



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 August 10, 2021  
DATE: Tuesday, August 10, 2021

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**Attendees:**

Elected Officials: Elisabeth Lawrence and Tamara Pogue. Absent: Josh Blanchard – Commissioners  
Jaime FitzSimons - Sheriff  
Kathy Neel – Clerk & Recorder  
Ryne Scholl (via Zoom) – Treasurer/Public Trustee  
Gary Wilkinson – County Assessor  
Regan Wood – Coroner

Staff: Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Nicole Valentine, Communications Director; Adam Kisiel, Public Affairs Coordinator; Brian Lorch, Open Space & Trails Director; Jim Curnutte, Community Development Director; David Reynolds, Finance Assistant Director; Peter Haynes, Undersheriff; Christine Zenel, Open Space Resource Specialist; Robert Jacobs, Road & Bridge Director; April Paige, Executive Administrative Manager and Sara R Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Guests (in person or via Zoom): Adam Bianchi, Alison Mathes, Ann Marie Damian, Anne Lowe, Bryan Webinger, Cindy Ebbert, Gary Richardson, Jenna deJong, Jessica Hindmarch, Scott Reid, Scott Verlinde, Shannon Haynes,

**I. Electeds/BOCC Joint Meeting**

Elected Officials discussed the following topics:

Ryne Scholl discussed the technology needs for the Treasurer's Office and requested an update on the planning commissions and their participants. He emphasized the need for clarification on priorities and collaboration between elected offices and Commissioners.

Scott Vargo said there will be two planning commissions, one geared towards Elected Officials and the other towards Department Heads. They will discuss the needs of departments and how they can interact with each other.

Department Updates

- Treasurer's Office: They have sent out tax notices but are still short-staffed.
- Clerks & Recorder: They are preparing for the 2021 Election, and have processed lots of marriage licenses, many of which were postponed from last year.

- Coroner: There have been 49 deaths so far this year, unfortunately, several people in their 30's have died from alcohol complications.
- County Surveyor: Lots of construction projects going on in the county.
- Sheriff:
  - Discussion of recreation paths and the use of ATV/UTV motorized vehicles on trails.
  - Officers have started using body cameras and the process is going well.
  - The department is working with officers feeling overwhelmed from dealing with COVID-19 over the past year, and the additional duties required of them.
  - There is a new Fentanyl strips tests that can be provided to known drug users so they can determine whether the drugs they are purchasing on the streets are laced with Fentanyl, which could cause them to overdose.
  - Sheriff FitzSimons met with CDOT representatives to discuss upgrades to Exit 205 and Straight Creek Drive. As many other organizations, CDOT is short-staffed.

Commissioner Lawrence:

- Discussed the fact that COVID is back on the agenda. During the BOH/BOCC Joint at noon today it will be determined if the county will go with a mask requirement. Many towns are requiring masks now.
- Summit County is the #1 visited place in Colorado and #5 in the US. Therefore, many of the visitors to the county can be from locations with low vaccination rates. The county can choose to require people to wear masks when entering public buildings.
- She also noted that local businesses are short-staffed and some of their current staff refuse to be vaccinated.
- The Summit School District has determined that all kids and staff will need to wear masks, no matter their vaccination status.
- The Legislative Session is working on several bills, including changing the lodging tax so it can be used towards housing, and to offset the impacts of Short Term Rentals (STRs). Currently, the tax can only be used towards advertising.
- The Alpine Inn is up and running and looks great; there has been a tremendous response from people expressing interest in moving in.

**II. Quandary Parking and Shuttle Update (Open Space; Sheriff)**

Bentley Henderson, Jim Curnutte, Christine Zenel, et al. discussed several topics including but not limited to:

Mr. Henderson gave an update on the pilot shuttle and reservations purposes, now on its 11<sup>th</sup> day. The feedback so far has been positive and has received a high level of support through social media, and said each of the reservation blocks have seen strong utilization.

Christine Zenel gave an update on the questions she has received regarding the parking time blocks and the source of the information for visitors. The parking reservation system is still has some kinks to work out, but the feedback on the shuttle service has been extremely positive. Some of the issue is that people are confused of where to park, even with a reservation. Some locals have also complained about the cost.

Sheriff FitzSimons said customers use an array of apps and many of them had the wrong information listed for parking. The US Forest Service has updated their information and maybe that will diminish this problem. There are many signs directing people where to park, if someone decides to park outside the assigned places, it is their choice.

Adam Bianchi reported that the US Forest Services office has been fielding a lot of phone calls regarding the change. Right now most of the callers are from out-of-state who had not received the information.

Shannon Haynes gave an update on the updates being done to the parking website clearly indicating where to park as well as the shuttle stops. Mr. Henderson noted that one of the main takeaways is how flexible everyone has been in adapting to changing situations. He asked to keep the program the same because if big changes are implemented, it could lead to more confusion.

Bob Roppel with Summit Express gave an update on the shuttle services and the feedback he has received from his staff. He believes that it will continue to improve. Commissioner Lawrence thanked him for being a partner in this project.

Commissioner Pogue asked if any of the issues local residents had reported are still taking place, for example, cars blocking their driveways. So far no reports. Commissioner Lawrence noted how this will have a positive impact on the environment, and mentioned the picture on the Denver Post showing people waiting in line for the shuttle.

The group addressed the hourly parking blocks and the suggestion was to change the block to start at 2am. They will also continue to reach out to search engines and apps to update their information about parking. The Sheriff also discussed advertising the McCullough Gulch lower trail parking lot, as most visitors are not aware of it.

Commissioners thanked the group for their hard work and for rising to the occasion with such a short timeline. As the pilot reaches its conclusion in October, staff will present suggestions for improvement and maybe the program will be extended to other areas in the county.

### **III. Weekly Fire Restrictions Update (Sheriff)**

Jaime FitzSimons gave an update on the current conditions. The county may get some rain this weekend but for now, he recommends for the county to stay without restrictions until next week.

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

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

Marty Ferris reported that SPRTV was able to reach their \$50,000 donation goal. Therefore, the county will match the amount as Commissioners agreed to do so at the March 16, 2021 Work Session.

Nicole Valentine discussed the following:

- A Facebook Live update was held completely in Spanish and they had a good turnout.

- The Housing editorial piece will be published on the Summit Daily News on Wednesday, August 11, 2021.
- Commissioners will participate in the next Facebook Live update on Wednesday, August 11, 2021. The focus will be on COVID. Future topics will include Climate Action Goals.
- Lauren Gilbert was recognized by Summit Daily News as a Summit County Hero for her work during the pandemic.

Bentley Henderson discussed the following:

- The Housing Department is getting close to hiring two new staff members. They will also have an update on the Short-Term rental conversion program soon.
- Road & Bridge - Paint at the Dillon Valley Elementary School is in progress, but are having trouble finding epoxy paint.
- Mr. Bentley suggested pursuing the Safe Routes to Schools (STRS) Grant from the US Department of Transportation. Commissioners agreed.

Commissioners also reviewed schedules and upcoming calendar events.

**V. Joint BOH/BOCC Special Work Session / Working Lunch**

Amy Wineland gave an update on the following topics:

For additional details, please see the BOH/BOCC Joint Meeting Minutes in the Agenda Center under County Commissioners Agendas: <https://www.summitcountyco.gov/agendacenter>.

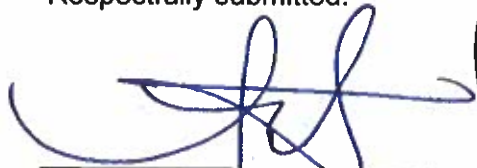
**VI. Continuation of Discussion of Legal Issues and Negotiations related to Real Property Matters with the Engineering Department (Attorney) (Executive Session Recommended).**

Jeff Huntley and Scott Vargo requested an Executive Session to discuss legal issues and negotiations related to real property matters with the Engineering Department.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pogue and seconded by Commissioner Blanchard to go into Executive Session to discuss legal issues and negotiations related to real property matters with the Engineering Department. The BOCC voted 3 to 0 to go into Executive Session per CRS 24-6-402 (4) (a)(b)(e). The motion was approved.

Meeting Adjourned.

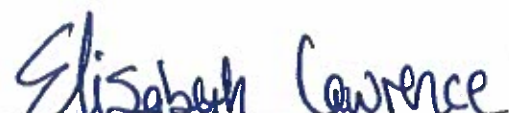
Respectfully submitted:



Sara R Lopez, Deputy Clerk



Approved by:



Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair