



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 June 29, 2021
DATE: Tuesday, June 29, 2021

Attendees:

Elected Officials: Elisabeth Lawrence (via Zoom), Tamara Pogue and Joshua Blanchard – Commissioners

Staff Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Nicole Valentine, Communications Director, Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager and Sara R Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Guests (in person or via Zoom): Anne Lowe, Catherine Schaaf, Eric Mamula, Jenna deJong, Jennifer McAtamney, Kelly Renoux, Laurie Best, Lucinda Burns, Ryan Hyland, Scott Reid, Shannon Haynes, Terry Bird,

I. Joint ECO / BOCC Meeting: Summit Preschool (SPK) Program Budget Discussion

Lucinda Burns and Sarah Vaine discussed their recommendations for the ECO preschool funds reserves, and their requests for county assistance.

Current barriers to recruitment and retention of well-trained staff include:

- Compensation inequities (between the north and south end of the county; between child care and School District; between current wages and “livable” wages).
 - The goal is to equalize the salaries between north and south employees. Ms. Burns said that the cost would be covered by tuition raises, to which Mr. Scott Vargo noted that many families would not be able to afford a tuition increase. It was asked how the ECO Board planned for future funding to cover tuition assistance.
- Work day stress, long hours
- Housing needs
- Recruitment and on-boarding challenges for center operators

Strategies for consideration:

1. Provide direct assistance to childcare facilities to offset the cost of higher wages.
2. Implement a hiring and retention bonus plan (similar to Summit County Dispatch Division plan).
3. Fund and hire additional classroom “floaters” at each center.
4. Implement county-wide recruitment strategies –
5. Address housing for child care employees as a subset of the larger housing issue

Access to Pre-K

1. Allocate capital funding for potential Pre-K expansion projects when and where they exist.
2. Implement a County-wide tuition assistance program.

3. Open SPK eligibility to a targeted population of three-year-old children.

Quality Improvements

1. Allocate funds for one-time capitol expenses, based on proposals submitted individually by licensed childcare facilities. Estimated costs TBD.

The group discussed the need for additional teachers who would act as floater teachers; currently teachers do not have time to plan their classes or attend trainings. There was also discussion about adding a personnel/recruiter position to focus on finding qualified SPK staff.

Commissioners and staff discussed the presented draft proposal as well as other options. Commissioners also asked how the ECO Board plans to cover costs, if they agreed to support the program in the beginning. Commissioners acknowledged that this program will always require public support and suggested focusing on the following.

- Wage Increases: Bring back to the table estimates based on 3 years and 5 years.
- Recruiting Position: Provide a job description and cost.

The group will return to present at the August 17, 2021 BOCC Work Session.

II. Managers' & Commissioners' Issues

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

Scott Vargo asked Commissioners if they would like to include the new Juneteenth Federal Holiday to the County's Holiday Calendar as a non-priority Holiday. Commissioners agreed.

Marty Ferris reported that the Finance department is almost done with the 2020 Audit.

Nicole Valentine thanked staff for participating in the FIRC Fashion Show, and that Dish with the Commish/Facebook Live will be held on Wednesday, June 30, 2021 via Facebook, and hosted by Elisabeth.

The AARP Action Committee presentation will be held on at the Summit Community and Senior Center from 9am to 1pm.

The Housing Meeting will also take place on July 21, 2021 from 8am to 2pm.

Commissioner Pogue gave an update on the following:

- A meeting with Ayisha Irfan, Public Policy Team at AirBnB, has been scheduled for the July 13, 2021 at 9:15am.
- Update on the CCI Initiative Legislation priorities, a Housing project with Representative McCluskie and Criminal Justice/Public Safety funding.
- Weekly Fire Restrictions update on behalf of Sheriff FitzSimons, who was attending a funeral service for the fallen Arvada Officer. His recommendation is to stay in Fire Restriction Level II at least for another week, as it is unclear whether the conditions will change.

The Safe Parking Program has reached out to Commissioners and Sarah Vaine will contact them to find out if they have specific requests.

Commissioners also reviewed schedules and upcoming calendar events.

III. Quandary Access Discussion Update (Open Space)

Bentley Henderson, Brian Lorch and Christine Zenel gave an update including but not limited to:

- Parking lot expansion and efficiency improvements approvals and surveying
- Permitted paid parking
 - Parking enforcement
 - Infrastructure
- Shuttle Services
 - Interim measures
 - Licensing Agreement or permitting process
 - Options for a pilot program

Robert Jacobs noted several options for expansion of the parking lot with timeframes ranging from one to three weeks, and noted access impacts for each.

Commissioners expressed frustration with the timeframes offered and how long it is taking to implement a solution, which they would like to see in place this summer.

Rick Holman noted his support of the smaller parking lot expansion on the north end of the lot. Adam Bianchi raised concerns over piecemeal solutions rather than coming up with a cohesive plan, and Eric Mamula noted the goal should not be to put as many people on the trail as possible just because it can sustain it.

Mr. Henderson noted that staff will begin the process of using media channels to announce the offering of the shuttle service for Quandary day use, and beginning expansion of the north end of the parking lot.

IV. DOLA Housing Discussion

Greg Winkler, Andrew Paredes and Spencer Bollacker gave a background to housing funding, including but not limited to:

- Federal funding for housing \$550 million from the American Rescue Plan to State in a housing trust fund
- \$305 million of rent relief funding
- \$66 million came to the State to fund homeless assistance
- \$175 million was given to the State for Homeownership Assistance Fund
 - Down payment assistance
 - Repair of existing homes
- Traditional State funding sources
 - Increased sales tax revenue
 - Tobacco tax
 - Rule-making change to allow 80-120% Area Median Income (AMI) funding
- Funding for infrastructure
- Match requirements

- Funding programs that work with existing inventory
- Funding for land purchases

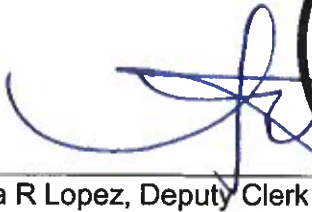
Commissioner Pogue noted her concerns that the State has been metro-focused, and that the limit of 120% of AMI is not the only impediment to working with DOLA. She stated that her hopes include funding pilots, innovation, and removing barriers that developers face.

Scott Vargo noted that cost of infrastructure is a concern in the mountain region that metro areas do not face.

Dick Carleton noted that the influx of remote workers using housing that had previously been used by the local workforce has been an issue.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Sara R Lopez, Deputy Clerk



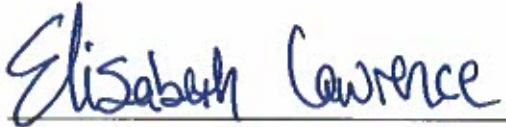
Respectfully submitted:



Lori Dwyer, Deputy Clerk

[S E A L]

Approved by:



Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair