

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 May 4, 2011

Call to Order

Chairman Rayetta Palmer called the May 4, 2011 meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:20 p.m. at the Hub City Senior Center in Limon, CO. In addition to Rayetta Palmer, Board members present included: Monica Halde, Fred Beisser, John Shipper, Nancy Bogenhagen, Paul Warnecke, Troy McCue, and Steve Burgess. Staff members present included Jo Downey, ECCOG Executive Director; and Terry Baylie, Senior and Transit Services Director. Also present was Lori Hendrick of May Jackson Hendrick, LLC.

Rayetta Palmer asked Fred to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rayetta then asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the March 2, 2011 reorganizational meeting. Steve Burgess moved the Board approve the reorganizational Minutes of the March 2, 2011 meeting as submitted. John Shipper seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Rayetta then asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the regular March 2, 2011 meeting. She mentioned that in the 4th paragraph, the "January Financial Report" should read "**February** Financial Report". Fred Beisser moved to approve the regular March 2 meeting Minutes with the change noted above. Motion was seconded by Troy and carried unanimously.

The Board next reviewed the March Financial Report and list of bills for April, which shows total net payroll for April of \$28,228.43, and the total bills for April of \$41,722.99. Troy McCue moved the Board approve the March Financial Report and the April bills. John Shipper seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2010 Audit Presentation

Lori Hendrick of May Jackson Hendrick, LLC presented the 2010 Audit for the East Central Council of Local Governments. Copies of the Audit were previously sent electronically to all Board members. Discussion followed. A motion was made by Fred Beisser to accept the 2010 audit as presented; seconded by John Shipper; motion carried unanimously. A copy of the audit is included with the official file copy of these minutes. An electronic copy was provided to ECCOG to use in providing the audit to respective State and Federal granting agencies.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Home Sweet Prairies

Steps have now been taken to obtain the final information for the www.homesweetprairies.com site. A “going live” is still to be determined. Staff will be working with Danielle Dascalos to determine the best ways to market the site. The web company that developed the site will also monitor it and be responsible for changing the photos of the featured home from each of the realtors on a twice monthly basis.

2012-2015 Four Year Aging Services Plan

Included in Board packets was information on the final approval of the ECCOG Area Agency on Aging’s *Four Year Plan for Aging Services*. Terry Baylie reviewed the documents, explaining that there were four items that needed further clarification, which included more detailed information on the nutrition program, the region’s plan for Part D services, the scope of work for the legal services program, and more information on the Ombudsman program. Terry responded to these additional questions on the spreadsheet sent by the State and included additional information in the actual plan where necessary. Terry said that following submission of this additional information, the Area Plan was approved on March 16th.

CDBG Business Loan Capital and Blight Grant Proposal

The Lincoln County Commissioners recently passed a resolution to apply for additional loan capital funds through a Community Development Block Grant from the Governors Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). Lincoln County will then enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the other three counties so that the funds can be loaned to new or expanding businesses throughout the region. The grant/program/loans will be administered jointly by the Prairie Development Corporation and the East Central Council of Governments through a sub-contract. The current Business Loan Program contract expires on January 31, 2012. It cannot be closed out until each of the businesses that was loaned funds have the jobs created or retained that each respective business committed to. Jo said that it could take through the end of the grant period for the job creation to be in place. Therefore, if the grant now being prepared is approved, there would not be a grant contract until early 2012. Downey also reported that the concept of submitting the new application for both additional loan capital and for CDBG funds for blight renewal was no longer feasible. The State of Colorado received a significant cut in CDBG funds and staff has been advised that funding for any new programs is not feasible at this time. Therefore, the Blight Removal Program grant is on hold.

Other

NEW BUSINESS:

2012-2013 FTA Application

The draft application of the 2012-2013 Federal Transit Administration Grant Application for the provision of Outback Transit System services within the ECCOG service area was distributed. Terry reviewed the application and answered questions from the Board. She said that the application was reviewed by the Senior Services and Transit Advisory Board at its April 14th meeting, who recommended that the application be approved and submitted. Terry then asked the Board to consider final approval of the application and submit it to CDOT for processing. Steve Burgess moved to approved the 2012-2013 FTA application and submit same to CDOT. Motion was seconded by John Shipper and carried unanimously.

Our Journey and Off the Beaten Trail 2011

The Our Journey Program is now complete. Staff reported on the project and the revised and new additions for the Our Journey “kit” for 2011. In addition to changing the ticket (Saddleland Museum in Simla has been added) and the Dear Explorer letter, the antique guide was updated and modified. Last year, a customized carabineer was given out at each museum when an Our Journey ticket was presented. This year a small flexible (3 by 3) magnet representing each of the fourteen museum will be available for distribution. As the minimum order for each was 500 pieces, each museum will be given the flexibility of how to best use any leftover magnets. Three new museum inserts (supported by partial funding from the Lincoln County Tourism Board and the Enterprise Zone Marketing Grant) have been designed. The three additions are the Genoa Tower, the Arriba Museum and the Clown Museum. Danielle Dascalos will continue providing public relations service to promote the Our Journey and Off The Beaten Trail for 2011. Jo Downey said that she recently appeared on *Colorado and Company* to promote the 2011 season. The region has also cooperated with the Colorado Tourism Office and portions of southern Colorado to produce a joint advertorial that will appear in the May/June 2011 issue of the *Audubon Magazine*. 1000 overruns of the four page insert will be available to ECCOG for distribution.

Enterprise Zone Electronic Filing Process. Pre-certification, etc.

Jo Downey asked that the electronic process be tabled until the next board meeting. A late bill (HB 1314) was introduced earlier this week that (if passed) would eliminate the pre-certification mandate. Downey reported that by late August all Enterprise Zone Tax Credits would be filed electronically. She gave a brief description of how this system would work. “Soft” tests of the system will begin within the next month.

2012 State and Federal Senior Services Funding Request

ECCOG has received notice that a projected cut of 2.1% will need to be taken into consideration for the 2012 SFY Grant Funds from Aging and Adult Services. The 2012 state fiscal year begins July 1. Copies of the 2012 Title III applications for both the federal and state funds were distributed at the meeting. Terry said that the allocation change and resulting decrease was not based on an actual funding cut from the Administration on Aging, but rather on the funding formula and the removal of state match from Part D funds. She also said that the approved Continuing Resolution resulted in flat funding, but the shift in demographics resulted in each region's funding change. Terry reviewed the applications, which reflects this change, a decrease of about \$7,000. Following discussion/questions the Board was asked to consider approval of the applications contingent upon input from the Senior Services and Transit Advisory Board. The advisory group will not meet until after the ECCOG meeting and as the application is due back before the next ECCOG meeting, the board discussed the importance of waiting until they actually received a recommendation back from the SSTB. Nancy Bogenhagen moved that after a recommendation(s) was made by the advisory board at its May 12th meeting, the ECCOG Board be made aware of that recommendation and then vote for approval or disapproval via email. Motion was seconded by Troy McCue and carried unanimously.

Terry also said that the contract and signature pages for 2012 were received on April 27th. Following discussion, Steve Burgess moved to authorize Rayetta to sign the signature pages after an official vote was taken by the ECCOG Board after the Advisory Board meeting recommendation was known. Motion was seconded by Nancy Bogenhagen and carried unanimously.

Economic Development Administration 2011 Grant Contract

The Planning Partnership grant contract from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) has not been received. The grant's original effective date was to be April 1. However, due to Federal budget delays, the EDA contracts have not yet been issued and the grantees throughout the western EDA region have been advised that it could be another 60 days before any contracts could be offered.. ECCOG has received verbal assurance from the Denver EDA Office that costs to the grant and match could still begin April 1 and the contract (when awarded) would be retroactive. Jo said that there were some concerns (by all EDA funded Economic Development Districts) that the amount of the grant awards could be less than anticipated.

Other

John Shipper discussed the merits of Communities or groups of communities having a community wide "Garage Sale" or a local government or service organization organizing a co-operative sale at a local site (Fairgrounds, activity center, etc.). He gave examples of tremendous successes (and resulting business for local businesses) in other states as well as a recent sale in Elbert County.

Steve Burgess inquired as to whether the ECCOG sick leave policies allowed for supervisors to request a doctor's "excuse" if the sick leave exceeded a few days. Jo Downey stated that the ability to do this was there but there had been no need to make such a request for several years.

Rayetta asked whether there should be some direction from ECCOG as to a consistent pricing or use of the "left over magnets" for the 2011 Our Journey program. It was the general consensus that each museum should do what worked best for their facility.

Next Two Meeting Dates/Locations

The next meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors will be Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at the courthouse in Kiowa, with a catered dinner to be arranged by John Shipper. The September 7th meeting will be held in Burlington, with possible visits to the Carousel and/or Old Town. The Board will not meet in June or August.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Rayetta Palmer declared the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.