

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 April 6, 2016

Call to Order

Chairman Nancy Bogenhagen called the April 6, 2016, meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:06 PM at the Hub City Senior Center in Limon. In addition to Chairman Nancy Bogenhagen, Board members present included: Gary Beedy, Julie Coonts, Maarten van Zoeren, Monica Halde, Dave Hornung, Greg King, Troy McCue, Hal McNerney, Don Means, Valerie Rhoades, and Larry Ross. Staff members present included: Jo Downey, ECCOG Executive Director; Candace Payne, Special Projects Director; and Terry Baylie, Senior and Transit Services Director. Board member Linda Corbin was unable to attend. Also attending was auditor Lori Hendrick of May Jackson Hendrick, LLC.

Chairman Bogenhagen asked Dave Hornung to lead the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Bogenhagen asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the March 2, 2016 reorganizational meeting and the March 2, 2016 regular meeting. Greg King moved to approve both sets of March 2, 2016 meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Dave Hornung and carried unanimously.

The Board next reviewed the April 2016 Financial Report and list of bills for March 2016. The April report showed a total net payroll for March of \$28,358.08 and total bills of \$81,934.70 with debit card expenses of \$1,002.76. Gary Beedy moved the Board approve the April financial report and pay the March 2016 bills. Hal McNerney seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2015 AUDIT PRESENTATION

Lori Hendrick of May Jackson Hendrick, LLC presented the completed 2015 ECCOG Audit to the Board. Copies of the Audit Report were included with Board materials and additional printed copies were available at the meeting. Hendrick reviewed the audit page by page as to what each meant. She stated that it was a very clean audit and the highest opinion possible was given by her firm. She also made some general recommendations as to ways to improve handling statements and invoices within the HelpMATE Program. Brief discussion followed. Dave Hornung moved to approve the 2015 audit as presented; motion was seconded by Hal McNerney and carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Broadband Plan Update

Jo Downey updated the attendees on the Broadband Plan for the four-county area. Preliminary work in developing the educational phase of the plan has begun. The cell-phone "gap" data has been obtained

and maps showing areas of weak or no cell signal are being developed. Downey reminded the Board that in the original RFP, cell-phone service was no part of the study...but was added in late 2015 due to survey results indicating that many citizens used their cell phones as their "broadband" provider. A revised draft of the overall plan will be presented to the COG Board once the suggested changes from the Steering Committee have been added, additional survey information added and the cell-phone portion incorporated. The address for the website for the Broadband promotion will be: www.Colocentralplainsbroadband.com.

Summer Tourism/Travel Marketing Materials

Draft artwork/concepts for the 2016 Heritage Tourism marketing program were distributed at the meeting. The design this year is bright and colorful! A draft listing of the events that have been submitted was also shared. Executive Director Jo Downey outlined the next steps and time frame with the completion/distribution of the 2016 materials to be the first week in May. Board members were asked to review the drafts and get back to staff by the close of business on Friday with any additions/changes.

Other

NEW BUSINESS:

Project HelpMATE statistics

Included with Board materials was a summary report for the material aid project (vision, dental, hearing). Area Agency on Aging Director Terry Baylie reviewed the report and answered questions. She also updated those present on the Visually Impaired Project. The Board asked that Terry email information on both the HelpMATE and visually impaired projects to them to increase the understanding of the program and to help increase usage across the region. A copy of the summary report is attached to the official file copy of these Minutes.

CDBG Business Loan Grant Contract Extension

Jo Downey explained she had met earlier today with the Lincoln County commissioners in regards to the extension of the PDC/ECCOG Community Development Block Grant Business Loan contract for an additional two-year period that would end on June 30, 2018. The Commission passed a resolution to ask the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade for a two year time extension. Additional funding could be requested during that period should loan activity merit such a request. Lincoln County is the grantee for the CDBG grant and then sub-contracts with PDC/ECCOG for administration of the grant. All four counties have entered into an intergovernmental agreement allowing the funds to be used anywhere within the region. There is currently \$150,000 still available in the open contract for business loans. Downey summarized the criteria for the various PDC loan programs and answered questions. Candace Payne outlined the newest loan program (BIL...Business Improvements Loans). Printed promotional material was distributed and Board Members were asked to help promote the availability of the funding.

State Unit on Aging Funding Request

Terry Baylie stated that the timeline for the next State Unit on Aging grant request for services to senior citizens within the COG Region would be impacted by the fact that the COG Board will not meet again

until June 1st. The allocation amounts are to be sent out to the various Area Agencies on Aging by mid-April and are due back by the end of May. The Senior Services and Transit Advisory Board will meet on May 12 to review the request. Terry asked the Board if it was necessary to request an extension of the deadline date so that it could be reviewed by the ECCOG Governing Board or if they would instead ratify the Advisory Board's favorable recommendation and submit the request by the deadline. After brief discussion the Board's general consensus was to ratify a favorable recommendation from the Senior Services and Transit Advisory Board at the June meeting and for Terry to submit the request by the deadline.

Senior Speak-Out XL

Terry reported that the 40th Annual Senior Speak-Out will be hosted by ECCOG's Area Agency on Aging on October 6 & 7th in Burlington. Meetings will be held at the Burlington Community Building. Hotel room reservations will be made at the Best Western Carousel Inn and Suites because of the accessibility (elevator). Camp Cook Concessions of Bethune will cater the Thursday evening banquet. Participants have the ability to get lunch on both days at any of the Burlington eating places. There is a 2-hour break on Thursday afternoon at which time participants can shop, visit Old Town, or just check in and rest in their rooms. Assuming the weather permits, the Kit Carson County Carousel will be open from 12 to 2 on Friday for viewing/rides before people go home.

Area Agency on Aging/Transit Director Position

Jo Downey explained that the job description had recently been updated and was distributed to the Board for review. The position is anticipated to start on August 1st, 2016. Ads will be placed in the local papers, the workforce center database, and on the ECCOG website until the position is filled. Qualified applicants will submit their cover letter and resume via email to Candace Payne as shown on the job description. Terry will be retiring at the end of December. Gary Beedy moved to approve the job description as presented for posting and disbursement. The motion was seconded by Larry Ross and carried unanimously.

Next Two Meeting Dates/Locations

The June 1st meeting will be held in Limon with the supper at IHOP. There will not be a physical meeting in July or August but a special teleconference session could be called by Nancy if necessary. The September 7th meeting will also be held in Limon, with supper location to be determined later. The last meeting in 2016 will be held in Stratton at the Claremont Inn on November 1st.

Other

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Adjournment

Nancy Bogenhagen declared the meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.