



Chaffee County Commissioners Meeting
January 31, 2023

These minutes have been taken remotely via Zoom. Some County staff, representatives from other governments and government agencies, and others from the public may attend, including participating in the public hearing portion of the meeting, remotely via Zoom.

A. Call to Order

The special meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on January 31, 2023, at the Chaffee County Courthouse. Board members present were Chair Keith Baker, Commissioner Greg Felt, and Commissioner P. T. Wood.

Others present in person were Director of General Administration Bob Christiansen, Director of Finance Dan Short, Deputy Director of Administration Beth Helmke, County Attorney Daniel Tom, Assistant County Attorney Lynda Knowles, Assistant County Attorney/Planning Director Miles Cottom, Sheriff John Spezze (Executive Session only) and Human Services Director Monica Haskell (Executive Session only).

Present remotely was Deputy County Clerk Barbara Tidd.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Baker called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda

Chair Baker gave introductory remarks regarding this meeting.

Commissioner Wood moved to approve the Agenda as published. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comment

Chair Baker spoke regarding process and procedures for Public Comment, including that by speaking, the person giving public comment agrees to be civil, maintain normal decorum for conducting business on the public square, and state only what you know to be true after providing your name and address for the record. Each speaker will have 3 minutes.

Chair Baker did not ask for public comment at this time.

B. Regular Agenda Items

1. Consider for Approval Resolution 2023-15 Filling Vacancies on Planning Commission

Chair Baker addressed the Board to consider draft **RESOLUTION 2023-15 FILLING VACANCIES ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION.**

Commissioners commented.

Commissioner Felt moved to appoint Aaron Kindle and Leslie Hylton-Hinga and reappoint Chip Mortimer to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Attorney Cottom announced the Planning Commission meeting tonight.

2. Consider for Approval Resolution 2023-16 Filling Vacancies on the Chaffee County Visitors Bureau

Chair Baker addressed the Board to consider draft **RESOLUTION 2023-16 FILLING VACANCIES ON THE VISITORS BUREAU**.

Commissioner Wood moved to approve **RESOLUTION 2023-16 FILLING VACANCIES ON THE VISITORS BUREAU** appointing Jamie Billesbach, Betsy Kolomitz, and Dylan Jewell to the Visitors Bureau. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Ratify Two Letters of Support for Chaffee Housing Trust

Director Christiansen addressed the Board to consider ratifying two letters of support for the Chaffee Housing Trust.

Commissioner Felt moved to ratify two letters of support for the Chaffee Housing Trust as presented. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Consider Request to Dedicate the Lodging Tax to the Chaffee Housing Authority

Chaffee Housing Authority (CHA) Executive Director Gray addressed the Board to consider a request to dedicate the Lodging Tax to CHA.

Gray and Director Helmke responded to Commissioners' questions.
Director Short spoke and responded to Commissioners' questions.

Chair Baker asked for Public Comment. He stated that by speaking, the person giving public comment is agreeing to adhere to those items as previously described, including public decorum and telling the truth as you know it, after providing your name and address for the record.

Public Comment opened at 12:59 p.m.

Public comment was given by:

Elizabeth (Betsy) Dittenber, Executive Director, Chaffee County Community Foundation, PO Box 492, Buena Vista

Salty Riggs, 6820 County Rd. 104, Paradise Acres, Salida, BETCH

Brandon Becker, 239 E St., Salida

Jake Rishavy, 7165 County Rd. 178, Salida, on behalf of Chaffee County Economic Development Corp.

Read McCulloch, 17559 County Rd. 368, Buena Vista, Chaffee Housing Trust

Craig Nielson, CHA Board Chair, 407 E. 3rd St., Salida

Eric Warner, 9707 County Rd. 163, Salida

Public comment closed at 1:19 p.m.

Director Short spoke.

Discussion ensued during which Director Short, Gray, and Attorney Tom responded to Commissioners' questions and Director Helmke spoke.

Commissioner Felt moved to amend the 2023 budget to allocate \$260,000 in 2023 to the Chaffee Housing Authority for support of Jane's Place and potentially operating expense as presented; also as to our intent to allocate \$350,000 from the lodging tax reallocation from 2024 to 2025 for these purposes and \$300,000 from 2026 to 2030; express our intent to negotiate with Salida and Buena Vista and keep the door open to Poncha Springs to extend the current IGA through 2024 and signal our intent to renew that IGA with those municipalities to carry forward beyond 2024; and direct staff to draft a resolution that realizes both the decision of the \$260,000 this year and our intent for the future.

Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Executive Session Executive Session under CRS 24-6-402(4)(d) For Purpose of Receiving Specialized Detail on a Current Investigation by the Sheriff and Department of Human Services and may also include discussion required to be kept confidential under 24-6-402(4)(c), C.R.S. 19-1-307, and CRS 24-72-305. County Attorney Daniel Tom, Assistant County Attorney Lynda Knowles, County Administrator Bob Christiansen, County Deputy Director of Administration Beth Helmke, DHS Director Monica Haskell, Sheriff John Spezze, and Finance Director Dan Short may also attend

Chair Baker asked for Public Comment on the topic of The Schoolhouse, Poncha Springs, from those who had not submitted written comments.

There was no public comment.

Chair Baker addressed the Board regarding going into Executive Session under CRS 24-6-402(4)(d) for the purpose of receiving specialized detail on a current investigation by the Sheriff and Department of Human Services which may also include discussion required to be kept confidential under CRS 24-6-402(4)(c), CRS 19-1-307, and CRS 24-72-305. Commissioners Keith Baker, Greg Felt, and P. T. Wood, County Attorney Daniel Tom, Dept. of Human Services Director Monica Haskell, and Sheriff John Spezze will attend. Assistant County Attorney Lynda Knowles, Director of General Administration Bob Christiansen, Director of Finance & Personnel Dan Short, and Deputy Director of General Administration Beth Helmke may also attend.

Attorney Tom stated that this portion of the meeting would constitute attorney-client communication, and no further recording of this portion of the meeting would be required. He further stated that no decisions are expected to be made and that there would be no other business following the executive session.

Commissioner Felt moved to go into executive session. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The Board of Commissioners moved into executive session at 1:39 p.m. The Board of Commissioners came out of executive session at 3:09 p.m. with no decisions being made.

I, Daniel Tom, Chaffee County Attorney, do hereby attest that the unrecorded statements and discussions that took place during the executive session held on January 31, 2023 constituted privileged attorney-client communication.

Daniel Tom

Daniel Tom, Chaffee County Attorney

I, Keith Baker, Chairman of the Chaffee County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby attest that the unrecorded statements and discussions that took place during the executive session held on January 31, 2023 were confined to the topic described in the announcement of such session and authorized by the provisions of CRS 24-6-402(4)(b).

Keith Baker

Keith Baker, Chairman

After the executive session, there was no other business, and the meeting was adjourned.

C. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Attest:

Lori Mitchell

Lori Mitchell, County Clerk