



**MINUTES OF THE ARAPAHOE COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

May 19, 2009

State of Colorado, County of Arapahoe. At a public hearing of the Board of County Commissioners for Arapahoe County, Colorado held at 5334 S Prince St. Littleton CO 80166 there were:

Susan Beckman, Chair	Present
Rod Bockenfeld, Commissioner	Present
Pat Noonan, Commissioner	Present
Jim Dyer, Commissioner	Present
Frank Weddig, Commissioner	Present
Kathryn Schroeder, County Attorney	Present
Nancy A. Doty, Clerk to the Board	Absent & Excused
Joleen Sanchez, Assistant Clerk to the Board	Present

When the following proceedings, among others, were had and done, to wit:

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The motion was made by Commissioner Dyer and duly seconded by Commissioner Noonan to adopt the Agenda as presented.

The motion passed 5-0.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

The motion was made by Commissioner Dyer and duly seconded by Commissioner Weddig to adopt the minutes of the May 5, 2009 Public Hearing.

The motion passed 5-0.

CEREMONIES

Senate Bill 100 Signing Celebration

Commissioner Noonan said on behalf of the Arapahoe County Commissioners, she is honored to recognize Senator Linda Newell of District 26 for her role in sponsoring Senate Bill 100. She said this important legislation will help with job training and placement for parents who are struggling to pay child support. She said historically, noncustodial parents could receive job counseling and training under Colorado Works only if his or her child was receiving assistance under the program; Senate Bill 100 expands the support to any non-custodial parent. Senator Newell is no stranger to the realm of employment assistance. She worked at Work Force Development centers in Colorado where she saw the value of facilitating a job search for those who are unemployed or underemployed. She also served on the Denver Metro Regional Work Force Development Council and participated on the Governors Task Force on Work Force Development. She said the Board thanks Senator Newell for carrying Senate Bill 100, which will allow counties like ours to help parents become self sufficient and fulfill their commitment to children who depend on them.

Senator Newell thanked the Board for the honor of carrying Senate Bill 100. She said she has never been more proud of the County that she lives in. She commented that this has been an exceptional year for Arapahoe County and legislation generated from our county. She thanked Commissioner Pat Noonan for bringing this bill to her. She said Senate Bill 100 had great bipartisan support and the majority of the votes were bipartisan. She said that is because this is sound policy; when the dollars are there, we just can't get to them and when there are jobs to be had and training to be conducted, it is so critical to have legislation like this to allow for the parents to be able to provide for their children. She said it is a win-win. She said the other part of the Bill was that it allows those parents to get job placement and training, but also can prevent the parents from going on to public assistance, so it truly is a win for the tax payers as well. She said she is very honored to have carried this bill. She thanked all of the Arapahoe County Commissioners for supporting this bill. She also thanked Cheryl Ternes, Human Services director for Arapahoe County. She said Ms. Ternes is exceptional in working with stakeholders but is also wonderful at testimony. She also thanked Commissioner Beckman.

Senator Newell said she has the governor's pen that was used to sign Senate Bill 100. She said she would like to give it to Chad Ettinger for his generation of this idea. She said it was Mr. Ettinger who brought forth the idea and supported the whole process. She said it is only appropriate that this pen go to Mr. Ettinger.

Commissioner Beckman thanked Senator Newell and said that was a very nice gesture. She stated that Mr. Ettinger has done a great job with the pilot project and proved that this program could work.

There was a short break.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was made by Commissioner Dyer and duly seconded by Commissioner Noonan to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion passed 5-0.

GENERAL BUSINESS AGENDA

Item A – Resolution No. 090440 – Public Hearing: Grant Award for County Open Space, Parks and Trails Grant Program 2009

Dan Einarsen presented a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which has been retained for the file. He said over the last five years, the County has funded over 50 grant projects across the County, totaling \$9.3 million; this investment has been leveraged by about double that amount from the local communities that identified the projects as their priorities. He said there is about a two to one leverage ratio overall. He said a number of those projects have been completed and Arapahoe County's grant signs have been posted on those projects to notify the public of how their tax dollars are being used. He said 12% of the open space sales and use tax revenues that come to Arapahoe County are dedicated to the grant program. He presented a summary of the County's investment to date and what has been accomplished. He said there have been 54 projects in 13 different communities. He further stated that 72% of the projects have been completed and 28% are in progress. Mr. Einarsen said the grant program sets aside funding for a competitive, merit based process of evaluating high priority projects; the goal of this program is to fund high quality projects throughout the County. He said the grants are submitted to the County each February and are initially reviewed by the County Attorney's Office for eligibility. He explained that there are specific entities that can apply for the grants including incorporated municipalities, the recreation districts within Arapahoe County, and the special districts that offer recreational amenities or services. He said once the proposals are reviewed by the Attorney, they are then sent to the evaluation team, which consists of the OSTAB (Open Space and Trails Advisory Board) and to staff members. He noted that Bobbie Sheffield is present and he thanked her for all her hard work.

