

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## MINUTES

### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WELD COUNTY, COLORADO WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners of Weld County, Colorado, met in regular session in full conformity with the laws of the State of Colorado at the regular place of meeting in the Weld County Administration Building, Greeley, Colorado, September 6, 2023, at the hour of 9:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order by the Chair and on roll call the following members were present, constituting a quorum of the members thereof:

Commissioner Mike Freeman, Chair  
Commissioner Perry L. Buck, Pro-Tem  
Commissioner Scott K. James  
Commissioner Kevin D. Ross  
Commissioner Lori Saine

Also present:

County Attorney, Bruce Barker  
Acting Clerk to the Board, Houston Aragon  
Chief Financial Officer, Cheryl Pattelli

#### **MINUTES:**

1) There being no corrections to the Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners meetings of August 21, 2023, as printed, Commissioner Ross moved to approve. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2) There being no corrections to the Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners meetings of August 23, 2023, as printed, Commissioner Buck moved to approve. Commissioner James seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**CERTIFICATION OF HEARINGS:** Commissioner Buck moved to approve the Certification of Hearings conducted on August 16, and 23, 2023, as follows: 1) USR23-0002 – D-Dart Ranch, Inc., c/o SunShare, LLC, dba Lincoln Solar, LLC, 2) COZ23-0001 – PV East, LLC, and 3) USR23-0012 – Jeffrey and Rachel Rummer, c/o Colorado Railbike Adventures, LLC, Attn: Robert Rummer. Commissioner Ross seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA:** There were no amendments to the agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Commissioner James moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as printed. Commissioner Ross seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

1) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2023: Chair Freeman read the proclamation for the record. Tami Grant, Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services, thanked the Board for the opportunity to recognize staff who are committed to fostering growth, opportunity, and inclusivity within the Weld County community. She stated their strategic initiatives and collaborative approach have facilitated meaningful employment and contributed significantly to the overall economic advancement of the region. Ms. Grant stated between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023, 588 Weld County residents have benefitted from Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs. She highlighted Employment Services of Weld County (ESWC) have been the recipient of the National Association of Workforce Development Board’s 2023 Workforce Program of the Year Award. Ms. Grant reported the ESWC will partner with Larimer County’s Economic and Workforce Development to host the annual Workforce Symposium – Embracing a Time of Growth, on September 26, 2023, at Aims Community College. She stated, in addition to hosting this symposium, there will be shared job fairs, and a recruiting bootcamp open to all employers, on September 19, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Ms. Grant recognized staff and community partners who were present. In turn, each Commissioner expressed their appreciation of the energetic, award-winning Workforce Center which helps people locate and retain employment and actively enriches the lives of the citizens in Weld County. *(Clerk’s Note: The group gathered for a photo opportunity).*

2) SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2023: Chair Freeman read the proclamation for the record. Kim Collins, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of North Range Behavioral Health (NRBH), thanked the Board for the recognition and all the community partnerships formed over the years. She further explained suicide education and support services are programs of NRBH, and stated the goal is to have no deaths caused by suicide by engaging with the initiative, Imagine Zero. Ms. Collins shared a commonality of people who are survivors of attempted suicide is oftentimes they don’t want to die, but simply want their pain to end. She stated through various programs provided by NRBH, that is something they can address with people who are experiencing a mental and/or behavioral health crisis. Micaela Sanchez, Marketing and Community Outreach Director for NRBH, expressed the stigma surrounding the topic of suicide stems from discomfort surrounding the topic in a public forum, and how critical it is to change the narrative for people to be comfortable to reach out and voice their struggles with pain. She noted the rural agricultural communities in Weld County are among those who are struggling the most, acknowledged the proud culture that ranchers and farmers often have, and stated there is a fine line between being strong and self-sufficient, but not being able to navigate the difficult emotional challenges alone. Ms. Sanchez noted people are wired to be connected and NRBH can help those recognize and celebrate their rugged individualism while knowing it is okay to ask for help. She recited various trainings that offer valuable discussion to save lives. The Commissioners agreed the issue of suicide is challenging, and stated often those closest say there were no signs. They stressed the importance of finding ways to support and connect with individuals who are displaying concerning behavior, as well as support their families, and to provide seamless care for mental and behavioral health the same way physical health is provided. They endorsed the needs for whole-person wellness and the impacts that are felt. *(Clerk’s Note: The group gathered for a photo opportunity).*

**WARRANTS:**

1) GENERAL WARRANTS – AUGUST 30, 2023, AND SEPTEMBER 1, AND 5, 2023: Commissioner Ross moved to approve the General Warrants, as printed. Commissioner James seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**BIDS:**

1) APPROVE BID #B2300168, GENERATOR MAINTENANCE AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT: Carolyn Geisert, Purchasing Department, stated staff recommends selecting the lowest bidder who met specifications, Colorado Standby, LLC, for a total amount of \$24,775.00 for annual periodic maintenance, and \$30,100.00 for bi-annual load bank services. In addition, she stated this will allow for up to three (3) additional annual terms depending on performance. Commissioner James moved to approve said bid. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buck, and it carried unanimously.

2) PRESENT BID #B2300156, JAIL SEWAGE GRINDER PUMP ELECTRICAL AND SITE UPGRADE – FACILITIES DEPARTMENT: Ms. Geisert stated three (3) bids were received and staff will make a recommendation on September 20, 2023.

3) PRESENT BID #B2300077, CORONER CASE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE SOLUTION – DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Ryan Rose, Director of the Department of Information Technology, stated six (6) bids were received and staff will make a recommendation on September 20, 2023.

4) PRESENT BID #B2300170, DELL STORAGE – DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Mr. Rose stated four (4) bids were received and staff will make a recommendation on September 20, 2023.

5) PRESENT BID #B2300171, CISCO ROOM KIT MAINTENANCE FOR VIDEO ARRAIGNMENT – DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Mr. Rose stated two (2) bids were received and staff will make a recommendation on September 20, 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1) CONSIDER PETITION FOR ABATEMENT OR REFUND OF TAXES FOR ACCOUNT NO. P1414999 – BANK OF COLORADO: Brenda Dones, Assessor, presented a petition for abatement or refund of taxes for tax year 2022, for a business personal property account for the Bank of Colorado. She reviewed the valuation approach methods, and explained the requested change is due to a correction of an error that was reported. She stated, as a result, staff recommends approval, in part, to change the value from \$1,552,599.00, to \$275,413.00, altering the taxable values from \$43,699.91 to \$7,751.94, which results in a total abatement of \$35,947.97. Commissioner James moved to approve said petition for abatement, in part. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buck, and it carried unanimously.

2) CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR COLORADO AMERICORPS PLANNING GRANT FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO SUBMIT ELECTRONICALLY: Tami Grant, Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services, stated this application is requesting funding to support water and energy efficiency initiatives with AmeriCorps, also known as Weld County Youth Conservation Corps, in the amount of \$150,000.00. She stated there are several upcoming projects that will benefit from these grant funds. Commissioner Buck moved to approve said application and authorize the Department of Human Services to submit electronically. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James, and it carried unanimously.

3) CONSIDER CONTRACT ID #7351 AMENDMENT #1 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR INMATE MEDICAL SERVICES (EMERGENCY BID #B2300144), AND AUTHORIZE CHAIR TO SIGN – WELLPATH, LLC: Sonja Kohlgraf, Sheriff's Office, stated this amendment covers several term-related changes. Commissioner Ross moved to approve said amendment and authorize the Chair to sign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buck, and it carried unanimously.

4) CONSIDER EMERGENCY TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CR 25 BETWEEN CRS 36 AND 38: Amy Mutchie, Department of Public Works, stated this emergency closure began on August 19, 2023, and will go through September 15, 2023, for the replacement of a collapsed irrigation culvert. Commissioner Ross moved to approve said temporary closure on an emergency basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buck, and it carried unanimously.

5) CONSIDER TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CR 59 BETWEEN CRS 6 AND 8: Ms. Mutchie stated this closure will begin on September 12, 2023, and go through September 15, 2023, for the replacement of an irrigation culvert. She explained water will be used, as needed, for dust mitigation on the gravel portions of the detour route. Commissioner Buck moved to approve said temporary closure on an emergency basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James, and it carried unanimously.

6) CONSIDER CONTRACT ID #7343 AGREEMENT FOR SALE AND PURCHASE OF WETLAND MITIGATION CREDITS FOR BIG THOMPSON CONFLUENCE MITIGATION BANK FOR BRIDGE 53/58A REPLACEMENT PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZE CHAIR TO SIGN – WESTERVELT ECOLOGICAL SERVICES, LLC: Clay Kimmi, Department of Public Works, stated this agreement is for the purchase of 0.09 acres of wetlands that were originally impacted during the construction of Bridge 53/58A in 2019, and subsequently damaged by stormwater washout. He stated the Army Corps of Engineers provided the County with the option to start over and monitor the work for a minimum of five (5) years, or buy into the mitigation bank for the cost of \$22,500.00. Mr. Kimmi indicated a work session was held on August 21, 2023. Commissioner Ross moved to approve said agreement and authorize the Chair to sign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buck, and the motion carried unanimously.

7) CONSIDER SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT AND AUTHORIZE CHAIR TO SIGN – AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY: *(Clerk's Note: Bruce Baker, County Attorney, instructed the Board to call up the Public Hearing for the Limited Event Permit LEP23-0001, Jim and Kristen Humphrey, c/o American Cancer Society, regarding the relationship to the Special Events Permit. Please reference Hearing Certification Docket No. 2023-70.)*

Following a determination on LEP23-0001, Chair Freeman resumed with consideration of the Special Events Permit for this same event. Matt Conroy, Assistant County Attorney, stated the liquor application is complete, and stated there are no concerns from referral agencies. Commissioner Ross moved to approve said Special Events Permit and authorize Chair to sign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner James, and it carried unanimously.

8) CONSIDER BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO ADJOURN AS BOARD OF EQUALIZATION FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023: Karin McDougal, Assistant County Attorney, stated this resolution is to adjourn the Board of Equalization for 2023, that was convened on July 1, 2023. Commissioner James moved to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buck, and it carried unanimously.

9) FINAL READING OF CODE ORDINANCE #2023-11, IN THE MATTER OF REPEALING AND REENACTING, WITH AMENDMENTS, CHAPTER 7 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES OF THE WELD COUNTY CODE (*AMBULANCES*): Commissioner James moved to read Code Ordinance #2023-11 by title only. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ross, and it carried unanimously. Mr. Barker read the title for the record. Jason Chessher, Director of the Department of Public Health and Environment, stated there have been no comments received on this ordinance, and there have been no changes since Second Reading. No public comment was offered concerning this matter. Commissioner Ross moved to approve Code Ordinance #2023-11 on Final Reading. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Saine, and it carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1) Steve Teets, Greeley Resident, offered his comments to the Board.

**RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:** The Resolutions were presented and signed as listed on the Consent Agenda. Code Ordinance #2023-11 was approved on Final Reading.

Let the minutes reflect that the above and foregoing actions were attested to and respectfully submitted by the Clerk to the Board. There being no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

These Minutes were approved on the 20th day of September, 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WELD COUNTY, COLORADO

ATTEST:

Weld County Clerk to the Board

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Mike Freeman, Chair

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Perry L. Buck, Pro-Tem

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk to the Board

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Scott K. James

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Kevin D. Ross

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Lori Saine