



The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on January 11, 2022. Those present for the session were, Lynn M. Padgett, Chair; Jake Niece, Vice-Chair; Ben Tisdell, Commissioner Member (via Zoom); Connie Hunt, County Administrator; Leo Caselli, County Attorney. Hannah Hollenbeck, Deputy Clerk of the Board, was not present.

- **Note – This meeting was recorded for reference purposes. These minutes were prepared utilizing a recording of the meeting.**

A. 9:00 The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Health concerning the following:

1. Public Health Director Update:

Tanner Kingery, Public Health Director and Dr. Andrew Yeowell, County Public Health Medical Officer, were present.

Kingery reported on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic and reviewed regional and local case data, hospitalization availability, and vaccination rates. Kingery noted that the County's case count was high, likely with the Omicron variant. He said that Public Health staff were averaging 92 tests per day. Kingery encouraged the use of high-quality masks, and obtaining home tests to limit the burden on staff. Kingery said that the demand on staff to provide testing was unsustainable, in addition to causing issues outside the facility, where testing was administered.

Yeowell provided information on the vaccines and the boosters. He thanked the Board for appointing him to the Medical Officer position, and said that he was focusing on streamlining procedures to limit staff burnout and manage resources more effectively.

Yeowell encouraged wearing masks while indoors, but did not recommend that a mask requirement be implemented at this time.

The Board agreed to direct staff to schedule a joint work session with the City of Ouray, Town of Ridgway, Ridgway and Ouray School Districts and Chambers for discussion and feedback on mask requirements.

B. 9:51 Call to the Public:

The "Call to the Public" agenda item is a time when the public may bring forth items of interest or concern. No formal action may be taken on these items during this time due to the open meeting law provision; however, they may be placed on a future posted agenda if action is required.

There were no Call to the Public items.

C. 9:51 General Business:

1. Request for approval of warrants:

M/S/P – Motion was made by Commissioner Tisdell and seconded by Commissioner Niece to approve the warrants as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Request for approval and authorization of Chair's signature on Position Replacement Form for Deputy Sheriff:

Justin Perry, County Sheriff, was present.

M/S/P – Motion was made by Commissioner Niece and seconded by Commissioner Tisdell to approve and authorize Chair's signature on Position Replacement Form for Deputy Sheriff. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed and agreed to direct Hunt to schedule a work session to review and possibly update Resolution 2010-048 regarding the replacement of vacated County positions.

3. Request for approval and authorization of Commissioner Signatures on letter of support for Ouray Silver Mines Inc. Hard Rock Reclamation Permit Amendment Application #2:

M/S/P – Motion was made by Commissioner Tisdell and seconded by Commissioner Niece to approve and authorize Commissioner Signatures on letter of support for Ouray Silver Mines, Inc. Hard Rock Reclamation Permit Amendment Application #2. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Request for approval of the December 2021 Public Trustee Report:

M/S/P – Motion was made by Commissioner Tisdell and seconded by Commissioner Niece to approve the December 2021 Public Trustee Report. The motion carried unanimously.

D. 10:15 Doug Hanshaw, Seventh Judicial District, Problem Solving Court Coordinator II:

1. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Grant:

Doug Hanshaw, Seventh Judicial District, was present. Justin Perry, County Sheriff, and Carol Friedrich, County Social Services Director, were also present.

Hanshaw explained that the grant program would address prevention, treatment and recovery. He said several regional partners in San Miguel, Ouray and Montrose Counties would collaborate to implement the programs. Hanshaw said that the County could agree to sign on as an official partner later in the year.

The Board agreed that they supported the grant and would revisit the topic in August to determine if the County would joint as an official partner.

E. 10:38 Commissioner/Administrative Reports:

Leo Caselli, County Attorney, discussed the following:

- 1) **Fair Board Meeting** – Caselli reported that the Fair Board would be forwarding amended bylaws for the Board's consideration.

Connie Hunt, County Administrator, discussed the following:

- 1) **Updates** – Hunt reported that she had completed the December 2021 financials and expected to be able to open the 2022 year to process some payables.

Commissioner Niece discussed the following:

- 1) **Winter National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference** – The Board discussed conference attendance. Commissioner Tisdel was aware that the conference may be entirely virtual, given the increase of COVID-19 cases in Washington, D.C. The Board agreed to discuss attendance of the summer conference, to be held in Colorado, later in the spring.
- 2) **Short Term Rental Management Software Implementation Update** – The Board requested that a work session update be scheduled on the topic.
- 3) **Master Plan** - Commissioner Tisdel for the Board's opinions regarding the Master Plan update process. After a discussion, the Board agreed to schedule a work session to discuss priorities and needs. Commissioner Padgett agreed that a work session needed to be held as soon as possible, but noted that her priority was for staff to focus on completing the Marijuana Ordinance revisions. Commissioner Niece agreed.

Commissioner Padgett discussed the following:

- 1) **Work Session Priority List** - Commissioner Padgett suggested that each work session include objectives and milestones to allow for transparency and tracking. She asked if the Board would allow her to work with Land Use staff and Hunt in order to determine supporting materials and objectives of the Marijuana Ordinance revisions work session. She said that it was her hope that the revisions could be completed over four work sessions. The Board agreed.

Commissioner Tisdel discussed the following:

- 1) **Marshall Fire Lessons Learned** - Commissioner Tisdel said that he was tracking the various lessons learned from the Marshall Fire in Boulder County. He requested that a work session be scheduled to discuss evacuation routes and emergency alert systems. He said that there may also be other updates that were relevant to the Master Plan based on the findings.
- 2) **Updates** - Commissioner Tisdel reported that the American Recovery Act Funds final rule had been released. Commissioner Tisdel said that he would be seeking reelection as Chair on the Land Use and National Resources Committee of CCI.

Commissioner Padgett discussed the following:

- 2) **Evacuation Routes** - Commissioner Padgett said that the Board needed to have a discussion with the County Emergency Manager regarding evacuation routes. She was shared Commissioner Tisdel's concerns about neighborhoods that may have one way in and out. She said that the information needed to be gathered and reviewed. The Board agreed to add the topic to the Work Session list.
- 3) **CCI Public Lands Steering Committee** - Commissioner Padgett asked if the Board would support her in being appointed to the CCI Public Lands Steering Committee. The Board agreed.
- 4) **No Call Water Agreement** - Commissioner Padgett requested an update on the progress made on obtaining and additional 5,000 – 6,000 water acre feet. Hunt was directed to check in with the County's outside legal counsel for an update.
- 5) **County Burn Ordinance and Demolition by Incineration Events** - Commissioner Padgett said that an update to the County Burn Ordinance may be needed, as state regulations may have changed. She said that some local fire departments were under the impression that they had authority when it came to controlled burns and incineration events. She said that local law enforcement needed to be involved, as well as the fire departments and the Land Use department.
- 6) **Employee Benefits Working Group** - Commissioner Padgett asked for an update on the group. Hunt said that the Human Resources Director was setting up the group. Commissioner Padgett requested that another outreach email be sent to all department heads and elected officials for participation. Commissioner Padgett further requested that the group also review wellness programs and employee recognition programs. The Board agreed. Caselli recommended that the working group present their findings to the BOCC during work session, after legal review. The Board agreed.

Jeff Bockes, IT / GIS Manager discussed the following:

- 1) **Evacuation Routes, continued** – Bockes indicated his willingness to develop a map identifying areas that may have single entry / exit evacuation routes.

12:20

The Board of County Commissioners adjourned the regular session.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO




Lynn M. Padgett, Chair



Jake Niece, Vice-Chair



Ben Tisdell, Commissioner Member



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