

# EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

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COLORADO'S CENTRAL PLAINS

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## EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES September 3, 2014

### Call to Order

Chairman Nancy Bogenhagen called the September 3, 2014 meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:05 pm at the Hub City Senior Center in Limon, CO. In addition to Nancy Bogenhagen, Board members present included: Gary Beedy, Monica Halde, Jack Hendricks, Dave Hornung, Greg King, Troy McCue, Hal McNerney, Larry Ross, and Valerie Rhoades. 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 Pat White of Eastern Slope Rural Telephone Association and Joe Kiely, Assistant Manager of the Town of Limon. Board members Kyle Fenner and Harrison Nelson were unable to attend. The Elbert County municipality board position is currently vacant due to the resignation of Kathleen Baril. Jo said that the position would remain vacant through the end of 2014 because the process to fill the seat could not be completed until after the last meeting of the 2014 Board.

Monica Halde led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Bogenhagen then asked the Board to consider the Minutes of the August 6, 2014, meeting. Troy McCue moved to approve the August 6, 2014, meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by Dave Hornung and carried unanimously.

The Board next reviewed the September 2014 Financial Report and list of bills for August 2014. The report showed a total net payroll of \$28,331.21 and August bills total \$44,843.74. Gary Beedy made the motion that the Board approve the September Financial Report and ratify the August bills. Troy McCue seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### ECCOG Municipal and County Dues for 2015

Included with Board materials was the final 2015 Contributions chart, also known as the "dues" chart, demonstrating the newly adopted formula based on the July 1, 2013, population estimates. Jo Downey summarized the table and reminded those present that the state population numbers are always a year behind. A copy of the 2015 local government Contributions or dues structure is attached to the official file copies of these minutes. Downey also stated that in addition to these annual contributions, each county also contributes \$3,500

towards the administration/marketing of the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Program and promotion of the four-county region for economic development/stabilization.

### **Broadband Planning/Funding Status**

Jo Downey reported that the Energy Impact Fund Grant process for an administrative grant to assist with the Broadband Plan has been initiated. A copy of the letter to DOLA was included in Board packets. This letter will assist in expediting the grant contracting period while a full grant proposal is being prepared by staff. Jo stated that the grant request was for \$47,250 and ECCOG would need to provide matching funds of 25% which would be \$15,762 for a total project cost of \$63,012. A motion was made by Dave Hornung to ratify the letter to DOLA and to authorize Nancy Bopenhagen to sign the actual Energy Impact Fund Grant request on behalf of ECCOG. Gary Beedy seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Once a grant contract is in place, a “kick-off” meeting will be held in Limon. It is anticipated that this can take place sometime in October or early November.

### **Lincoln County Bus**

Terry Baylie reported that the Lincoln County bus arrived on August 28<sup>th</sup>. On hand to receive the new vehicle were the three county commissioners: Greg King, Doug Stone and Ted Lyons as well as commissioner-elect, Ed Schifferns. Total vehicle cost was \$57,157; the federal share was \$45,725.60 and local share was \$12,206.40. A balance of \$6,300 was paid by the County and \$5,906.40 was provided by the vehicle replacement funds. All appropriate paperwork was sent to CDOT on August 29<sup>th</sup>. As soon as the funds are received by CDOT, ECCOG will pay the 80% to the vendor. This transaction should appear on the list of October bills. ECCOG has also been unofficially notified that the Town of Limon vehicle should arrive by the end of September.

### **ECCOG Board of Directors for 2015**

Jo Downey reviewed the process and time frame for the selection/election of the 2015 Board of Directors for the East Central Council of Local Governments. Nomination forms will be sent to each of the municipalities in October. Each community can nominate either their mayor or a council person/trustee. If there is more than one nominee from a county, then ballots will be sent to the municipalities in that county. If there would be a tie vote, then the respective County Commission would vote to break the tie. The County Commissioner representatives are selected by each county at their January reorganizational meeting. Each County also appoints an Economic Development Board Member and the Prairie Development Corporation appoints an ED Board person “at-large”. The first meeting of the 2015 Board will be February 4. The January 7 meeting will be to close out December 2014 business.

### **Broadband Plan Working Group/Committee**

Discussion was held as to various alternatives to solicit interest and to insure inclusion of appropriate parties for the yet-to-be-established Broadband Working Group. This group/committee will work with Mid-State Consultants to undertake and complete the East

Central Colorado Broadband Plan. The consensus of those present was to include as many interested parties as possible at the initial kick-off meeting and then to ask for volunteers for a smaller official working committee. Board members suggested a wide range of interests. Staff will develop an initial contact list and then ask for additional suggestions via email.

### **Legal Services Desk Audit**

Included in Board packets was the summary of the recent audit of the Regional Legal Service Program. Terry Baylie reported Region V was found to be in full compliance with OAA requirements.

### **Appointment of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee**

In order to undertake the development of a new CEDS (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy), a committee to assist and advise the ECCOG governing board in that process needed to be created. Jo Downey discussed the required makeup of that committee and asked the Board to officially appoint the initial members who have expressed their willingness to serve. The names of eleven people were submitted to the Board for consideration. Two additional "slots" could be determined later. Troy McCue made a motion to appoint Lisa Nolder, Pat White, Rol Hudler, Kari May, Marilyn Ward, Dorothy Stone, Dana Siekman, Rachel Hodgson, Gary Koop, Joe Kiely and Melody Bolton to the official CEDS Committee. Motion seconded by Dave Hornung and was carried unanimously.

### **Status of CDBG Loan Program/Potential Contract Amendment**

The Board was briefed on the status of interest in the newest round of capital for business loans in the region. These funds are provided through a cooperative effort among the four counties through a Community Development Block Grant to Lincoln County from the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). Preliminary needs for the funds may necessitate a request to OEDIT from Lincoln County for a contract amendment to add more dollars. The initial amount awarded was \$300,000. Jo Downey will ask Lincoln County to consider an amendment request once staff knows if the current project(s) they are working on justify an amendment.

### **Next two meeting Dates/Locations**

November 5 – Stratton's Claremont Inn with dinner and meeting

January 7, 2015 – Limon Senior Center with dinner at Golden China

### **Adjournment**

Nancy Bogenhagen declared the meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.