

December 14th, 2010

TWENTY THIRD MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Fremont, State of Colorado, met in Regular Session on December 14th, 2010, 615 Macon Avenue, Room LL3, Fremont County Administration Building, Cañon City, Colorado. Commissioner Chairman Edward H. Norden called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

Edward H. Norden	Commissioner	Present
Michael J. Stiehl	Commissioner	Present
Larry Lasha	Commissioner	Present
Brenda Jackson	County Attorney	Present
Norma Hatfield	Clerk and Recorder	Present

Also present: Bill Giordano, Planning and Zoning Director; George Sugars, County Manager, and Jody Blausner of the Clerk and Records Office.

Pastor Benny Soto of Mountain View Community Church, and Chaplain for the Fremont County Sheriffs Department gave the Morning Prayer.

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Stiehl moved to approve the agenda, Commissioner Lasha seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Lasha moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Stiehl seconded the motion. Upon vote: Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE/INFORMATIONAL

1. Administrative and Elected Officials

The County Clerk, Norma Hatfield gave her report for the month of November, 2010. Fees earned for the Clerks office for November 2010 were \$722,006.89 which is \$54,582.76 more than November 2009. The total fees earned through November 2010 are \$986,877.02. Commissioner Lasha moved to accept the Clerk's report for the month of November. Commissioner Stiehl seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

County Manager, George Sugars gave an update on sales and use tax for Fremont County. The retail sales tax is down 1.19% from 2009. The auto use tax is down 2.49% from 2009. The construction use tax is up 68% from 2009. The total sales and use tax collection is up 1.5%. For the budget year of 2010, we are up just over 1% for the year.

Commissioner Norden noted publication has been made, and the County web site has been posted for 2 vacant seats on the Fremont County Planning Commission. These seats come up for annual appointment in January that are currently held by Mike Schnobrich and Herm Lattier. Both are eligible to serve again, and have indicated they wish to do so. However the County posts an announcement for anyone who may be interested in serving on the Planning Commission. The deadline to submit a letter of interest is 4:00 P.M. Thursday January 6th, 2011 in the County Commissioners office.

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Norden announced the County Administration Building will be closing at 3:00 P.M. on Thursday December 16th so the Elected Officials can host a Christmas Party for the County Employees at the Administration Building. Norden thanked the County Employees for their hard work and dedication and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

2. Citizens Not Scheduled: None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mona Newton of the Governors Energy Office will give an informational update to the Board on programs and support within the County.

Mona Newton said she is a regional representative for Fremont, Teller, Park, Summit, and Clear Creek Counties. She noted that Karin Milisavljevich has been doing a great job here in Fremont County. The funding allocated for rural and mountain communities came from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This money is to help fund the Community Energy Coordinators, rebates and grants in the area. Over the last 3 ½ years 57 pieces of Legislation have passed which have resulted in some reports. Mona gave a copy of the Utilities Study and a copy of the Renewable Energy Development report to the Board. She said they have been offering rebates to the citizens of Colorado since April 2010 and so far 63 people in Fremont County have taken advantage of rebates. The rebates are for old refrigerators, dishwashers, washing machines, and solar thermal systems. These rebates will be available thru 2011 until the funding runs out. Mona said this not only benefits the citizens, but local businesses and contractors as well. She said they will continue to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy in the coming years. Commissioner Stiehl said the largest eleven counties received most of the funding and the remaining 52 counties only got 6% of the funding. He asked if there was a way to look at the formula again to see if funding could be more evenly distributed. Stiehl said the Governors energy office determined it would be easier to comply with the accountability requirement of the funds if they gave it to a few of the larger entities, rather than 20 or 30 smaller ones. He stated this was not a Federal requirement, but a State decision. Mona said they were given a separate allocation for the remaining 52 counties and the larger counties with over 100,000 people received a certain amount of funding. The State received a separate allocation of funds for the non-entitled (smaller) communities. Stiehl said he was specifically talking about the energy money and would like them to reconsider the distribution formula. Mona said she understands that it is not always a fair distribution of funding and she will check into it and get back to the Commissioners. Commissioner Lasha asked Mona to explain more what her region is. Mona explained she covers the eastern plains, the south San Luis valley, and north up to Custer, Fremont, Teller, Park, Summit, Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties. She said she covers approximately 20 counties and 10 energy coordinators. Lasha thanked her for being here today. Commissioner Norden asked if the purpose of the rebates is to get the older appliances out of circulation, and replace it with a new appliance. Mona replied yes, the goal for giving the rebates is to reduce the overall energy use. She asked the Board to please call her with any questions, and gave them each a business card.

