

EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

COLORADO'S CENTRAL PLAINS



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EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES January 5, 2011

Call to Order

Chairman Rayetta Palmer called the January 5, 2011 meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:12 p.m. at the Hub City Senior Center in Limon, CO. In addition to Rayetta Palmer, board members present included: Fred Beisser, Del Beattie, Dave Hornung, Nola Stone, Steve Burgess, John Shipper, Troy McCue, Paul Warneke, Monica Halde, Donna Metcalf, and Bob Paintin. Staff members present included Jo Downey, ECCOG Executive Director and Terry Baylie, Senior and Transit Services Director. John Hill of the Ranchland News at Simla and Mike Kelly, Town of Limon Trustee were guests.

Del Beattie led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Added agenda items were a 2011 budget amendment and the Governor's meeting.

Rayetta then asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the November 3, 2010 meeting. Troy McCue moved the Board approve the Minutes of the November 3, 2010 ECCOG Board of Directors meeting as submitted. John Shipper seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Board next reviewed the Financial Report and list of bills, which showed total net payroll of \$27,123.32, and the total for bills listed for December was \$58,316.04. Fred Beisser moved the Board approve the December Financial Report and the list of bills. Dave Hornung seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Updated 4-Year Plan for Aging Services

Terry Baylie briefed those in attendance on additions to the Area Agency on Aging 4-Year Plan. Included in Board packets was a 2-page update of the 2012-2015 4-Year aging services plan and charts not available at the November 2010 meeting. This update also included the AAA survey service priority list as recommended by the Board at the November meeting. Baylie said the 4-year plan was submitted to the State on December 7th. Also included in Board packets was a checklist received from the State on December 7th showing the items ECCOG needed to include

in the area plan. Although an official completed checklist has not yet been received, the ECCOG Area Agency on Aging did receive verbal plan approval on December 14th.

Home Sweet Prairies

Jo Downey discussed the status of the development of the www.homesweetprairies.com web site. Area realtor lists have now been updated. Copies of the latest list were distributed. Realtors will soon receive a second announcement of the outline of the project. A print out of the Home Page for the web site was distributed to those present. Downey pointed out the set of links to content that has yet to be written. The web developer will be changing writers this week because of continuing health issues of the person originally assigned to the project.

2010 Contract Extensions for EDA, DOLA, and OEDIT

Jo Downey stated that three different 2010 grant contracts that were to have expired on December 31 had been extended. She explained that when notice was received in August that the DOLA Impact funds would not be available in 2011, immediate cutbacks were made that would allow funds originally intended for use in 2010 to be stretched into 2011. The Enterprise Zone Marketing grant (OEDIT) was extended three months. It is anticipated that there will be a new 2011 EZ Marketing contract that will begin April 2, 2011. The Energy Impact Technical Assistance Grant was extended for a full year, but Downey said that the "carryover" would be fully spent by April or May. The EDA Planning Partnership Grant was also extended through March of 2011 and the new contract will then be effective for a twelve month period beginning April 1, 2011. An additional benefit to this extension is that the due date of the final report is now March rather than December when all of the other reports are filed.

CDOT/FTA Contract Amendment

The Board previously had received in their packets, page one only of the contract amendment with CDOT to provide the 2011 funding for FTA transit services. Also included was the scope of work for 2011. The amendment was received from the State on December 16th. In the interest of time, and to ensure that a contract was signed and in place by the end of December, the signature page was emailed to Rayetta, who was asked to print, sign and mail 4 copies back to ECCOG. These were received and mailed to CDOT on the 23rd. Terry asked the Board to officially ratify this action. A motion to ratify the signing of and the actual amended transit contract for 2011 was made by Del Beattie. Troy McCue seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2011 Board Membership

Downey reminded everyone that this was the last meeting of the 2010 Board of Directors. Three of the four municipal members have been selected for 2011. Rayetta Palmer will continue to represent the Cheyenne County municipalities; Nola Stone will represent the towns in Kit Carson County and Mike Kelly will represent the four incorporated communities in Lincoln County, replacing long-time COG Board Member, Del Beattie, who chose not to run again. There is currently a three way tie for the municipal representative in Elbert County...each of the three towns voted for their respective nominees...so the selection will be made by the Elbert County

Commissioners. The determination as to which Commissioner will represent his/her respective county will be made at that County's re-organization meeting to be held later this month. Each County will also appoint their economic development representative to the Board for 2011 at their reorganizational meeting. PDC recently reappointed Troy McCue as the 2011 At-Large Board Member.

Special Projects Coordinator

Jo Downey announced that the position of Special Projects Coordinator has been filled by Candace Payne of Flagler. Downey outlined Candace's qualifications and the slight differences in work assignments from those of retiring long-time ECCOG staff member, Terry Blevins.

Farewell to Del

Rayetta announced to the other Board Members that this meeting would be the last meeting for Limon Trustee, Del Beattie who is retiring from the COG Board. She thanked him for his many years of service. In honor of Del, a short break was taken to toast to his future with coffee and cake.

Other

NEW BUSINESS:

2011 Legal Services

Terry said that Colorado Legal Services will provide legal services in 2011 to persons over the age of 60 residing within the four- county region. This will be undertaken through a contract between ECCOG and CLS which is funded in part from grant funds to ECCOG under Title III of the Older Americans Act. Presentations will be provided in each county. These have been tentatively scheduled for February and March (Cheyenne and Kit Carson counties in February...Lincoln and Elbert counties in March). CLS will provide a brief presentation on legal issues such as Medicaid Estate Recovery, wills, powers of attorney, etc., with a free legal clinic to follow for one-on-one consultation with an attorney.

Personnel Policies Amendment

The Board of Directors reviewed a revised page from the Personnel Policies Manual that included additional language to clarify use of holiday time. A motion was made by Dave Hornung to adopt the policy amendment. Monica seconded this motion, which carried unanimously.

Budget Amendment

Jo Downey asked the Board to amend the 2011 Budget to add additional revenue and expenditures to increase the salary of the Chief Accountant/Fiscal Officer by approximately \$900 a year over the previously approved budget. Downey explained that the position would now include both the ECCOG and PDC accounting responsibilities. PDC had previously been contracted. Combining the two functions and increasing the time to complete the work from 40-45 hours a week (with up to 5 hours being undertaken remotely by computer) will result in a cost savings to the combined agencies. In computing the salary for the budget previous adopted, Downey

said she did not take the time increase into proper consideration. The additional funds needed to increase the position to Step 6 would come from PDC. A motion was made by Donna Metcalf and seconded Del Beattie to set the 2011 salary for the Fiscal Officer at Step 6 on the adopted salary schedule. Motion carried.

Enhanced Enterprise Zone Counties for 2011 and 2012

Only two of the four ECCOG Counties have been granted Enhanced Enterprise Zone Status for 2011 and 2012. Though Kit Carson County had been eligible from 2005-2010, the statute states that the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) must revise the list of eligible counties by December 1 prior to the two year eligibility period. A county must meet two of five criteria: County unemployment rate greater than 50% above state average; per capita income less than 75% of state average; county population growth rate less than 25% of state average; total non-residential assessed value ranks in the lower half of all counties; and county population of less than 5000. Kit Carson County had previously qualified under assessed value and population growth. However, population growth in the county during the measurement period in 2009 was higher than the threshold because of the addition of inmates at the expanded Kit Carson County Correctional Facility. ECCOG Staff worked with Burlington officials to provide new data to the state documenting that the 2010 prison population was significantly lower in December of 2010, thus the actual current overall county growth was under the threshold. However, the interpretation by the State was that the statute specified a certain period for calculation and thus the criteria could not be waived. Elbert County has never met the enhanced criteria since it only meets the assessed value threshold. Jo Downey reminded those present that all four counties are still in the East Central Enterprise Zone and are eligible for all of the tax credits...the difference is that the job credit in Enhanced Counties is significantly higher.. A copy of the Enhanced Counties announcement memo from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade is attached to the official file copy of these minutes.

Prairie Development Corporation At-Large Board Member for 2011-2012

The nine members of the board of directors for the Prairie Development Corporation are each appointed for a two-year term. Each county will appoint two members for 2011 and 2012 at their reorganizational meetings next week. The East Central Council of Local Governments appoints the at-large member. A motion was made by Donna Metcalf to reappoint Dana Siekman of Stratton to the PDC Board for 2011 and 2012. The motion was seconded by Dave Hornung, which carried unanimously.

Demographic Handouts

Copies of various demographic materials that were distributed at the annual demography meeting held in November were reviewed. A copy of those materials is included with the official file copy of these minutes.

Governors Meeting

Governor John Hickenlooper and various staff members from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade and other agencies will be in Limon at the Community Center on Monday, January 17th to discuss economic development needs of the Eastern Plains area. The meeting will be from 10-noon and elected officials are encouraged to attend as our economic development representatives. As space may be limited, people are encouraged to RSVP to OEDIT Business Representative, Darlene Scott.

Next Meeting Date/Location

The next meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors will be Wednesday, February 2, 2011 in Limon at the Senior Center. There will be a short reorganizational meeting prior to the regular business meeting. This will be the first meeting for the 2011 Board (to close out January business). Should this meeting need to be postponed because of inclement weather, the next meeting will be March 2, 2011.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Rayetta Palmer declared the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.