

**Minutes of the Proceedings of
The Board of County Commissioners of Teller County, Colorado
April 9, 2024**

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. Jodi Mijares led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Action: Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Stone seconded, to **approve** the minutes of the meeting of the Teller County Board of County Commissioners on March 7, 2024, with corrections. All Commissioners voted yes.

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Williams seconded, to **approve** the minutes of the meeting of the Teller County Board of County Commissioners on March 19, 2024, with corrections. All Commissioners voted yes.

Accounts Payable:

Action: Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Stone seconded, that the Board **approve** the accounts payable run date of April 5, 2024, in the amount of \$1,213,222.83. All Commissioners voted yes.

Commissioners Campbell and Williams commented on the large accounts payable for the extra expenses to pay for snow removal after the winter storm and gravel for roads.

Board Reports:

Mr. Stone:

- Thanked the Office of Emergency Management, Public Works, Sheriff's Office, First Responders, IT, Administrator Herzog, and County departments for their significant response during the snowstorm.
- Gave an update on the Central Front Range Transportation Planning Region repaving project. Highway 67 repaving project will be delayed due to the

- estimates received exceeding the amount budgeted. Repairs will continue.
- Commented on the State GOP Assembly and expressed his disappointment with the behavior and how the actions are contrary to the fundamental beliefs of how government should operate.
 - A reporter with the Colorado Sun newspaper was wrongfully removed from the premises. Freedom of the press is important to our democracy.
 - The resolution that directs the Central Committee to opt out of the primary election process effectively cancels Republican primary elections and would allow a small group of people to determine candidates for the general election ballot. To do this a resolution was presented to not count “no” votes so if anyone opposes opting out of primary elections their “no” vote would not count.
 - He will be testifying on bills at the legislature and working with the Colorado Counties, Inc (CCI) steering committee.

Mr. Williams:

- Commended the efforts of everyone involved in responding to the storm emergency.
- Also attended the State GOP Assembly and expressed his outrage at the actions taken at the Assembly. He read a public statement that he also released to the press this morning explaining his respect for freedom of the press and his anger that a reporter was removed from covering the Assembly.
- Commented on Senate Bill 24-197 concerning water conservation and water rights in the Arkansas River Basin.
- Commented on Futile Water Rights and noted that a new State Water Engineer was appointed after the recent Commissioners meeting with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to discuss futile water rights and rural counties.
- He is working on amendments to Senate Bill 24-174 concerning growth management and affordable housing.
- He congratulated the newly elected Woodland Park City Council members.
- He will attend the Colorado Park and Wildlife (CPW) council luncheon on April 18th at the Capital to discuss wildlife management.

Mr. Campbell:

- He did not attend the GOP assembly but shares his fellow commissioners’ concerns.
- He continues to work on a more efficient application process to apply for Limited Gaming Impact grants.
- He is also working on the Workers Compensation Board for Colorado Technical Services, Inc. (CTSI)
- He is still working with the Pikes Peak Workforce (PPWF) on the current state audit.
- The CCI Tax and Finance committee is monitoring 17 bills.
- He will attend committee meetings with CCI later this week.

Elected Officials Report:

Stephanie Kees, Clerk and Recorder

- Agrees with the Commissioners about the problems at the State GOP assembly and expressed her concern about how the many first-time attendees viewed their experience. Commented on the inefficiency and errors at the Assembly with the credentialing to vote along with hand counting approximately 1,900 ballots.

Administrator's Report:

Ross Herzog, County Administrator

- Crews are continuing to repair roads, potholes and laying gravel.
- Actively recruiting for an open Code Enforcement position.

Commissioner Williams and Campbell commented on the successful efforts of county road repairs. Thanked the residents for their patience.

2. Time Reserved for Department Heads: None.**3. Time Reserved for the Public without an appointment:**

Sean Prior, Teller County resident, 1306 Twin Rocks Road. Mr. Prior commented on the flooding on his road depositing gravel on his property. He has communicated with Administrator Ross Herzog and Brad Shaw, Road Maintenance Supervisor, and disagrees with the County's position. He wants a berm to be rebuilt and check downs to prevent water from the Druid Hills area flooding his property. He is willing to assist with the work.

Commissioner Williams commented on the County's historic drainage and regulations. Willing to have the County do another site visit.

Commissioner Stone sympathized with Mr. Prior's frustrations because he also had to take measures to redirect water from his private property. He noted that the County previously offered to build a detention pond, but Mr. Prior asked for a reassessment of the value of his property as part of that offer, something the County Commissioners could not agree to.

Mr. Prior stated he is not willing to consider that previous offer.

The Commissioners stated the County will take another look at this information.

Administrator Herzog clarified comments about the communications with Mr. Prior and stated he will look to find a solution.

4. BoCC – Consider Ratifying the Extension of the Local Emergency Declaration signed during a special meeting on March 20, 2024.

Presenting: Ross Herzog, Administrator

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Stone seconded, to **ratify** the extension of the Local Emergency Declaration signed during a special meeting on March 20, 2024. All Commissioners voted yes.

~~5. Administration: Consider a Resolution designating Teller County's Medical Directors for Emergency Medical Services.~~

This agenda item was removed to allow the Board the opportunity to meet the proposed second Medical Director prior to appointment.

6. DHS: Consider a Proclamation Proclaiming April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Presenting: Kim Mauthe, Direct of Human Services

Jodi Mijares, Community Partnership and Family Resource Center Director

Ms. Mauthe and Ms. Mijares read the proposed Proclamation.

Ms. Mijares announced an upcoming Summer Fest on April 13 in Woodland Park.

Ms. Mauthe announced that a “parade” to local law enforcement and County buildings will be held on April 19 to promote Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Williams seconded, to **approve** the proclamation proclaiming April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month. All Commissioners voted yes.

Commissioners Campbell, Williams and Stone thanked DHS and Community Partnership for their continued effort to continue this project.

7. Treasurer: Consider acceptance of the Public Trustee's First Quarter Report for 2024.

Presenting: Krystal Brown, Public Trustee

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Stone seconded, to **accept** the Public Trustee's First Quarter Report for 2024. All Commissioners voted yes.

Commissioner's Business Items: Ross Herzog, County Administrator

The Board duly approved the following business agenda items:

1. Professional Service Agreement (PSA) with GMCO Corporation with any modifications requested by the Contractor and approved by the County Attorney.
2. Contract with Raise the Future for Child-Specific Recruitment Activities.
3. Professional Service Agreement (PSA) UniFirst Corporation with any modifications requested by the Contractor and approved by the County Attorney.
4. Professional Service Agreement (PSA) with KUBL Group, LLC with any modifications requested by the Contractor and approved by the County Attorney.

5. Professional Service Agreement (PSA) Teller-Park Conservation District with any modifications requested by the Contractor and approved by the County Attorney.

6. Other administrative matters received after agenda deadlines. None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

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

ATTEST: _____
Stephanie Kees, Clerk & Recorder