



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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TO: Board of County Commissioners
Bentley Henderson
Jeff Huntley
FROM: Millicent Marter
RE: Work Session Meeting of November 09, 2021
DATE: Tuesday, November 09, 2021

Attendees:

Elected Officials: Elisabeth Lawrence, Tamara Pogue and Josh Blanchard – Commissioners
Jaime FitzSimons - Sheriff
Kathy Neel – Clerk & Recorder
Ryne Scholl – Treasurer/Public Trustee
Frank Celico – County Assessor
Regan Wood – Coroner
Heidi McCollum – District Attorney

Staff: Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Keely Ambrose, Assistant County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Molly Boyd, Human Resources Manager; Nicole Valentine, Director of Communication; Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager; April Paige, Executive Administrative Manager; and Millicent Marter, Administrative Assistant.

Guests (in person or via Zoom): Bryan Webinger, Andrew Pappas, Ashley Kubiszyn, Blair McGary, Hannah Galgiani, Monica Williams, Ariana Flores, Jenna deJong, and others who did not sign in.

I. Discussion of Proposed 2022 Budget

Marty Ferris gave an update on the following topics including but not limited to:

Nothing from staff.

II. Electeds/BOCC Joint Meeting

Elected Officials discussed the following topics:

Commissioners opened the meeting by asking Electeds if they had any agenda items. Kathy Neel wanted to discuss the upcoming 2022 Election and possible fears on disinformation re Election Results. She wanted to hear how the Board was feeling about it and invite to discuss possible costs that could go into preventative actions. Commissioners noted that they want to continue their support to the Election Team and Managers want to get prospective costs so they can add it to next year's Budget.

Commissioners asked Elected Officials how they felt about these meetings in terms of frequency, style, etc. Ryne Scholl expressed that he feels the changing environment has been positive but

doesn't feel that these meetings are necessary and proposed meeting in a less formal environment. Frank Celico expressed that it would be more valuable to prepare agenda items in advance and meet less frequently. Jaime FitzSimons stated that he is a big proponent of the advocacy of this environment because he meets with all departments within the BOCC nearly every day but also stated that it is hard to come into a public setting and go into detail about his department. He still likes that it's a quarterly meeting. Regan Wood echoed that she feels similarly to Sheriff FitzSimons and enjoys the opportunity to check in on all elected officials' department.

The Commissioners and Electeds proposed that standing agenda items will be updates and legislative priorities and will remain quarterly while working to make it more organized.

Department Updates

- **Treasurer's Office:** Just completed Tax Sale for this year so collection rate is ~98% so far. Will be sending new Property Taxes by January 2022 but preparing for the possibility of some foreclosures and seeing how many are Short Term Rentals (STRs). Also working with Frank on replacing their software program. Commissioners are interested in getting more detailed data regarding Foreclosures in relations to STRs. Mr. Scholl also wanted to bring up that there were past conversations regarding taxing (or not taxing) a level of STRs that the Treasurers weren't a part of and considered it a missed opportunity. There was also a discussion on researching the benefits into a 4 day work week (in regards to childcare, pay, and handling multiple jobs).
- **Assessor's Office:** Software updates has become a big challenge for the department (e.g., trying to do the best valuation with the tools that they have). They've been working closely with IS to try and quickly fix this issue. Mr. Celico and Mr. Scholl also have an upcoming meeting with the BOCC next week.
- **Clerks & Recorder:** Very happy with last week's Elections
- **Coroner:** Office has been very busy and near their previous highest rate (due to pandemic, mental health, self-medicating). Trying to grow survivor's report program and working to get the word out to the community. Coordinating with Building Hope on Drug/Alcohol/Suicide Prevention.
- **Sheriff:** Ptarmigan Fire is officially wrapped up. Quandary ended successfully (heavy enforcement at the beginning of the season and seemed to help with keeping the peace for the rest of the summer/fall). Calls for service: slowly increased in previous years and looking to continue in the near future – Response to calls has been changing in a more dangerous and violent nature. Mental Health Calls (SMART Program) has grown tremendously – SMART is getting more calls than police department on some days. Also experiencing staffing retention issues due to housing and childcare being difficult. Concealed handguns and firearm purchases have gone up for the past few months. Commissioners asked if they could get some data on SMART. Jaime also noted that STRs and complaints have become a huge time suck on him but is hopeful that this will be a great change for the community.
- **District Attorney:** Summit Office is fully staffed. Big issues: still struggling with lots of defendants experiencing mental health concerns, uptick in violent crimes and drug trafficking (due in part to I-70 and Glenwood Canyon being shut down due to the mud slides), also working to hammer down chain laws with semi-trucks and commercial drivers (hoping to take

some legislative actions on preventative actions so highway shut downs can happen less frequently).

Commissioner Pogue:

- Discussed legislative task force.
- Upcoming Housing Projects and funding.
- Bills Ranch Town Hall

Jeff Huntley requested an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation as well as real property matters subject to negotiations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pogue and seconded by Commissioner Blanchard to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation as well as real property matters subject to negotiations. The BOCC voted 3 to 0 to go into Executive Session per CRS 24-6-402 (4) (a)(b)(e). The motion was approved.

III. **Services Agreement The Equity Project**

Molly Boyd, Hannah Galgiani, Monica Williams, and Ariana Flores gave an update on the following topics including but not limited:

Getting to know you:

- The group posed the following questions to the BOCC: What are your goals or vision for your organization regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion? Staff noted that they believe the BOCC has become more equitable from a gender standpoint but not from an ethnic standpoint and expressed excitement with starting to work with The Equity Project to bring in as many different voices and perspectives to the conversation.
- What are some of the potential obstacles or challenges that the Summit County Government (SCG) foresee in this process? Commissioners noted internal and external challenges (such as beginning with the fact that "Government" is within the SCG name and that it inspires distrust from some parts of the community) and also expressed interest in brainstorming efforts to include Spanish speaking citizens into our community and help them feel welcome. It was also noted that the community here in Summit County is very fluid and difficult to respond to as it continues to change. Staff also noted that they want a more diverse representation at Town Halls and other public events to get a multitude of different perspectives.

Our Work Together

- Foundational Training(s): Still customized but understanding how to get everyone on the same starting page. Staff questioned whether this was going to be all staff initially included or subsets of staff? Ms. Williams noted that it can be designed how SCG feels is best for them.
- Community Based Assessment: Sending out a poll survey and working with SCG on crafting it.
- Internal Employee Assessment
- Development of Equity Blueprint (Strategic Plan)

Next Steps – Foundational Training, Pulse Survey and Community Listening Sessions

- (November – December) Level Setting Trainings for Summit County Employees

- Developing a strong foundation of EDI
 - Aligning on key terminology
- (December) Internal Employee Survey
 - Development of Questions
 - Distribution of Survey
 - Review determines focus groups and interviews
- (January 2022) Community Listening Sessions
 - Open forums for Summit County community members to define key priority areas

Molly Boyd will continue to work with Hannah Galgiani on next steps.

IV. Managers' & Commissioners' Issues

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

Nicole Valentine

- Key messaging this week will be on vaccines and booster shots. Public Advisory will be sent out this week. Commissioners stressed the importance to get clear messaging out to the public about paperwork/vaccine cards needed and clear distinctions between people making appointments to get their shots versus “walk-ins.”

Bentley Henderson

- Forest Service has issued a notice of project and looking for public comment (Swan Mountain Project) – looking to help mitigate wildfire challenges in that area.
- Traffic Consultants in Dillon will be sending updates on the Lake Dillon roundabout (December 7th) – Commissioners Pogue expressed interest in attending if there’s a Zoom and Commissioner Blanchard said he could attend in person if necessary.
- Second of 2 Planning Commissions – Believed it went well. Public was able to express their opinions and seemed supportive of the framework.
- Completion of Quandary Trailhead and Hiking Program – will be coming back with the Board about parking numbers and have further conversations re next steps (expanding shuttle service) and expand the pilot program.

Sarah Vaine

- Noted that there were a number of things that went awry with the State’s Vaccine Bus yesterday – the scheduling department/program overbooked people and didn’t take into account that pediatric visits take longer than adult visits (particularly 5 year olds). They’re also looking to find locations with a lot of parking and space for the many visitors. But Ms. Vaine wanted to note that they’re working hard to make sure yesterday’s incidents don’t repeat themselves. Mr. Vargo also proposed that we get the word out about getting boosters at local pharmacies and Walmart to help ease the crowds. Commissioners noted that they were grateful for the Vaccine Bus program but hope that there will not be further infrastructure issues for future dates.

Jeff Huntley requested an Executive Session to discuss Subsection B on Real Estate and Land Issues.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pogue and seconded by Commissioner Blanchard to go into Executive Session to discuss legal issues and negotiations regarding real estate and land issues. The BOCC voted 3 to 0 to go into Executive Session per CRS 24-6-402 (4) (a)(b)(e).The motion was approved.

Staff will return to the Work Session on Tuesday, November 16, 2021. Commissioners thanked the team for their work.

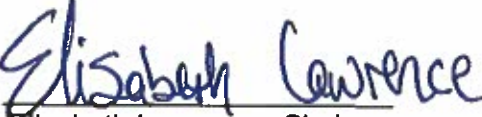
Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:


Millicent Marter, Deputy Clerk




Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair