

**Minutes of the Proceedings of
The Board of County Commissioners of Teller County, Colorado
February 20, 2024**

764551 MINUTES Page 1 of 4
03/07/2024, 04:13 PM Fees: \$0.00 Doc Fee:
Stephanie Kees, Clerk and Recorder, Teller, CO



In attendance:

Bob Campbell, County Commissioner/Chair
Dan Williams, County Commissioner/Vice-Chair
Erik Stone, County Commissioner
Ross Herzog, County Administrator
Paul Hurcomb, County Attorney
Stephanie Kees, Clerk & Recorder

1. 9:17 a.m. Convene in Regular Session:

The Board of County Commissioners of Teller County convened in regular session in the Teller County Centennial Building in Cripple Creek, CO.

Mr. Campbell presided.

Mr. Williams gave the invocation.

Ms. Krystal Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Williams seconded, to **approve** the minutes of the meeting of the Teller County Board of County Commissioners on February 8, 2024, as presented. All Commissioners voted yes.

Accounts Payable:

Action: Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Stone seconded, that the Board **approve** the accounts payable run date of February 15, 2024, in the amount of \$1,218,868.42. All Commissioners voted yes.

Board Reports:

Mr. Stone:

- Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPCAG) legislative committee, where he serves as a co-chair, is working with Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) on multiple bills that would have direct effect on Teller County, including a bill to adjust funding for Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) which could impact the Teller County Senior Coalition and a bill on the portability of the homestead exemption for property tax.
- Gave update on House Bill 24-1168 for equal access to public meetings. This bill has been pulled to be revised after feedback from local government concerning the cost impacts.
- Commented on his opposition to Senate Bill 24-003 which allows the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) to conduct independent investigations of firearm offenses.
- Commented on bills to ban semi-automatic weapons and to require training for conceal carry weapons (CCW) permits that would limit where a person can carry



with a CCW permit.

Mr. Williams:

- Attended the National Association of Counties (NACO) conference last week. He is on the Public Lands committee and provided an update on the Western Solar Plan. Teller County is not included in this plan because the BLM lands in the County are not large enough, so this plan would not impact Teller County.
- The NACO Wildfire Committee received an update on losses due to wildfires, increases in wildfires and the difficulty obtaining property insurance.
- The NACO Conference included a full day of information on Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) update on wolves and wolverine reintroduction. Potential ballot initiative that would ban the hunting of big cats.
- The Commissioners plan to testify against gun bills and support the Sheriff on immigration issues.
- He has provided input on the Colorado Clean Energy Bill.
- Encouraged Teller County citizens to participate in testifying at the legislation.
- Purple Heart ceremony tomorrow at 5:30 in Woodland Park during the City of Cripple Creek council meeting. The cities of Woodland Park, Victor and Cripple Creek have completed the recognition of the Purple Heart Highways in the entire County.

Mr. Campbell:

- Commented on finance and tax bills introduced at the Legislature, and there are 15 bills that may directly impact property tax to counties. .
- Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) is currently tracking more than 100 bills this session.
- He is working on a committee for gaming grants to simplify the process to apply for grants.

Elected Officials Report:

Stephanie Kees, Clerk and Recorder

- Gave update on the 2024 Presidential Primary Election. She issued a press release to answer common questions her office receives.
- FAQs to frequently asked questions about this election are on the website and the Clerk's Facebook page.
- Approximately 800 ballots have been returned within 4 days of initial mailing. The vote center at the Woodland Park library will be open beginning February 26 through Election Day March 5 except Sunday.

Carol Kittelson, Assessor

- Her staff is working on inspections of new construction.
- Personal property declarations have been sent out.
- Colorado State Assessors' organization is monitoring legislation.

Commissioners Williams, Campbell and Stone commented on bills impacting the



Assessor's office.

Administrator's Report:

Ross Herzog, County Administrator

- Working on updates to the County's strategic plan.
- Public Works has new grader.

2. Time Reserved for Department Heads and Public Without an Appointment: None.

3. Time Reserved for the Public without an appointment:

Mr. Grant Jerry, Teller County resident, commented on his concerns as a hunter, angler and sportsman. He read a statement that expressed his concerns about the Colorado legislature's efforts to limit hunting and outdoor recreation and the recent appointment of 3 commissioners to the CPW commission who don't have the required background to serve and who are animal rights and anti-hunting advocates. He has contacted the Governor's office with his concerns with no response. He requested the Commissioners oppose the confirmation of the 3 appointees.

Commissioner Williams encouraged Mr. Jerry to submit his written materials to the committee and to testify in person if possible, keeping in mind he is limited to 3 minutes.

Commissioner Stone thanked Mr. Jerry for his information and requested he submit the materials to the Board electronically in order to share with fellow County commissioners.

4. Administration: Consider a Resolution to amend the 2024 General, Road and Bridge, Jail Enterprise, Fleet Management, Conservation Trust, and DSS Fund Budgets.

Presenting: Ross Herzog, Administrator

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Stone seconded, to **approve Resolution No. 02-20-2024(09)**, a Resolution to amend the 2024 General, Road and Bridge, Jail Enterprise, Fleet Management, Conservation Trust, and DSS Fund Budgets and have it attached to the minutes. All Commissioners voted yes.

5. BoCC: Consider reappointment of Bert West and Steve McCann to Teller County Board of Review for a three-year term each.

Presenting: Bob Campbell, Commissioner

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Williams seconded, to **reappoint** Bert West and Steve McCann to Teller County Board of Review for a three-year term each. All Commissioners voted yes.

Board expressed their appreciation to them for volunteering for the Board of Review.

6. Treasurer: Consider acceptance and authorize publishing of Teller County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report for the period July 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

This item was pulled from the agenda to be presented at the next meeting on March 7, 2024.

764551 MINUTES Page 4 of 4
03/07/2024 04:13 PM Fees: \$0.00 Doc Fee:
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Commissioner's Business Items: Ross Herzog, County Administrator

The Board duly approved the following business agenda items:

1. Professional Service Agreement (PSA) with Justice Benefits, Inc. – Revised from extension agreement approved by BoCC on January 23rd.
2. Other administrative matters received after agenda deadlines. None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

APPROVED: Bob Campbell
Bob Campbell, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST: Stephanie Kees
Stephanie Kees, Clerk & Recorder

