

EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

COLORADO'S CENTRAL PLAINS



Box 28 • Stratton, Colorado 80836 • 719-348-5562 • (FAX) 719-348-5887 • www.eccog.com

EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES May 7, 2014

Call to Order

Chairman Nancy Bopenhagen called the May 7, 2014 meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:18 pm at the Hub City Senior Center in Limon, CO. In addition to Nancy Bopenhagen, Board members present included: Harry Nelson, Greg King, Jack Hendricks, Gary Beedy, Larry Ross, Dave Hornung, Troy McCue and Monica Halde. Staff members present included Jo Downey, ECCOG Executive Director; Candace Payne, Special Projects/Lending Director, and Terry Baylie, Senior and Transit Services Director. Also present were John Hill of the Ranchland News; Donna Dreyer-Ross, and Frank Ohrtman of WMX Systems, a broadband consultant. Members absent were Valerie Rhodes, Tim Ehrlich and Kyle Fenner.

Nancy led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Nancy then asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the March 5, 2014 meeting. Greg King moved to approve the March 5, 2014, meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Gary Beedy and carried unanimously.

The Board next reviewed the May 2014 Financial Report and list of bills for April 2014. The report showed a total net payroll of \$29,699.48 and total bills for April of \$42,984.57. Troy McCue moved the Board approve the May financial report and pay the April bills. Dave Hornung seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2013 Audit Presentation

Lori Hendrick was unable to attend the meeting. However, she asked that she be able to make her presentation by phone which was agreed to by the Board. After the presentation, Dave Hornung moved to accept the 2013 audit. Motion was seconded by Jack Hendricks and carried unanimously. A copy of the audit is attached to the official file copies of these minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Capital Equipment (busses) Update

The company where the Lincoln County (Hugo based) and the Town of Limon buses (Supreme Corporation) were ordered from sold their bus division (Startrans Bus) in March. This change

of ownership and re-location of the production facility has put a delay on the scheduled delivery of vehicles. The Lincoln County vehicle scheduled to arrive last December will hopefully arrive mid-June. The Town of Limon vehicle was scheduled to arrive in May, but no new delivery date estimate is available at this time.

Terry reviewed the spreadsheet (copy in Board packet) from CDOT outlining funded vehicles for 2015 delivery. Notice was also received (copy in Board packet) that FASTER matching funds for one Kit Carson County vehicle were awarded.

Business Loan CDBG Grant

Staff Director, Jo Downey outlined the latest anticipated time frame for an anticipated contract/grant award as a result of the submittal of the new CDBG Business Loan Fund grant application to the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade. Lincoln County is the lead applicant on behalf of all four counties in the ECCOG service area with administration of the grant(s) being subcontracted to ECCOG and PDC. All four counties have now signed the application and the review of that application is anticipated to take place yet in May before the State FRC (Financial Review Committee). Once a contract is awarded to Lincoln County, a sub-contract will be developed among Lincoln County, ECCOG and PDC transferring the responsibility for the program administration and reporting to the two regional agencies.

Broadband Plan Status

Jo Downey briefed those in attendance on the progress since the March meeting to further the plan of ECCOG to undertake a regional broadband study. A formal RFP (Request for Proposal) for a consultant to assist with the development of the plan was completed and sent to potential vendors. The RFP was also posted on the COG website. All proposals are due by the close of business on June 19th. The successful vendor will be selected by the ECCOG Board on July 2. Once the cost of the study is known, ECCOG will seek the matching funds needed and will then submit a grant request for 75% of the cost of the project to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.

Our Journey 2014 Campaign

Jo Downey gave a short report on the status of the marketing efforts for the upcoming summer Our Journey tourism campaign. A major emphasis is again being placed on conveying that the attractions in Colorado's Central Plains are not that far away and in promoting special events...both large and small. Copies of the three new brochures for 2014 were distributed. 15,000 Events Guides have been printed and will be used throughout the Region as well as in the fulfillment kit. Guides will be taken to each school within the four-county area within the next 10 days so that each student can take one home. Downey said that often our own residents do not know what is happening in their own communities or especially the "county next door". The events guide information will also be posted on the Our Journey web site. The new "Places Guides" that lists the historical sites, antiques and collectible shops (along with another list of

the museums) will also be used in the kits and will be distributed from the various antique/collectible shops in the region. The Touring Card/Ticket was the third piece updated for 2014. It is used as an insert in the museum guide as the Ticket lists the opening times and places of each museum. There will be only thirteen museums listed this year instead of 14 as in years past due to the closing of the Genoa Tower. The ticket will also be available on the website for potential travelers to print off for use. Jo reminded the Board and others that Danielle Dascalos would work to obtain media coverage on special and unique events that were happening in the region. Excellent coverage was already obtained on the Mountain Plover Festival due to her efforts.

Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

The process to develop a new CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy) for the ECCOG Region will begin July 1, 2014 and must be submitted to EDA (Economic Development Administration) by June 30, 2015. Jo Downey discussed the need to appoint a revised CEDS Advisory Committee to help guide the process. Downey summarized the required makeup of the advisory group as to the mix of private sector representatives and representatives of other economic development interests. Jo will contact the existing active CEDS Advisory members as to continued interest and will also contact those that have been continually active in Blueprint to see if they might be good CEDS Advisory members. She will bring back a recommended CEDS Committee makeup to the July Board meeting for COG consideration.

Other

Greg King said that relatives of the original builders/owners of the Genoa Tower have inquired about the possibility of acquiring the property.

NEW BUSINESS:

Review of ECCOG Drug and Alcohol Substance Abuse Policy

Terry reported that a review of the regional substance abuse program was conducted on March 19-20. The City of Burlington and DDI abuse programs were also reviewed. The review is a tool to assist transit programs in maintaining accurate and current information. She said that no major findings were found in any of the programs. Only two items in COG's policies were noted, one related to training on Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs and the other regarding action start dates for bus drivers; both issues have been addressed. Terry and Debby are also working with the City of Burlington and DDI to get their programs up-to-date.

Request for Senior Services funding for State Fiscal Year 2015

Copies of the funding request for aging services were included in Board packets and reviewed. A correction was necessary on the Part D allocation...the units and funding were entered on the nutrition counseling line and should be moved to the health promotion line. After additional discussion, Terry reported that the SSTB reviewed the request, and recommended that the

request be approved by the COG Board and submitted to the State. Gary Beedy moved that the funding request be approved with the necessary correction on page 4. Motion was seconded by Troy McCue and carried unanimously. A copy of the request is attached to the official file copy of these minutes.

2015-2016 Salary Schedules

Board Members reviewed copies of the full and part- time salary schedules that were/are being used for 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014. Jo Downey recommended that the same schedules be adopted for 2015 and 2016. Salary Schedules for at least 2015 need to be in place as soon as possible so that grant proposals and budgets can be developed for the coming year. After discussion, Troy McCue moved to adopt the 2015-2016 salary schedules as presented. Dave Horning seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2013 Year End Program Reports

Year-end reports for both the transit system and the aging services were included in Board packets and reviewed. In addition, copies of additional nutrition program reports regarding the number of meals service per site, meal cost breakdowns and donation information will be emailed to the Board. Terry reviewed the reports and answered questions. Copies of the reports are attached to the official file copy of these minutes.

Federal Transit Administration 2015 Grant Application Update

Terry attended a policy option workshop at CDOT headquarters in Pueblo on Friday, April 18th. Information on the 2015 admin/operating application updates were discussed, among other new/revised information. Terry indicated the 2015 application update will be out some time in May and due sometime in June. The ECCOG Board has already reviewed and approved the 2014/15 two-year application and the 2015 update basically consists of updating numbers. In order for this to be submitted by the June deadline, Terry put the updated numbers on the 2013 forms and will be presenting it to the Advisory Board at its May 8th meeting, who will make a recommendation to the COG Board. Since the COG Board will not meet again until July, Terry will present the update at that time and ask the Board to ratify the Advisory Boards decision to submit by the deadline.

Mileage Reimbursement Rate Discussion

As it has been over ten years since ECCOG raised their mileage reimbursement amount for staff and Board/Committee members driving their personal vehicles for official ECCOG business, Jo Downey asked for comments/recommendations as to the merits of increasing the amount now paid. After discussion, Gary Beedy moved to increase the mileage reimbursement rate from 38¢ to 45¢ per mile effective May 1, 2014. The motion was seconded by Dave Hornung. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Two Meeting Dates/Locations

The July meeting is scheduled for July 2nd in Burlington, meeting location/dinner to be determined at a later date. There will not be a meeting in August. The September 3rd meeting will be in Limon, with dinner at Golden China.

Other

There was no other business brought before the Board.

Adjournment

Nancy Bopenhagen declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.