2. Appointments to fill three vacancies on the Fremont County Tourism Council. Two seats will serve three year terms beginning 1/1/2011 through 1/1/2014. The third seat is for one year remaining on a three year term which expires 1/1/2012.

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Commissioner Norden asked Commissioner Lasha to read the names of the applicants. Lasha said six people were interviewed for the vacancies: Lloyd Harwood, Robert Henderson, Will Colon, Brian Garten, Dorothy Day and Glen Hayes. Lasha noted how nice it was to have so many people express an interest in the Tourism Council. He said Lloyd Harwood of the Hotel Industry was selected for a three year term. Dorothy Day of the Royal Gorge Bridge was selected for a one year term. Glen Hayes of the Royal Gorge Railroad was selected for a three year term. Commissioner Norden stated it will be great to have someone on the Council from the Hotel Industry. Norden thanked Mike Bandera of the Royal Gorge Bridge for his service on the Tourism Council since its inception in 2001. Norden thanked Mike Johnston of Prospectors R.V. Campground who served a partial term on a vacancy. Neither Bandera nor Johnston wished to continue serving on the Tourism Council. Commissioner Lasha moved to approve the appointments of Lloyd Harwood, Dorothy Day, and Glen Hayes to the Fremont County Tourism Council. Commissioner Stiehl seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

3. **Tony Adamic** of the Fremont County Department of Transportation asked For consideration of an agreement with Colorado Department of Local Affairs (D.O.L.A.) for a Local Government Limited Gaming Impact Grant.

Commissioner Norden said the County had distributed a news release saying the grant had been awarded to Fremont County, and this is the actual contract for that grant. Tony said we will enter into an agreement with the Department of Local Affairs. It will be for the third phase of the overlay of Garden Park Road for four miles of asphalt with a 2 inch overlay. The total project cost is \$800,000 with \$400,000 of state funding, \$372,500 of in kind labor and \$27,500 cash match from the County. Commissioner Lasha thanked Tony for his work on securing these grants. Tony replied without the grant money our roads would be in bad shape. George Sugars noted that since March of 1994 thru June of 2010 Fremont County has received \$4,829,904 from gaming funds. Tony said the County has worked well with the Mineral Impact on these grants also. Commissioner Stiehl said one source is the Gaming, and also Mineral Impact and GOCO grants. Commissioner Stiehl moved to approve the Chairman to sign the agreement with D.O.L.A. for the gaming impact grant. Commissioner Lasha seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

3. **Gary Weirton** of the Fleet Department asked for consideration to accept bids on Fremont County Department of Transportation used equipment. Gary said they posted the public notice in the Daily Record from December 3rd to December 6th. The bid received on the 87 Ford Unit #320 was for \$500. The bid received on the 89 Chevy Unit #446 was for \$750. As these were the only two bids received Gary recommended the Board accept them. Gary said no bids were received on the antique 62 Chevy ¾ ton pickup and he recommended they try to advertise it elsewhere.

Commissioner Norden agreed, it should be advertised to collectors if possible. Commissioner Lasha moved to approve and accept the bid for Unit #320 of \$500 and approve the bid on Unit #446 for \$750 and continue to advertise the 62 Chevy. Commissioner Stiehl seconded the motion. Commissioner Norden noted these are bids to purchase County equipment and the Board is accepting these bids. Upon Vote: Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

4. A Resolution by the Fremont County Board of County Commissioners reinstating participation in the Colorado County Officials and Employees Retirement Association (CCOERA), Beginning January 2, 2011.

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Commissioner Norden said this is the first of several Resolutions concerning the proposed 2011 Fremont County budget. Norden stated the Board eliminated the 4% County match for the Employees Retirement fund for the 2010 budget. This Resolution will reinstate the County Match to 3% starting January 2, 2011. George Sugars said the 3% match is included in the 2011 budget. Norden noted the County could only suspend the retirement match for 2 years or the program would go away and not be reinstated. He said the concern for the 2012 budget was part of the Boards decision to reinstate the match for the 2011 budget. Commissioner Lasha said this was one of the hardest decisions he had to make as it affects the future of County employees. Commissioner Lasha moved to approve Resolution #61 a Resolution by the Fremont County Board of County Commissioners reinstating participation in the Colorado County Officials and Employees Retirement Association, beginning January 2, 2011 for 3%. Commissioner Stiehl seconded the motion. Stiehl said this was a very difficult decision to cut the match in 2010 as the County Employees are very loyal and hard working. Stiehl noted the last time they gave employees a raise in 2009, the County ran into trouble with the budget. He said he is cautious but in favor of restoring the match at this time. Commissioner Norden said there is no clear cut course for future budgets as we come out of the recession. Norden said they are trying to be fair to the employees while managing the funding that is available. Upon Vote: Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

5. A Resolution summarizing expenditures for each fund and adopting a budget for the County of Fremont, Colorado, for the Calendar Year beginning on the first day of January 2011 and ending on the last day of December 2011.

Dana Angel, County Finance Officer said Resolution #62 approves and adopts the Fremont County Budget for the year 2011 in the amount of \$36,657,117. This is the same amount that was proposed at the November 23rd budget hearing. Commissioner Lasha moved to approve Resolution #62 a Resolution summarizing expenditures for each fund and adopting a budget for Fremont County for the Calendar Year beginning on the first day of January 2011 and ending on the last day of December 2011 for #36,657,117. Commissioner Stiehl seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Norden aye. The motion carried.

6. A Resolution levying general property taxes for the year of 2010 to help defray the costs of government for the County of Fremont, Colorado, for the 2011 budget year.

Dana Angel noted there had been a small change in the figures. According to statute the County Assessor is required to indicate assessed values to all of the taxing entities by August 25th of the year. This assessed value is used in all of the budget preparation in the fall. The Assessor has to certify the Assessed value by December 10th of the year. Dana said we received the certified assessed value on December 7th 2010 for Fremont County. It was a small change and did change some of the numbers in the budget. In the Resolution we are certifying an assessed value of \$451,821,247 which is the revised number certified by the Assessor. The number used for budget purposes was \$452,552,973. This resulted in a small decrease, a difference of \$732,000 in assessed value which affected our property tax revenue by \$8,996 less. The general fund took a decrease in the amount of \$6,400. It did not change the spending numbers of the budget, only the anticipated carry over numbers at the end of 2011. Commissioner Norden said every taxing entity may or may not have seen a reduction due to the assessor's revision of assessed value, depending on where the properties are that were adjusted downward. Dana said the deadline for certification of value is December 15th so a special meeting will need to be scheduled after that.

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Commissioner Stiehl moved to adopt Resolution #63 a Resolution Levying General Property taxes for the year of 2010 to help defray the costs of Government for the County of Fremont, Colorado, for the 2011 budget year in the amount of \$451,821,247. Commissioner Lasha seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

7. A Resolution appropriating sums of money to the various funds and spending agencies, in the amounts and for the purposes set forth below, of the County of Fremont, Colorado, for the 2011 budget year beginning January 1, 2011 and ending December 31, 2011.

Dana Angel said Resolution #64 that will appropriate the funds to the various spending agencies. This is a legal area of the budget that has to be acted upon. Dana noted the amount of the appropriation is \$36,657,117 the same amount of the 2011 budget. Commissioner Norden moved to approve Resolution #64 to appropriate the money to various funds for the Fremont County 2011 budget year. Commissioner Lasha seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Norden, aye; Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye. The motion carried.

8. Set a special Board of County Commissioner meeting date and time for adoption of mill levy certification.

Commissioner Norden explained a special Board meeting needed to be scheduled for certification of the mill levies from the Assessor from the various governmental agencies in Fremont County that assess property tax collections. Commissioner Stiehl moved to schedule the special Board of County Commissioners meeting for Tuesday December 21st, 2010 at 9:30 A.M. Commissioner Lasha seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

9. Jean Whitehorn, Fremont County Public Health Nurse will ask for consideration of a contract with Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing for Healthy Communities Outreach and Case Management.

Jean Whitehorn said this is grant money for Healthy Communities in the amount of \$9,600. Jean explained this was previously a program that was under Council of Governments and was called EPSDT. The Council of Governments decided they did not want to offer the program any longer, so the Fremont County Public Health Office took over the program in April of last year. She said the program helps families on CHP and Medicaid find Doctors, Dentists, and Eye Doctors that are accepting CHP and Medicaid patients. Jean noted the County has been doing this for years, but will now get paid for it because of the grant money. Commissioner Norden thanked Jean for her hard work while filling in for this interim position. Commissioner Stiehl noted the whole department's commitment to Public Health is very admirable. Commissioner Lasha moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing for Healthy Communities Outreach and Case Management for \$9,600. Commissioner Stiehl seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Lasha, aye; Commissioner Stiehl, aye; Commissioner Norden, aye. The motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR 10:00 A.M.

None.

Commissioner Norden adjourned the meeting at 10:25 A.M.

