

Unapproved Minutes  
Board of Commissioners of Converse County

The regular meeting was called to order on March 17, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. Present were Chair Ed Werner, Vice-Chair Mike Colling, Commissioners Dave Edwards, Tony Lehner, Jim Willox and County Clerk Lucile Taylor.

Brand Inspector Bill Fitzhugh discussed the County Stockyard located on the old HWY 59 and asked if the County would rebuild the yard. Some suggestions were to move the location a short distance from the current location, offer to build a corral at WSF that could be used by WSF when not needed for livestock containment purposes, or do not rebuild. The Commissioners will ask Mr. Scott McWilliams, R&B, to coordinate a plan and to contact Mr. James Goodrich at WSF.

Mr. Willox moved to approve the Agreement for a gravel pit located on property owned by Daniel W. and Sharon Kay Lovitt and, based upon the approval of County Attorney Quentin Richardson, authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement. Mr. Edwards seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Scott McWilliams, R&B, will get with Mrs. Hopkins, CC Library, about the demolition of the house next to the Glenrock Library. Possibilities discussed were to offer it to someone for removal from the site; fire department training exercise; or demolition; making sure necessary permits are in place.

Mr. Willox moved to go into Executive Session at 9:31 a.m. Mr. Lehner seconded, motion carried.

The regular meeting reconvened at 9:50 a.m.

Ms. Kara Brighton, Attorney for the LaPrele Irrigation District, Mr. Robert Keenan and Mrs. Gina Pearson, LaPrele Irrigation District, were present to discuss the new law pertaining to irrigation water rights within subdivisions. Ms. Brighton stated she had reviewed the County's subdivision regulations and complimented the County on those regulations. She stated there are three issues that irrigation districts have encountered: 1) water rights, usually not taken care of prior to the approval of a subdivision; 2) easements, about 95% are unrecorded within an irrigation district; irrigation districts would like to have recorded easements prior to approval of subdivisions; and, 3) liability for residents in a subdivision who live close to canals; i.e. wading, fishing, drowning. Ms. Brighton stated the LaPrele Irrigation District would like the Converse County Subdivision Regulations to expand the new law into minor subdivisions. Mr. Werner asked Ms. Brighton to provide some ideas and language appropriate to the new law. Time frames for notices to all of those involved in the process may need to be longer. She suggested the subdivider needs to meet with the Irrigation District and not go through a county planner for discussions pertinent to irrigation. Ms. Brighton stated the Irrigation District will do a more in-depth review of their policy. They will get back with the County with recommendations. For the future, land surveys and plats should contain irrigation ditches if applicable.

Mrs. Leslie Blythe, Rocky Mountain Power, introduced the staff who came with her to discuss the Two Elks Transmission Project. Mr. Jeff Hymas gave an overview of the proposed project.

The regular meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Mr. Joe Coyne, CANDO and the local coordinator for Converse County Together, Now and Tomorrow, Ms. Leslie Ellis, Clarion Associates and Mr. Carlos Hernandez, Fehr & Peers, stated they have primarily been working on land use planning in cooperation with the municipalities and are reaching out to all county residents for input.

The regular meeting recessed at 2:15 p.m. into a public hearing to solicit public views, comments, and recommendations for potential sponsorship of a grant application to the WCDA's Housing Activities Portion of the CDBG Program. Mr. Chris Bateman, Solutions for Life, explained their request for a rehabilitation grant in the amount of \$60,000 to correct deficiencies in their transitional house. There were no public comments. The public hearing ended at 2:20 p.m. and the regular meeting reconvened.

Mr. Willox moved to add September 15, 2009 as a meeting date for the Commission as the dates for WACO have changed. Mr. Lehner seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Colling moved to approve the minutes of March 3 and 4, 2009. Mr. Edwards seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Lehner moved to approve the following grazing leases from April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010 for the County Park: State of Wyoming Board of Land Commissioners, Don Fountain, True Ranches, Jacquelyn F Carter, and Green Valley, Inc. at a cost of \$1.35 per AUM. Mr. Willox seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Edwards moved to appoint Ms. Jessica Sauga to an unexpired term ending December 2009 on the Converse County Tourism Promotion Board. Mr. Colling seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Willox moved to approve the grant award for the US Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency Grant Programs, FY 2009 Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$29,042; 2009-EP-E9-0022, EMPG-97.042, Project ID 09-GPD-CON-EM-GCF9 from October 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010. Mr. Edwards seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Bob Johnson, Reilly Johnson Architecture, was present to review the proposed Converse County Justice Center that may now include a proposal to house the courts.

Mr. Lehner moved to allow Reilly Johnson Architecture to proceed with services for Converse County pending submittal of a contract (based on the Scope of Service) to be reviewed by the County Attorney and the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Willox seconded, motion carried.

The Commission will hold a special meeting on April 28, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. to review the progress report by Reilly Johnson Architecture on the schematic design of the proposed facility.

The regular meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m. on March 17, 2009. /s/ Ed Werner, Chair.

Attest: Lucile K. Taylor, Converse County Clerk

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