

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 August 7, 2013

Call to Order

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Secretary Monica Halde called the August 7, 2013 meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:05 pm at the Limon Community Building in Limon. In addition to Monica Halde, Board members present included: Dave Hornung, Harry Nelson, Linda Glidden and Kyle Fenner. Staff members present included Jo Downey, ECCOG Executive Director, and Terry Baylie, Senior and Transit Services Director. Also present was Del Beattie, Town of Limon, George Moats with Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association and Todd Swanson from the State Unit on Aging. Board members Larry Ross, Troy McCue, Jack Hendricks, Kerry Korsvold, Greg King, Gary Beedy and Valerie Rhoades were absent.

Monica asked Jo to lead the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Since there was not a quorum at the meeting it was the consensus of those present that there would be a preliminary vote taken with email voting by the absent members.

Monica then asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the June 5, 2013 meeting. Dave Hornung moved to approve the June 5th meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Harry Nelson. Minutes were approved pending majority approval via email.

The Board next reviewed the August 2013 Financial Report and list of bills for July 2013. The report showed a total net payroll of \$28,834.19 and total other expenses for July of \$41,889.75. Dave Hornung moved the Board approve the August 2013 financial report and pay the July bills; motion was seconded by Linda Glidden. The financial report and bills payable were approved pending majority approval via email.

Federal Transit Administration Grant Application/Vehicle Purchase

The application was submitted and received on July 3rd. The buses for Elbert County and City of Burlington were picked up by Intermountain Coach and brought back to Colorado Springs on July 24th. After getting the stripping/lettering/optional equipment, the vehicles will be delivered to their respective owners during the week of August 12th. The SFY14 FASTER grant (Town of Limon) vehicle is expected to arrive in about a year. The scope of work has been completed and a contract anticipated by the end of September.

Our Journey 2013 Marketing and 2013 Regional Tourism Marketing Grant Time Extension

Jo Downey discussed the various marketing efforts undertaken this summer to promote the area museums, Off the Beaten Trail sites and events. She also outlined plans for the continued promotions through the fall as a result of a 60-day time extension of the marketing grant originally slated to end August 15. Copies of a mid-summer marketing summary from Danielle Dascalos were distributed. Dascalos's firm continued to be most successful in obtaining extensive media coverage for the four counties heritage tourism sites and activities. A copy of that summary is attached to the official file copy of these minutes.

Legal Program Evaluation

A desk evaluation of the regional legal senior services program was conducted in May by the State Unit on Aging's Legal Assistance Developer. Area Agency on Aging Director Terry Baylie said that the regional legal program is fully in compliance with the requirement of the OAA and Colorado regulations of the Department of Human Services. Brief discussion followed and Terry answered questions about how the program operates.

NEW BUSINESS:

Senior Speak-Out #37

Included in Board packets was the tentative agenda for the 37th annual Senior Speak-Out. A registration form was also provided. This year's event will be held in Stratton. The Speak-Out is for seniors throughout the Eastern Plains and is hosted each year by one of the three Area Agencies on Aging. East Central COG's Area Agency on Aging Director, Terry Baylie reviewed the plans and answered questions. Terry stated that she expected around 120 persons including the directors for the Colorado Commission on Aging.

Enterprise Zone Credits Summary

A summary of the 2013 Enterprise Zone tax credits certified to date by ECCOG was distributed. Jo Downey briefly explained the report. Thus far in 2013, 323 businesses farms and ranches within the East Central Enterprise Zone have been certified by ECCOG for credits totaling \$18,216,397. Downey said that the credits are higher than in previous years due to the construction of wind farms within the region. A copy of the EZ credit summary is attached to the official file copy of these minutes.

State Unit on Aging Menu Issue Update

Terry Baylie reminded those present that at the May ECCOG Board meeting, the desk evaluation by the State Unit on Aging for ECCOG's senior meals program for State Fiscal Year 2013 had been discussed and there were still some minor issues with the menus. Terry said that the agency did receive a 3-month cycle of menus on July 16th, bringing the menus into compliance with state regulations with regard to nutrient content. This recently approved nutrient content will be incorporated into the September menus. Terry said this should now resolve the compliance issue.

2014 Regional Tourism Marketing Grant Request

Jo Downey discussed the grant request to the Colorado Tourism Office for regional tourism marketing in 2014. Emphasis will continue to be placed on marketing the area to potential visitors living along the Front Range. ECCOG has requested \$15,000 and any grant funds awarded by the CTO must be matched by ECCOG/PDC one to one. Should funding be awarded, promoting special events, antiques and photography opportunities as well as group tours to the various regional Heritage Tourism sites will begin in late Spring 2014 and continue through early Fall.

Project HelpMATE Revival

Area Agency on Aging Director, Terry Baylie said that due to the increase in State funding, the Project HelpMATE (Material Aid To the Elderly) was revived. The program was explained and in response to a Board request, an email will be sent to all Board members with attachments of the HelpMATE Program fact sheet and the request for assistance form. Terry also said that the Older Americans Act Part D Federal funds (about \$3,000) will be directly administered by the ECCOG this year rather than sub-contracted as in years past. Part D will be used in conjunction with the state senior services funds, but will assist clients who need only preventive dental maintenance services.

Broadband Service in Region

Department of Local Affairs staff had recently inquired as to whether there might be an interest by ECCOG to undertake a Broadband Study in its service region. Some regions within the state have conducted such studies to develop alternatives for improving Broadband service. To enable those present to better understand the current Broadband services within the four-county area, ECCOG Executive Director Jo Downey introduced George Moat, Network Analyst for Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association. Moat distributed a map and supportive materials outlining which part(s) of the region were served by which Broadband provider. Moat also briefed those present on

the Colorado Communications Transport, LLC, a connectivity consortium made up of ten rural telephone companies. After lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Board Members present that those portions of the regions served through the companies within the consortium had excellent Broadband service but the areas served by Centurytel/Centurylink needed improvement. Discussion then took place as to the best ways for local governments and businesses to encourage improved service in those areas and to be able to access fiber optic already in place. There did not appear to be a need or desire to do a formal plan...but rather proceed community by community with conveying to Centurylink the need for improved service. A copy of the Broadband map and other materials are attached to the official file copy of these minutes.

Aging Services On-Site Evaluation

Area Agency on Aging Director Terry Baylie explained that the State Unit on Aging (SUA) will be conducting an on-site evaluation of the Federal/State funded senior services programs administered by ECCOG from August 7 to August 9. Todd Swanson from the State Unit on Aging was present to view proceedings of the Board and to become more familiar with ECCOG and its service region. The focus of the evaluation will be on support services, with an emphasis on the transportation program. The review started in Kiowa where Debby Conrads and Terry met with Todd and Leighanna Konetski, the State Dietitian from the SUA, to review the nutrition program. Most of Thursday will be spent in the ECCOG office in Stratton, reviewing data and meeting with the Kit Carson County Home Health Agency and Lincoln County Department of Human Services staff to review the homemaker and grandparent program, respectively. Friday morning will be spent answering additional questions and then a trip to the Flagler nutrition site is planned. Swanson told that Board that he felt the revised menus would resolve the issue with the 2013 evaluation and that the East Central Area Agency on Aging is doing a good job administering its senior programs.

Enterprise Zone Boundary Review 2014

Jo Downey reminded the Board that House Bill 13-1142 moves the boundary review requirement in statute for the Colorado Enterprise Zone program from 2016 to 2014. Enterprise Zone areas must meet at least one of three economic distress criteria. The original boundaries for the East Central Zone were approved by the State in 1986 based on "growth less than the state average". ECCOG was able to have Elbert County included because the declining growth in the other three counties averaged out the high growth in Elbert County. Since that time boundaries must be determined by census tract data. This could impact portions of the zone in the northwest portion of Elbert County. The boundary review process will begin in January of 2014 and be completed by the end of July. The new boundaries take effect and non-qualifying areas are terminated on January 1, 2015. However, CRS 39-30-103(6) allows any business in a terminated area to jointly certify with the local EZ administrator that plans were in place prior to the termination announcement. This would principally be applied for by new or expanding businesses that based their plans and cash flow on utilizing the facility job credits, etc. A copy of the timeline for the EZ Boundary review is attached to the official file copy of these minutes.

Next Two Meeting Dates/Locations

The October 2nd meeting will be held in Limon at the Community Building and the December 4th meeting will be held at the Claremont Inn in Stratton.

Adjournment

Monica Halde declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.