

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 July 6, 2011

Call to Order

Chairman Rayetta Palmer called the July 6, 2011 meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Elbert County Courthouse, Commissioners' Meeting Room in Kiowa, CO. In addition to Rayetta Palmer, Board members present included: Monica Halde, Fred Beisser, John Shipper, Nancy Bogenhagen, Paul Warnecke, Troy McCue, Mike Kelly, Nola Stone, and Steve Burgess. Staff members present included Jo Downey, ECCOG Executive Director; Candace Payne, Special Projects Director; and Terry Baylie, Senior and Transit Services Director. Also present were Kurt Schlegel, Elbert County Commissioner; and Jack Hendricks, Limon. Dave Hornung, Valerie Rhoades, and Donna Metcalf were absent.

The Board thanked the Kiowa Ladies Aid for the great supper.

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

Jo Downey explained the process involved for replacing Mike Kelly on the Board, should he resign his position.

Rayetta then asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the May 4, 2011 meeting. Steve Burgess moved to approve the May 4 meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Troy McCue and carried unanimously.

The Board next reviewed the July Financial Report and list of bills for June, which shows total net payroll for June of \$28,622.34, and the total bills for June of \$45,224.06. John Shipper moved the Board approve the July Financial Report and the June bills. Monica Halde seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Home Sweet Prairies

Jo Downey discussed the final steps and launching of the www.homesweetprairies.com web site. Jo Downey discussed the initial plans for promoting the site to additional realtors and then

to the general public. Jo asked the Board to review the list of realtors previously sent out for accuracy so the next contact effort was more efficient and effective.

State Unit on Aging Audio Evaluation-SFY2011

Terry Baylie, Area Agency on Aging Director, reviewed the evaluation on the May 25/26 audio visit (phone conference replacing an on-site visit) with the State Unit on Aging. Terry reviewed the evaluation and the regional corrective action plan, which addresses the compliance-related issues. She also said that a letter was received from the state approving the corrective action plan.

Business Loan Additional Capital Amendment

Staff Director, Jo Downey, shared the recent grant award of another \$300,000 in capital for the regional Business Loan Program from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). The actual contract is between Lincoln County and the Colorado Department of Local Affairs with an intergovernmental agreement among the four ECCOG counties and Lincoln County then sub-contracts the funds to ECCOG and PDC for administration. Downey updated the board on the status of the plans to submit another multi-county CDBG capital grant request for the Business Loan Programs overseen by ECCOG and PDC. The current contract expires in January and cannot be extended again.

Enterprise Zone Credit Report

A summary of the East Central Enterprise Zone Tax Credits (by category and by county) certified in the first half of 2011 was distributed. 280 different businesses/farms/ranches filed credit requests. Credits issued were just over \$1,209,000. Jo Downey summarized the status of the new electronic approval process. EZ Credits can now be approved electronically, but cannot be filed with Revenue electronically until 1-1-12.

NEW BUSINESS:

Outback Express Public Transit Fares

Terry Baylie provided a brief review of the spreadsheet outlining potential per person fare increases for the Outback Express public transit services. Terry stated the advisory board will review the proposed increases at its July 14th meeting and will make a recommendation to the ECCOG Board.

Our Journey and Off the Beaten Trail 2011

The 2011 Our Journey Program is fully underway. Jo shared that over 780 Our Journey kits have been mailed to the requests made from the *Colorado Getaways* show and other online requests resulting from various television and radio coverage on the Front Range. Approximately 200 other kits have been distributed at various meetings throughout the state. Kits and other promotional materials were available for those at the Board meeting. Jo briefly summarized the

banner ad campaign on the Channel 9 and Gazette Telegraph web pages. Downey also stated that eight of the museums were recently filmed and featured on a KCNC Channel 4 *Colorado Getaways* segment that aired on June 25. The Audubon magazine ad over-runs were also made available to the museums. Jo handed out a copy of the *Colorado Getaways* DVD to each Board members and a copy will go to each museum. Jo said she would email each Board Member a summary of the public relations work and resulting coverage of Our Journey through the end of June.

John Shipper presented an idea for an additional site for tourism in Elbert County. He provided a handout on the missile site that may be of interest. Jo offered to work with Elbert County to apply for a Historical Structure Assessment (HSA) grant to aid preservation of the site. Downey also outlined potential following steps for such preservation including having the site nominated to the State or Nation Register.

Business Loan Fund and Small Business Development Center Activity

Candace Payne, Special Projects Director, supplemented the information given by Jo Downey earlier on the Business Loan Fund and the Small Business Development Center counseling within the four-county region. SBDC assigned a goal of seven clients for the area of Kit Carson and Cheyenne counties that Candace serves. Enrolled clients total eight fully documented for the two counties with three more to enroll this month. Candace reported most clients needed business plan writing assistance. Lincoln and Elbert counties are covered by Pat Vice and Craig Curl, respectively. Candace encouraged the board to send new business start-ups or existing businesses to her for assistance.

Letters of Intent/applications for 2012/2103 Aging Services

Board members received a copy of the *Notice for Request For Proposal* for aging service(s) funding for calendar years 2012/2013. Terry reviewed the process and answered questions. The advisory board will meet on September 8th and will make funding recommends to the ECCOG Board at that time.

Economic Development Administration 2011 Grant Contract

The Planning Partnership grant to ECCOG from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) has been awarded. Jo Downey reviewed the process for contracting and asked for an official resolution from the Board to accept the funds and authorize Rayetta Palmer to sign on behalf of the Board. A copy of the Notice of Investment Award was provided in Board Member packets. John Shipper made a motion to accept the funds and authorize Rayetta Palmer to sign on ECCOG's behalf. Nola Stone seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Elbert County Library District Enterprise Zone Contribution Project

Elbert County Library District has requested to designate the new library and its related employment training services as an East Central Enterprise Zone Contribution Project. Jo Downey

explained the proposed application and asked the Board to grant approval for the application to be submitted to the State Economic Development Commission (EDC) for review on September 8th. All materials to the Commission must be to the State by August 12. Though ECCOG recommends approval and administers the contribution projects, the actual formal approval must come from the EDC. Fred Beisser made a motion to recommend the project to the State EDC for consideration. The motion was seconded by Steve Burgess and passed.

Future Meeting Dates/Locations

The September 7th meeting will be held in Burlington. Jo will make supper arrangements, along with visits to the Carousel and/or Old Town, which may mean the evening will be at 5 pm. The Board also decided to hold the November 2nd meeting in Limon, and have a December 7th meeting at the Claremont Inn in Stratton.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Rayetta Palmer declared the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.