



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Breckenridge, CO 80424

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
Scott Vargo  
Jeff Huntley  
**FROM:** Sara R. Lopez  
**RE:** Work Session Meeting of May 11, 2021  
**DATE:** May 11, 2021

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**Attendees:**

Elected Officials: Elisabeth Lawrence, Tamara Pogue and Joshua Blanchard – Commissioners  
Frank Celico (via Zoom) – Assessor  
Gary Wilkinson (via Zoom) – Surveyor  
Jaime FitzSimons (via Zoom) – Sheriff  
Kathy Neel (via Zoom) – Clerk & Recorder  
Regan Wood (via Zoom) – Coroner  
Ryne Scholl (via Zoom) - Treasurer  
Heidi McCollum (via Zoom) – District Attorney, 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District

Staff: Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Keely Ambrose, Assistant County Attorney; Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager and Sara R Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Staff (via Zoom): Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; David Reynolds, Assistant Finance Director; Aaron Byrne, Landfill Director; April Kroner, Planning Director; Jim Curnutte, Community Development Director; Scott Hoffman, Building Inspection Director; Jeff Flynn, Senior Inspector; Michael Wurzel, Sustainability Coordinator and April Paige, Executive Administrative Manager.

Guests (via Zoom): Blair McGary, Jen Schenk, Jenna DeJong, Jess Hoover, Rachel Zerowin and others who did not sign in.

**I. High Country Conservation Center (HC3) Quarterly Update**

Jennifer Schenk, Jess Hoover, Rachel Zerowin, Aaron Byrne and Michael Wurzel gave an update on the following topics, including but not limited to:

**HC3'S IMPACT IN SUMMIT COUNTY: 2021 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER IN REVIEW**

- **Climate Action Program**
  - Continued developing Renewable Energy Program
  - Finalized EV readiness plan
  - Launched Solarize Summit
  - Partnered with NWCCOG on heat-pump pilot
  - Recruited new buildings for benchmarking pilot
  - Upcoming: EV plan adoption, GHG inventory update

- Resource Wise
- Energy Smart Colorado
- Renewable Energy Program: A Closer Look
- Pay as You Throw Program
- Recycling: Q1 by the Numbers
  - 18/25 businesses composting as part of state grant
  - 1,688 residents enrolled in composting
  - 215 people reached through waste presentations and K12 education
  - 66,000 pounds of food waste diverted
- Strong Future Program
  - Promoted mattress and glass recycling
  - in March; drove exponential increases
  - in web visits to those two pages
  - Coordinating hauler meeting to align summer messages/guidelines
  - May 22 compost giveaway with SCRAP

Commissioners asked questions, provided feedback and thanked the team for all their work.

## II. Elected Officials Roles & Responsibilities

Commissioners and County Elected Officials discussed several topics including but not limited to:

### Technology and Software support needs/problems

The Assessor's Office will be implementing the second phase of their new software, which consists of updating the database. They will need a software upgrade to make it a cloud-based program. Any software updates will need to communicate with the Treasurer's Office, which also needs an upgrade to a program that accepts credit card payment and communicates with the Clerk & Recorder's Office.

### Pay and HR (Ryne, Treasurer's Office)

Mr. Scholl suggested a review of employees' pay scale and noted there is no opportunity for upward mobility for his employees. Commissioner Lawrence suggested moving the pay study scheduled for 2022 to this year.

Ms. McCollum said she her office faces similar challenges and their administrative workload has increased with the implementation of body cameras due to SB20-217.

### Other Roundtable Items

Assessor's Office: Currently going through the 2021 pre-appraisal and based on numbers from 2019, they expect to get a high number of objections.

Sheriff's Office: Jaime FitzSimons said his department continues to be busy with summer duties and preparations for Wild Fire season. At the Detentions Center, they are looking for ways of maintaining incarceration numbers down.

Treasurer's Office: They are starting the second part of tax collection while trying to fill two vacant positions. With the boom in the Real Estate Market, his office has seen an increase in their workload.

District Attorney's Office: Ms. McCollum said her office is working with the Sheriff's Office in finding a more efficient way to share case materials. She said they are looking into an additional \$40K to cover overtime requirements.

Ms. McCollum also gave an overview of the Adult Diversion Program, started in 2019. This program was meant for older individuals charged with criminal mischief but with no previous record of criminal activity. In many cases, there were life events, which lead them to make bad decisions. Rather than prosecute them and automatically punishing them for the felony, they are looking into the cause. The DA's goal was to divert 10% of the cases into the program, and they were successful.

