



Chaffee County Commissioners Meeting
September 10, 2024

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 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on September 10, 2024, at the Chaffee County Courthouse. Board members present were Chair P. T. Wood, Commissioner Keith Baker, and Commissioner Greg Felt.

Others present in person were County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, County Attorney Daniel Tom, Deputy County Attorney Lynda Knowles, Planning Director Miles Cottom, Planner Brandon Wolff, Sheriff John Spezze (item G.3. only) and Undersheriff Andy Rohrich (following Item G.3. only).

Others present remotely were Deputy County Clerks Barbara Tidd, Ray Milstein and Kit Kuester.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approve Agenda

Chair Wood stated that Consent Agenda Item C.6. would be on a future agenda.

Commissioner Baker moved to approve the Agenda as amended, removing Consent Agenda Item C.6. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Review Public Meeting List

The Board reviewed the public meeting list.

4. Public Comment

Chair Wood asked for public comment. He stated that you'll have up to 3 minutes to speak, and please give your name and address for the record.

Public Comment was given by:

Joe Cooper, 9325 County Road 160, Salida. Cooper provided the Commissioners with hand-outs.

B. Minutes for Approval

1. Consider for Approval the Minutes of the September 3, 2024 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Felt moved to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2024 Commissioners' regular

meeting. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Baker moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, removing Item C.6. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Pay the Bills
2. Approve Resolution 2024-61 Authorizing Assignment of Chaffee County 2024 Private Activity Bond cap to Colorado Housing and Finance Authority - B. Helmke; D. Short
3. Approve Resolution 2024-62 for Appointments to the Chaffee County Visitor's Bureau
4. Approve the Veteran's Service Officer's Monthly Report for August 2024
5. Approve the Application of Chaffee County to the Public Utilities Commission for Authority to Improve the Railroad Crossing at County Road 103 in Conjunction with the Development Agreement with Cleora LLC
6. Approve the Development Agreement for Alpine West Planned Development
7. Acknowledge the Sheriff's Office Monthly Report for August 2024

D. Contracts/Grant Consideration

There were none.

E. Regular Agenda Items

1. Consider Request for Acceptance of Major Subdivision Application During Temporary Moratorium in Consideration of Resolutions 2022-41 and 2022-74 - Applicant Joe Cooper (continued from June 20, 2023, and from July 11, 2023, and from September 5, 2023, and from November 7, 2023, and from January 9, 2024, and from May 7, 2024) - Miles Cottom
Director Cottom addressed the Board to consider a request for acceptance of a Major Subdivision Application during the Temporary Moratorium in consideration of Resolutions 2022-41 and 2022-74 for Applicant Joe Cooper.

Applicant Cooper addressed the Board.

Director Cottom responded to Commissioner's question.

Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Felt moved to continue to Thursday, December 5, 2024 the request for acceptance of the Major Subdivision Application during the Temporary Moratorium in consideration of Resolutions 2022-41 and 2022-74 for Applicant Joe Cooper. Commissioner Baker seconded the

motion.

Chair Wood asked for public comment.

Public comment was given by:

Ed Schlatter, 9195 County Road 166, Salida.

Discussion ensued, during which Chair Wood responded to Schlatter's question.

The motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Reimer spoke to clarify regarding this matter.

2. Consider Approval of the Falsification Policy for Chaffee County Department of Human Services - Lynda Knowles

Attorney Knowles addressed the Board to consider approval of the Falsification Policy for Chaffee County Department of Human Services.

Commissioner Baker moved to approve the Falsification Policy for Chaffee County Department of Human Services as published in the packet. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion on proposed Land Use Code Hearings and Adoption Timeline - Miles Cottom

Director Cottom opened discussion on the proposed Land Use Code hearings and adoption timeline, and responded to Commissioners' questions.

Discussion ensued.

No formal action was taken.

4. Annual Report on County Short-Term Rental Program - B. Wolff
Planner Wolff presented to the Board the Annual Report on the County Short-Term Rental Program and responded to Commissioner's question.

Director Cottom spoke.

Commissioner Felt moved to acknowledge the Annual Report on the County Short-Term Rental Program. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Active Projects

G. Executive Session

By consensus, Commissioners indicated that possible action may be taken by the Commissioners following the completion of all three Executive Session Agenda Items G.1., G.2. and G.3.

Prior to beginning Executive Sessions, the meeting recessed for a break at 9:57 a.m.

At 10:26 a.m. the meeting resumed.

Chair Wood spoke.

Commissioner Felt moved to amend the Agenda to continue Items G.1. and G.2. to a Special Meeting on September 12, 2024.

Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Executive Session under C.R.S § 24-6-402(4)(b) for purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions involving 2023CV30041 and other land use application - County Administrator Don Reimer, Finance Director Dan Short, County Attorney Daniel Tom, and Deputy County Attorney Lynda Knowles, may attend.

Continued to September 12, 2024 Special Meeting.

2. Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e) for purposes of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators relative to ongoing County negotiations. - County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Finance Director Dan Short, and Director of Human Resources Kathy Punke may attend.

Continued to September 12, 2024 Special Meeting.

3. Executive Session under C.R.S § 24-6-402(4)(b) for purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions involving the Board's statutory and constitutional authority to manage county government - County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Finance Director Dan Short, Deputy County Attorney Lynda Knowles, and Sheriff John Spezze may attend.

Chair Wood addressed the Board to enter into executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S. for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions involving the Board's statutory and constitutional authority to manage county government.

Commissioner Baker moved to go into executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S. for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions involving the Board's statutory and constitutional authority to manage county government. He stated that Commissioners Baker, Felt, and Wood and County Attorney Daniel Tom and Deputy County Attorney Lynda Knowles will attend, and County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, and County Sheriff John Spezze may attend. Commissioner Felt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Tom stated that this executive session would constitute privileged attorney-client communications and no further recording of the executive session would be necessary.

The following persons are in attendance for executive session: Commissioners Baker, Felt, and Wood and County Attorney Daniel Tom, Deputy County Attorney Lynda Knowles, County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, and County Sheriff John Spezze.

The Commissioners moved into executive session at 10:28 a.m.

The Commissioners came out of executive session at 10:42 a.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 September 10, 2024 constituted privileged attorney-client communication.

Daniel Tom

Daniel Tom, County Attorney

I, P. T. Wood, Chair 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 September 10, 2024 were confined to the topic described in the announcement of such session and authorized by the provisions of § 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S.



P. T. Wood, Chair

Chair Wood stated that if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to enter the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, he asked that you state your concerns for the record.

Hearing none, Chair Wood stated we are back in Regular Session and have a few things to discuss.

Chair Wood stated that Sheriff Spezze announced his retirement.

Media was contacted and arrived in person and remotely.

Chair Wood again stated that Sheriff Spezze announced his retirement.

Commissioner Felt stated that Sheriff Spezze's retirement would be effective as of midnight the night of September 10, 2024.

Commissioner Felt stated the Commissioners are to appoint an interim Sheriff.

Commissioners spoke and stated a Press Release will be issued later today.

Sheriff Spezze spoke.

Commissioner Felt moved to accept Sheriff Spezze's letter of resignation and progression into retirement at midnight, direct Director Short on negotiating an appropriate contract or arrangement to where we are now and to where we want to be, and to nominate Undersheriff Andy Rohrich as

interim Chaffee County Sheriff as of midnight tonight; we will reconvene soon to discuss alternate arrangements.

Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Undersheriff Rohrich stated he would accept the appointment and spoke.

H. Adjourn

There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Mitchell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Lori Mitchell, County Clerk