy; Pete Garcia; Kim Smoyer – ScSEED, Dr. Arnet; Mike Blenden – US Fish & Wildlife; and Caroline Irwin - SCTC.

Commissioners Reports:

Sam Pace reported:

- March 9 attended RAC Title II funding in Center.
- March 10 spoke with Peter Lynch from Sterling Energy Systems – Tessera Solar.

Linda Joseph reported:

- March 9 - Attended a ScSEED Board meeting in Villa Grove. Two economic development proposals were heard, seeking fiscal sponsorship, but will not be possible due to the large sums involved.
- March 10 - Attended the Northern San Luis Valley Conservation Roundtable's first public event - an information session on the Closed Basin project.

Mike Spearman reported:

- March 10 attended the Regional Energy Collaborative meeting.

Wendi Maez & Lyn Zimmer – Co-administrator report:

- Update and discussion concerning CSBG 50% funding cuts. There will now only be \$8172.00 for use in the CSBG funding.
- Years of Service Certificates were signed by the Board.

Spearman moved to approve the La Garita Liquor Store License. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- La Garita Liquor Store License Renewal

Break

Wendi Maez - Land Use report:

Joseph moved to approve the Lot Consolidation for Charles B. Schneider on Baca Grande Mobile Home Estates, Lots 87 and 88. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Charles B. Schneider, Lot Consolidation request, Baca Grande, Mobile Home Estates, Lots 87 and 88. The CBPC recommended approval of this request during their regular meeting held on March 9, 2011.

Joseph moved to approve the Lot Consolidation for Baca Development, LLC on Baca Grande Mobile Home Estates, Lots 176 and 177. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Baca Development, LLC, Lot Consolidation request Baca Grande, Mobile Home Estates, Lots 176 and 177. The CBPC recommended approval of this request during their regular meeting held on March 9, 2011.
- Update on SLV GIS/GPS Authority discussion. Will meet again next Tuesday.
- The Board signed a letter commending the Town of Crestone on their Master Plan.

Ben Gibbons - County Attorney Report:

- The Rocky Mountain Children's Home is in Longmont and has 25 beds for kids instead of putting them into foster care.
- HB 1113 changes CRS 29.1.803 and refers to holding development funds

Dr. Arnett – Clinic update

- Gave the Board a copy of the proposed floor plan to the clinic building.
- The local RSVP group would like to paint the exterior of the building; some window/door repairs are needed.
- Dr. Arnett has submitted a grant for some upgrades to the Clinic. Dr. Arnett would like to use the local work, force wherever possible. The heating system requires consideration and \$8600.00 upgrade. The windows need changed out and the casements are rotten. The plumbing needs updated with on demand hot water heaters. Update one room to a minor surgery room and make a handicap bathroom and update the pharmacy room. Blow in more insulation to incase the ducts and pipes. Upgrade electricity and make it solar ready. Change out some doors.

Mike Norris – Saguache County Sheriff report:

- No report

Adjourned for Lunch at 11:57 A. M.

Resumed meeting at 1:00 P. M.

Randal Arredondo – Supervisor Road & Bridge and Landfill Report:

- HUTF report for the Town of Bonanza was presented.

Pace moved to receive the Special Warranty Deed for the roads from Award Properties Land and Cattle, on the recommendation of Supervisor Arredondo. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

- Road and Bridge will start maintaining the roads in Mountain View Estates and the roads will be added to HUFT report.
- Road & Bridge is looking in to adding 1.5 miles of road on CR 43BB (Finley Gulch) to our Schedule A maintenance agreement with the Forest Service.
- Sheriff Norris answered questions about enforcing the no parking traffic violations and the Baca roads. Norris also answered questions about lowering the speed limit on two roads in the Baca, citing that Title 42 must be enforced and a traffic study must be completed.
- Arredondo spoke to Brenda Anderson at Center Soil Conservation to discuss the spraying of weeds in Saguache County.
- Solar Reserve asked Arredondo if he would write a letter to the FAA saying what aircraft lands on the Leach Airport airfield. Mike Entz will write the letter.
- Free Dump Day Arredondo would like to not receive tires, but the Board overruled him

Joseph moved to convene as Saguache County Board of Social Services at 1:43 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Jeannie Norris - Director Board of Social Services

- There were 15 active TANF cases in February, and 5 child-only cases, with 4 cases pending. Food assistance cases rose again from 522 in January, to 542 for February. There were 29 aid-to-the-needy-disabled cases, and old-age pension cases rose to 99. Case counts for February in 2010 numbered 23 TANF cases, and 488 food assistance cases demonstrating a slight decline in TANF and a large increase in food assistance.
- The LEAP Program has now approved 558 households for assistance, with 39 applications pending. The minimum benefit is \$200.00, with the maximum having been raised to \$1,000.00 per household.
- The Child and Adult Protection Unit reported 16 new child protection referrals during the month of February, all of whom were accepted for investigation. There are currently 13 dependency and neglect cases, and 10 children placed out of the home. There are 4 open adult protection cases, with 3 new referrals, and three cases having been closed during the month.
- The IV-D Unit is off to a good beginning for the year, with intercepts from tax returns increasing over 2010 figures by 46 percent. Year-to-date collections are up by 7 percent, for a total of \$84,921.75 collected through February.
- Judicial Cross-Systems Team meeting discussed needs of the court in terms of information required for all child protection cases and how necessary information sharing between all parties can be streamlined. After much work and joint meetings, Judge Pearson is compiling forms which will suffice for all DSS departments, counselors and the courts. The Judicial Cross-Systems Team, together with the SLV Directors, is also attempting to find more efficient and economical methods of substance abuse monitoring methods. The team meets on a quarterly basis.

- Reginald Bicha, Colorado Director of Human Services, will be visiting the San Luis Valley on April 14. We will have the opportunity to visit with him regarding issues specific to our area. Tom Perkins will be his guide for the occasion, and depending upon the route selected for returning to Denver, would like to bring him through Saguache to show our facility here.

Joseph moved to return to regular session at 2:06 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Kim Smoyer - ScSeed Economic Development Update

- Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) – The event will be held September 14 – 16th. Plans are moving forward. Local businesses will benefit from the event with over 250 attendees. SVL RPD Steering Committee will be contracting with local venues and caterers to provide services for the three-day event. SLV RPD (via VCF) will be applying for a Sales Tax Grant.
- Saguache Chamber – Both ScSEED and Smoyer & Associates are members of the Chamber. Smoyer volunteered to act as the Fundraising Committee chair. The DRAFT plan for raising funds was reviewed and adopted at the 2/16 meeting. Membership is beginning to increase and the leadership is really moving plans forward. The Chamber will apply for a Sales Tax Grant for advertising and other event support. They will also apply for funding through the Tourism Council for advertising.
- Saguache Artist Coop – Lynn Amlie has developed a wonderful website for the Saguache Artist at the following link <http://www.townofsaguache.org/saguache-artists.htm>. Additionally, Byron Smith has offered up his gallery for a spring show – plans are currently underway for developing the marketing materials and interest in the spring show.
- Saguache Downtown Revitalization Project (SDRP) – ScSEED submitted the final CDBG grant application to Deb Downs for her final review and transfer to the state for a decision (April). The final amount requested was \$582,491. Should the CDBG grant be approved and funded in full – the work will begin in the spring 2011. ScSEED will also write a \$20,000 grant request to support this project and complete the amount needed to the Gates Family Foundation.
- Economic Developer Training – Smoyer applied for a received a scholarship of \$550 to attend a week long Economic Developer Training in Denver during the first week of June. We also again became members of the Economic Development Council or Colorado (EDCC). EDCC was the organization that will provide this \$550 scholarship to attend the training. Smoyer also recently completed the registration process and will be attending the training from June 6 – 10th in Denver.
- SLV Tourism Conference – Smoyer attended the Tourism Conference in Alamosa on Feb. 24th. The conference was a good opportunity to plug Saguache. She was able to get up in front of the entire assembly and speak about the Historic Walking Tour, the SDRP and the Ranching Way of Life DVD – all marketing tools to attract visitors. We also announced that Saguache would host the SLV RPD.
- Saguache Historic Walking Tour – We are in the process of making final edits on the documents and checking with local sources to be sure the data is accurate. We have developed a new map for the center of the booklet that is much easier to read than the

previous one. We hope to have the final product in hand by spring – for distribution to local businesses, Chamber, Library, Museum, etc. for use this summer. The booklet will be given to these venues at no cost. We recently requested additional funding through the Tourism Council so that we can make more copies of the publication (with the anticipation of more visitors with SLV RPD). As soon as we have the additional funding in place we will print the document – it is anticipated that they will be ready for distribution in May.

- Saguache Clean-Up Day – Once again we will partner with RSVP program (Library) volunteers to help organize a spring clean up day on 4th Street. Dan Corson, Director of the State Historic Fund (SHF) is coming down to help. The Clean Up Day has been scheduled for Saturday, June 4th and we are now marketing to get volunteers on board. Colorado Preservation Inc. (CPI) was contacted for additional volunteers and they are working on recruiting some folks to help. RSVP will be applying for additional funding through various other sources to remove the paint from the Masons Building and repair the brick and reseal.
- Historic Preservation Commission - The Town Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) applied to become a Certified Local Government (CLG) and was recently approved and awarded status of a CLG! This means a new source of funding will be available to the HPC for projects directly related to historic preservation in Saguache including façade restoration and other historic preservation projects.
- Small Business Development Center (SBDC) – Smoyer will continue to work with Donna Wehe to offer SBDC Counseling to Saguache business owners and start-ups. She is also in the process of developing a social media marketing workshop which we will co-host in Saguache in the spring (May/June). There will be a Leading Edge Course offered to YOUTH in June in Alamosa.
- SLV Energy Steering Committee – Smoyer has been attending the SLV Energy Steering Committee meetings when they don't conflict with other meetings. This is a group that Jeanna Paluzzi, SLV Energy Coordinator, organized to discuss energy related issue and needs for the Valley. She has sent the committee a first draft of the SLV Energy Plan, which Smoyer reviewed and provided feedback to her at the March 10th meeting. The final draft plan will be presented to the Committee on March 24th and then sent to the GEO for approval. Jeanna is developing a website which will contain the plan and subsequent action items.
- Saguache Economic Development Plan – We are working on drafting an ED Plan for the County (as per state template). Jessie Shook will attend the state meeting on March 21st in Alamosa. Smoyer will attend a roundtable meeting held on March 14th by Senator Bennett's office (in Alamosa). We will begin to draft the plan using the Master Plan document and the other information we acquire as a result of these meetings.

Mike Blenden – Colorado Fish and Wildlife update:

- Planning process for the three Wildlife Refuges in Saguache County was presented along with a hand out.

Break

Pace moved to convene as the Housing Board at 3:00 P.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Evan Samora, Housing Director Monthly update

Pace moved to adjourn the Housing Board and return to regular meeting at 3:20 P.M. Joseph seconded. The vote was three Ayes.

Caroline Irwin - Saguache County Tourism Council update:

- Saguache Museum is showing interest in appointing someone onto the Tourism Council.
- There is one member from Saguache and one from Moffat and one in-between.
- The website has been refreshed and redesigned.
- Council is working on to increasing membership.
- Looking into building an event for bicycling in our county
- July 23 Moffat will be celebrating the 100 year mark and is planning a big event to draw in tourists.
- The Saguache County coverlets are still available for sale and SCTC members are planning to market them throughout the area. Dollars from the coverlets return back to SCTC's account.
- SCTC members Irwin & Walker-Collins attended the annual SLVTA conference held in Alamosa on Feb 24th, 2011. Membership in the SLV Tourism Association includes all 6 counties and Irwin has been elected to the Board.

Joseph move to give tourism \$2000 from the reserve to be reimbursed through blanket sales. Spearman seconded. The vote was three Ayes.

Pace moved to reappoint Caroline Irwin to another 4 year term on the Saguache County Tourism Council. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Bill Paying

Joseph moved to adjourn at 3:47 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved April 5, 2011

Chairman of the Board

Attest

Commissioner

Commissioner