Coroner's Office: Ms. Wood said they are looking for a new deputy and hope to fill it with a current volunteer.

The group will meet again on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 to continue the discussion started at the April 11, 2021 Work Session, as they ran out of time today.

### **III. Electrical Code and Fee Updates (Building Inspection)**

Scott Hoffman, Michael Wurzel and Jim Curnutte gave an update on the following topics but not limited to:

Proposed Adoption of the 2020 National Electrical Code (NEC) to expedite the permit process for residential PV systems. The adoption of the NEC is required every three years per the State Electrical Board.

The Summit Community Climate Action Plan calls for streamlining the permitting process and lowering barriers to entry, like fees, for renewable energy systems. Mr. Wurzel said Summit County is in the process of applying to be recognized and designated as a SolSmart Gold Community, which is the highest designation possible at this time.

The SolSmart certification is a nationally recognized audit process to analyze and remove barriers for solar installations, streamline the solar permitting process, and promote Summit County as a solar-friendly community. Another plus from the program is the work reduction for administrative staff. Last year, Summit County achieved the SolSmart Bronze level designation by working with the building and planning departments and community partners like HC3, highlighting the county's commitment to climate action and renewable energy.

Commissioners agreed to move this item forward for approval; the item is on the Public Hearing Agenda for this afternoon's Regular Meeting.

### **IV. Managers' & Commissioners' Issues**

Senior Management and Commissioners discussed several topics including but not limited to:

Scott Vargo gave an update on his conversation with Town Managers regarding the letter sent by the towns and county to the regional USPS office. The letter requested a meeting to find solutions to long wait lines, delivery issues and a possible increase to the number of PO Boxes at postal locations.

The response was no to all requests. The regional Postal Service has indicated they a huge debit and cannot afford to increase staff or PO Boxes. The towns are against providing any assistance to a federal entity. Mr. Vargo was able to get a contact number for the USPS regional office (303-313-5130), and he will work with Nicole Valentine on an update to the community.

Scott Vargo suggested declaring a joint Housing Emergency declaration for the county and towns to raise awareness within the community. Commissioners supported this.

Commissioner Blanchard will represent the BOCC in the *Pay as You Throw* Work Group with HC3. He will also participate in the Strong Futures Sub-Committee for *Zero Waste*.

Nicole Valentine gave an update on the following events:

- The Wildfire Town Hall will be held on May 26, 2021
- Commissioner Blanchard will host the June 2021 Town Hall with a focus on Sustainability.
- Commissioner Pogue will host the July 2021 Town Hall and the topic will be Housing.
- May 17-21, 2021 is EMS week.

On Thursday, May 20, 2021, there will be a volunteer appreciation event for all the people who have helped with the testing and vaccination process. Due to this, the BOH/BOCC Joint COVID Update Meeting scheduled for that day has been canceled, but a shorter update will be provided during the BOCC Work Session on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 11:15 a.m.

Sarah Vaine gave an overview on the following topics:

- Renewal of Central Mountains Regional Emergency Medical Trauma Advisory Council (CMRETAC) IGA.
- The Library Foundation will recognize Representative McCluskie for winning the Colorado Association of Libraries Award for "Legislator of the Year." A ceremony will be held on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the North Branch Library. Commissioner Blanchard will represent the Board.

Commissioner Pogue discussed the following topics:

- Miner's Creek Road near Bill's Ranch: the road has deteriorated due to continuous traffic. She asked the county to have conversation with the Bill's Ranch group. Mr. Vargo agreed but noted that the county is not required to maintain the road but has been doing it on an irregular basis.
- Housing Conversation: Incentives to convince homeowners to move them from Short Term Rentals to Long Term. Commissioner Lawrence said it would be helpful to know who owns the properties, a company vs. single homeowner. It would also be good to know which homeowners are local. The questions and requests will be shared with the Planning Department.

Commissioner Lawrence discussed the following topics:

- Congressman Joe Neguse will visit Summit County on Monday, May 24, 2021, to discuss *The American Families Plan*.

Commissioners also reviewed schedules and upcoming calendar events.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

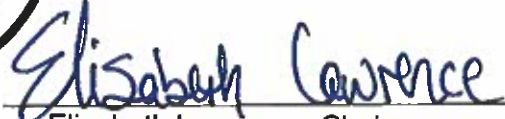


Sara R Lopez, Deputy Clerk



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Approved by:



Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair