

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 15, 2014

Minutes¹

At 8 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on the 15th of April, 2014 with Chairman Dean Wingfield, Commissioners Trent Bushner and Robin Wiley present.

Administrator Linda Briggs was present throughout the day.

The commissioners reviewed meetings that each attended within the last two weeks.

Custodian Daryl Juhnke informed the commissioners of a leak in the sally port roof. A local roofer will be looking at it within the next several days and will make repairs.

Health and Human Services -

The commissioners conducted business with Dave Henson, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services. Also present: Robin Barnhart.

Road & Bridge -

In attendance from the Road and Bridge Department were: Supervisor Mark Shaw and Truck/Mining Foreman Howard McGinnis. Road and Bridge personnel updated the commissioners on road department activities.

The following were discussed:

- The recent snow fall was heavy in the north third of the county. They had a grader stuck due to a drift. No snow accumulated in the south section of the county.
- A couple graders are down due to fuel issues.
- Screening of potential new employees is taking place
- The rock crusher is at Idalia. Water is being hooked to the crusher for controlling the dust.
- Shaw will ask the contractor selected for the Kamala project to resurface the bridge south of Beecher Island.
- A hole on Road 39 is being patched. This will be filled with asphalt when the Kamala project is done.

Commissioner Wiley moved to approve the Underground and Utility Permits for Augustus Energy Resources LLC to install a 3" water line 150 feet east of County Road X under County Road 35. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Heather Skurdahl -

Heather Skurdahl and Kenneth Colvin joined the meeting. Colvin presented costs of repairs and photos of Skurdahl's blown out tire and damaged wheel. Skurdahl stated that she was traveling north on Road KK the week of February 24th. There was a sign on Road 7 that said, "Road work ahead." She saw the grader on the left side and slowed down to get around on the left. There was a packer in front of the grader on the left side. She saw the boulder; but could not get of the way or stop in time. Skurdahl said the insurance company sent her a letter which stated the county has immunity on the roads. She is here asking the county

¹ These minutes prepared by Linda Briggs are summarized discussions, not verbatim.

to pay for the needed car repairs. There was discussion of the event. The chunk in the road was a frozen chunk that had been pulled onto the road while doing the roadwork. Mark Shaw voiced regret about this happening and confirmed the signs were in place. The commissioners said they would need to talk to the insurance company prior to deciding of any reimbursement.

Scott Koziar / Apex Wind –

Scott Koziar, Director of Project Development from Apex Wind, informed the commissioners that Apex Wind has purchased the Willow Creek Wind Farm Development assets from Duke Energy. Apex Wind was formed in 2009 as a developer of commercial wind energy facilities in North America. Discussion focused on the need for transmission lines for transporting power out of the region. Koziar said it may be a couple of years before the project takes place. The company will follow the County's Land Use Code process for the development.

Treasurer's Report -

Dee Ann Stults presented the Treasurer's Report for the month of March, 2014. There were \$954,278.62 in taxes collected, and \$29,149.61 in fees collected.

The new computer company, Computer Information Concepts, Inc. has already uploaded the initial data from her office.

Gary Earl -

Gary Earl said he wanted to request again that the road be closed going through his property in Sections 33 and 34, T1S, R42W. He does not like the public going through his property to access the Banister Wildlife easement. Earl showed the commissioners satellite photos; which showed the public roads within his property. Earl pointed out a road heading east that ends on his property prior to reaching the easement. He stated he did not want people walking across his property to the wildlife easement area. Earl said he did not like it; but had no problem with the access to the north because the Division of Wildlife has marked the road and put up signs telling the public to stay on the road until reaching the wildlife easement area. The commissioners recommended placing a sign at the end of the road going east informing people to stay out because they are not on the wildlife easement area.

Sheriff Chad Day –

Sheriff Chad Day & Undersheriff Adam Wills met with the commissioners and discussed the following:

- Day presented the first quarter report for 2014 of the Inmate Welfare Account.
- Day said the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) Grant funds have increased. Less than \$5,000 was received in 2012. Last year \$21,610 was received. Day requested purchasing a Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA) plus lodging and meals for staff. Following the discussion, **Commissioner Wiley moved to purchase a new CVSA out of SCAAP funds from NITV Federal Services, LLC. in the amount of \$4,585. Hotel and food will also be covered out of the SCAAP funds. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- Day discussed his intent to install another direct line to the Jail for the inmates. Day felt it reasonable to take the cost of installing out of the SCAAP funds.
- Day said Joye Devlin handed in a resignation letter. Day requested that the position be filled. The focus of the discussion was how to reduce expenditures as over \$600,000 from fund balance was used to cover the general fund expenditures in the 2014 budget. The board said at some point rehiring of employees would need to be considered. The board gave approval to hire a replacement to fill Devlin's position.

- Day said the transport van had not been used but 2 times since his taking office since it is more economical to use a car, unless there are 4 or more needing transported. Washington County has offered \$15,000 for the van. The dealer's offer was lower. The commissioners agreed that the 2009 Ford E-350 prisoner transport van should be sold to Washington County.
- Adam Wells presented cost comparisons for the purchase of two vehicles along with quotes from three dealers for selling or trading in 4 county cars. Day said he would like to purchase one pickup and one car for the department. Day also requested selling four cars being removed from service, plus the van, to cover the cost of replacing the sheriff's car. He would probably need to provide some cash from the SCAAP funds. Usable equipment from the vehicles being traded or sold would be removed prior to being traded. There was discussion as to what vehicles would be remaining in the fleet. The commissioners were informed that Korf's quote was good only until tomorrow. The board said they would consider the requests and make a decision later in the day.

Later in the day.

Toward the end of the meeting, Commissioner Bushner moved to allow purchase of a pickup and a car. Four cars will be sold to help pay for the two new vehicles being purchased. Commissioner Wiley seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The commissioners stated the desire to keep the purchase in-county if the prices are comparable. One Dodge Ram 1500 SSV (\$25,114) and one Dodge Charger SWD SSV(26,152) were purchased from Korf Continental Inc. Purchases were made from Fund 20.

South Y-W Ambulance -

Mary Jane Idler, Tycie Lichty, Steve Sears, and Bruce Mann, all representatives of South Y-W Ambulance informed the commissioners of the accident on April 2nd involving the 2000 Ford E-450 Ambulance. Details of the accident that happened at the intersection of Highway 59 and County Road 16 were discussed. Discussion centered on how the ambulance might be replaced. Idler said there is an emergency grant for which they can apply. It requires a 10% match. Following the discussion, **Commissioner Wiley moved to have South Y-W Ambulance agency apply for the Colorado Emergency Services Grant with the assurance that Yuma County will contribute the 10% matching funds. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** The agency is having the equipment within the vehicle certified for use. If it cannot be used, the replacement cost will be sent to the insurance company.

Lee Sprague –

Lee Sprague showed photos of sand that had blown from his neighbor onto his property at 49488 Hwy 385. Dirt has covered up grass and damaged trees. They have talked to the neighbor about the sand blowing onto their property. The neighbors have continuously kept horses in the pen. The grass never gets a chance to grow. The commissioners said there is a statute that allows the county to charge the party for having the work done. The problem is that the fee is not enough to cover the expenses. Following the discussion; **Commissioner Wiley moved to send a letter outlining what can be done through the Colorado Statutes. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Bud Wood, Fairgrounds Manager –

Fairgrounds Manager Bud Wood informed the commissioners of a needed improvement to the outside rail around the race track. Wood stated his concerns and presented a cost to do the work needed. Following the discussion, **Commissioner Bushner made the motion to pay DRT Welding \$5423.00 for fixing the rail. One-half of the work will be done this year (\$2,712.50) with the second half to be fixed next year. Commissioner Wiley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Neil Schaal of EagleNet Alliance -

Neil Schaal, Director of Grants Management Business Development for EagleNet Alliance, presented information and discussed their project of installing fiber-optic cable to the schools, to the City of Wray buildings, Yuma County buildings, and ending at the Community College and Rural AmeriTown. EagleNet will start providing high speed internet services to the City and Community College by the end of April. Schaal said that because the cable runs past the courthouse, the county can also receive high speed service through them. A pricing sheet for the service was reviewed. Schaal fielded questions of the interconnection, security, speed, and service. The commissioners stated they were interested but needed to compare the pricing against what we are currently purchasing. They would also like to see what is going to happen with the broadband initiative.

Department Head Meeting -

In addition to the commissioners, the following department heads were present: Cindy Taylor, Dee Ann Stults, Beverly Wenger, Chad Day, Mark Shaw, David Henson, Cliff Henry, Linda Briggs and Vicky Southards.

Changes to the Employee Handbook, as recommended at the March 12, 2014 meeting, had been emailed to the department heads for consideration. There was discussion of the proposed change with the recommendation of changing rule to policy. **Chad Day made the motion to accept the policy to be effective April 15, 2014. Dave Henson seconded the motion. The motion passed.** The following red statement will be added to the Personal Leave "Paid or Accrued" section of the Yuma County Employees Handbook.

"Full Time Employee

Employees must be regular full-time employees to accrue paid personal leave when employment starts. Employees are urged to expend accrued personal leave during the calendar year in which it accrues.

Accrual rate of personal leave is on a monthly basis. An employee may not take personal leave during the first six months of employment, which is considered the normal introductory period; except, an employee may use personal leave for unforeseen medical reasons after 30 days of continuous employment. (See C. Use of Personal Leave.)

Exceptions to this policy must be in writing, signed by both the employee and the Department Head, and filed with the Administrative office as soon as possible but no later than one day following the absence.

Personal leave will begin accruing on the first working day. The first month's leave will be prorated. (The number of hours worked divided by 173.33 times 8 hours equals the first months personal leave.) Personal leave is deemed as earned the last working day of the month."

Employee Exit interview -

Commissioner Wiley moved to enter executive session as outlined in CRS 24-6-402 (4)(f) for personnel matters. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 4:36 p.m., Commissioners Wingfield, Wiley, Bushner, Joy Devlin, and Linda Briggs entered into executive session, for the purpose of holding an employee exit interview. Through a duly made motion executive session ended at 5:34 p.m.

Administrator's Report -

Administrator Linda Briggs reviewed calls, correspondence, and presented the following for action:

Commissioner Wiley moved to approve the minutes of March 28, 2014 with a change to the section discussing the ambulance reimbursement. It will be changed to state, "up to the \$1,000 being held as a deposit." Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

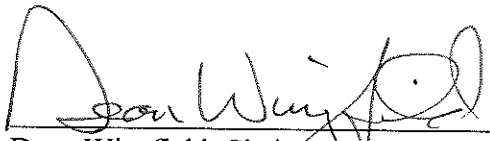
Certification of Accounts Payable for April 15, 2014, drawn on Yuma County Funds, with check #56441 through #56576 totaling the sum of \$395,202.66 and Fund 16 W-Y Combined Communications checks #6897 through #6903, totaling the sum of \$1506.30 were approved and signed by Chairman Dean Wingfield.

A check was signed by the commissioners to transfer \$3,199.60 of CCOERA forfeiture dollars with \$1,436.51 deposited to Fund 1 and \$1,763.09 to Fund 2.

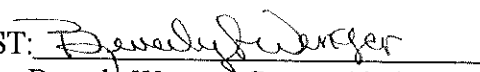
Administrator Briggs presented the administrators job announcement for review. The position will be advertised in the papers and on websites for a month. Interview dates were selected near the end of May. Briggs had presented a resignation letter in March stating August 1, 2014, would be her last day in the administrative position.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the board will be April 30 and May 15, 2014.


Dean Wingfield, Chairman


Linda Briggs, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk