

The Board of County Commissioners met in special session on March 30, 2020. Those present for the session were, Don Batchelder, Chair; Ben Tisdel, Vice-Chair; John E. Peters, Commissioner Member; Connie Hunt, County Administrator; Carol Viner, County Attorney; and Hannah Hollenbeck, Deputy Clerk of the Board.

- **Note – This meeting was recorded for reference purposes. The meeting was conducted virtually pursuant to Resolution 2020-007 Setting Forth a Virtual Meeting Policy During a Local Disaster Emergency.**

**8:32AM** The Board of County Commissioners met in a Special Meeting to receive updates from the Public Health Director and Emergency Manager on COVID-19, to process, potential next steps, policies and protocol and to provide direction to staff: *(Action may be taken by the Board of County Commissioners at this meeting relevant to the topic.)*

Tanner Kingery, County Public Health Director and Glenn Boyd, County Emergency Manger, were present.

Kingery provided an update on the Unified Command (UC) format. He said that UC was comprised of Incident Commmanders Tanner Kingery, County Public Health Director, Glenn Boyd, County Emergency Manager, Preston Neill, Ridgway Town Manager, and Jeff Wood, City of Ouray Police Chief. He said that UC meet twice daily to coordinate on a variety of topics relating to the COVID-19 response. Currently, the group was working on messaging for the Public Health Orders and coordinating with Montrose Memorial Hospital (MMH) to obtain test kits. Boyd said that he was also working on logistics and securing alternative testing sites. Jennifer Peterson, Public Information Officer (PIO), was working to ensure consistent messaging was being shared on all government websites and social media platforms.

Boyd requested that the Board consider a request from UC to hire a temporary PIO to assist in the effort. Commissioner Tisdel supported the request; he said that it was a good use of County funds to ramp up capacity to get information to citizens. Hunt said that the request was to engage in an internal hiring effort pursuant to the County's Emergency Disaster Procurement Policy.

**MIS/P** – Motion was made by Commissioner Tisdel and seconded by Commissioner Peters to authorize and support Unified Command's request to hire a temporary Public Information Officer to fulfill the functions determined by Unified Command, pursuant to the County's Emergency Disaster Procurement Policy.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion with the following results:

- Commissioner Batchelder voted in the affirmative.
- Commissioner Peters voted in the affirmative.
- Commissioner Tisdel voted in the affirmative.

There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Batchelder said that Unified Command had also requested the approval of assistance from Tri-County Health Network (TCHN). Carol Friedrich, County Social Services Director, said that TCHN had offered some assistance from their Volunteer Coordinator. She said that no cost to the County was anticipated and that the person was already coordinating volunteers in San Miguel County through San Miguel County Unified Command; the person would build on existing capacity.

The Board agreed to the direction proposed by Friedrich.

Boyd said that there was some confusion regarding Governor Polis' Stay-at-Home Order. He said that people could still engage in essential work and activities. Commissioner Batchelder clarified that the construction industry was exempt from the Order.

Bockes provided an update on telecommunications and how some County employees were working from home.

Drew Petersen, West Region Field Manager, encouraged those involved with the COVID-19 response to track their time and expense for possible reimbursement. He said that the State was monitoring recent developments regarding testing.

Kendra Manley, Ouray resident, said that she was noticing a number of tourists still present in Ouray. She asked what residents could do to encourage visitors to go home or to delay their vacations. Commissioner Batchelder said that the Board would share her concerns with UC and the Sheriff's Office.

The Board discussed process and communication topics with staff.

**9:36AM** The Board of County Commissioners adjourned the special session.

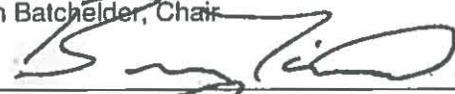
Attest:

  
 Michelle Nauer, Clerk and Recorder  
 By: Hannah Hollenbeck, Deputy Clerk of the Board



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO

  
Don Batchelder, Chair

  
Ben Tisdel, Vice Chair

  
John E. Peters, Commissioner Member