Mr. Einarsen listed the proposed projects for 2009. He said the evaluation team visits these projects and takes a tour and looks at the site plans and maps; each member then reviews the projects based on specific criteria to make the process as objective as possible. He said the projects are ranked in order and there were 15 proposals this year; 12 of those were recommended and there is enough funding available for all 12 recommended projects.

Mr. Einarsen listed each proposal in order of their ranking and presented photos of each:

• City of Aurora	\$250,000	Red-tailed Hawk Phase II
• City of Aurora	\$250,000	Larkspur Park Phase II
• Arapahoe Park and Recreation District	\$170,000	Piney Creek Hollow Park Phase III
• City of Greenwood Village	\$250,000	Orchard Road Trail Undercrossing
• City of Greenwood Village	\$178,700	Marjorie Perry Nature Preserve Master Plan
• City of Englewood	\$74,200	Orphan Property Acquisition/Improvements
• City of Littleton	\$133,600	E. Elementary School Park/Playground
• South Suburban	\$250,000	Fun and Renovation – deKoevend Park
• City of Englewood	\$167,400	Centennial Park Ballfield Lighting
• South Suburban	\$250,000	Conservation and Renovation of Puma Park
• City of Glendale	\$206,200	Creekside Park Addition
• City of Cherry Hills Village	\$25,100	Woddie Hollow Horse Arena Restoration

Mr. Einarsen stated that the request for approval from the Board is to approve the 12 grants; there is \$2.3 million of grant funding available and that would leave a fund balance of just over \$100,000.

Commissioner Beckman asked if all these grants meet the requirements of the resolution.

Mr. Einarsen answered yes.

Commissioner Weddig said to date, 72% of the projects awarded in the past have been completed and 28% are in progress. He asked, given the time of year and the construction season, what constraints are currently put on expenditures, how long do the entities have to complete the projects, and what kind of progress does the OSTAB board require.

Mr. Einarsen stated that, per the IGA (intergovernmental agreement), the project is expected to be complete within a year of receiving the funds. He said most of the projects that are funded this year will hopefully begin this fall. He said in some cases, the project goes into the next step of planning; most of these projects are ready to go and that is what OSTAB requires. He said many times the project runs into issues with underground utilities that must be addressed or contracting issues. He said if the project is not finished in a year, an extension can be requested. He said most projects that were funded last year have been completed. He further explained that if the entity has an overrun on cost, the County is not obligated to backfill any funding; if there is money left over, that is reported to the County. OSTAB will consider whether those funds should come back to the County or be used for other things on that specific site, such as a picnic shelter. He said excess funds would normally be returned to the County per the IGA.

Commissioner Weddig said there are now 12 new IGAs that have to be prepared and signed. He asked if there is a standard form for the IGA so that the IGA can be sent to the entities within a couple of weeks.

Mr. Einarsen stated that he would be working with Ron Carl to review any changes. He said the process is slowed if the entities propose some type of change. He said he would like to distribute the IGAs at the grant ceremony on June 4th. He also asked for approval to allow Bob Toll, the Open Space Manager, to sign the IGAs which would speed up the process.

There were no public comments.

The motion was made by Commissioner Dyer that the Board of County Commissioners accept the Open Space and Trails Advisory Board's recommendation and approve twelve grants as specifically set forth in the draft resolution.

Seconded by Commissioner Bockenfeld.

The motion passed 5-0.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Bockenfeld commented that he has a copy of the 2008 Annual Report on Traffic Congestion in the Denver Region. He said he would provide a copy to all the Commissioners. He read a paragraph from that report that he feels is significant. He said the economy and gas prices had something to do with the lower growth rate of vehicle miles traveled. He further stated that this is something that DRCOG will continue to monitor but the trend is significant considering some of the decisions the Board must make in the future involving transportation.

There being no other business before the Board, the Chair adjourned the hearing at 10:02 a.m.

ARAPAHOE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**NANCY A. DOTY, CLERK TO THE BOARD
BY JOLEEN SANCHEZ, ASSISTANT CLERK TO THE BOARD**