



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

970.453.3402 ph | 970.453.3535 f

208 East Lincoln Ave. | PO Box 68

www.SummitCountyCO.gov

Breckenridge, CO 80424

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Scott Vargo
Jeff Huntley
FROM: Sara R. Lopez
RE: Work Session Meeting of August 27, 2019
DATE: August 27, 2019

Attendees:

Elected Officials: Thomas C. Davidson, Karn Stiegelmeier and Elisabeth Lawrence – Commissioners

Staff: Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager; Julie Sutor, Director of Communications; Marty Ferris, Finance Director and Sara R Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Guests: Deepan Dutta, Torie Jarvis, Kerry Buhler, Sue Wilcox, Cindy Bargell, Tracey Carisch, Terry Craig, Kate Hudnut, Bonnie Ward, Lisa Webster, Molly Speer, Drew Adkins, Mikki Gerbetz, Kara Drake, Lucinda Burns, Carly Nixon, Damarys Peralta, Consuelo Redhorse and Gloria Quintero.

I. Water Quality/Quantity Committee (QQ) Update

Torie Jarvis gave digital presentation and brief overview including but not limited to:

- QQ's History and Current Work
 - Facilitate and augment the efforts to protect and enhance the region's water quality while encouraging its responsible use for the good of Colorado citizens and the environment.
 - Funded by town member dues and some grants, with Commissioner Stiegelmeier as an active committee member
 - Working with local governments to enact measures that improve water quality and efficiency
- Headwater Region is comprised of Grand, Eagle, Summit, Pitkin, Park and Gunnison counties with water-dependent economies that include recreation-tourism, agriculture and resource extraction
- The impact of trans mountain water diversions on water quality and quantity
- Climate change and projected loss of snowpack
- QQ's Policies and Goals
 - Build coalitions and promote education
 - Statewide water policy
 - Protect and implement local government authority to protect water resources
- Connecting Land Use and Water Planning
 - QQ has met with Front Range representatives to promote education on land use increase and sustainable water practices

Commissioners and staff provided feedback and thanked Ms. Jarvis for her work.

II. Managers' and Commissioners' Issues

Senior Management and the Commissioners gave various updates on topics including but not limited to:

- BOCC needs to review Peak 7 proposed chairlift letter as the deadline is September 1st
- Conducting a capacity analysis on recreation paths with trail system
- Summit Stage will be rerouting it's Summit Cove route for 10 days due to current road construction
- The Colorado Association of Transit Agencies (CASTA) conference and expo will be held at Keystone Conference Center September 24th to 27th – Commissioner Lawrence plans to attend.
- Shooting Range: Noise control complaints from residents around the area and it was suggested that it might be good to have the Sheriff's Office and Summit Range Association meet to discuss possible solutions.
- Brief overview of Strong Future Mental Health recommendations.

Commissioners also reviewed schedules and upcoming calendar events.

III. Joint Meeting with Summit School District (SSD) Board of Education (BOE) and Superintendent

Kerry Buhler, SSD Superintendent, BOE members and administrative staff gave an update and brief overview including but not limited to:

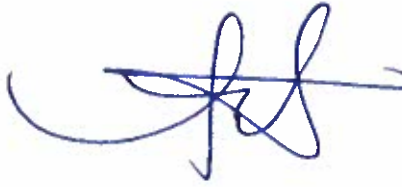
- **Memorializing Secure Rural Schools Funding/Split**
 - Last time the two groups met was in 2009. The group agreed that funding amounts are split 50% to SSD and 50% to Road and Bridge.
- **Land Dedication Policy**
 - There are no policies in place that define what happens when a new land development project is approved, and no provisions are made for the additional number of students added to the school district system when new housing developments are built.
 - Scott Vargo mentioned that the last impact evaluation of the Lake Hill Neighborhood in the Town of Frisco (TOF) did not show an impact to the school system. Cindy Bargell noted that the issue with smaller developments is their aggregated impact. It is already a challenge to accommodate the burgeoning numbers at the Middle School. Commissioner Davidson suggested that we focus on the number of units in a new development not acreage to determine how many kids are generated per unit.
- **Workforce Housing Partnership and SSD Programs**
 - SSD has traded land with the TOF and next to Upper Blue Elementary. The district currently owns two units in Blue 52 neighborhood that are being used as transitional housing for new staff. The lease runs from July to June in alignment with the school year, and participants enter their name in a lottery. SSD is looking for a company that can provide down payment assistance to staff, but most school district staff seem to be content with their housing situation. The benefits of providing down payment assistance loans to staff were discussed, including: employee retention, and a guaranteed 3% return on investment.
- **Renewal of Kindergarten Fund**

- In 2007 the Summit County voted in favor of funding full day Kindergarten. Last spring, the state government decided that they would fund full day Kindergarten. The county measure was passed as a mill levy and now the school district is unable to collect those funds. The school district will go to voters and ask to be allowed to collect the funds and use these to attract and retain highly qualified staff, and to provide counseling services and mental health programs for students. The BOCC agreed to support the measure.
- **1A Initiative**
 - The school district superintendent thanked the county and commissioners for their support with the 1A initiative that funded Strong Futures, which has benefited a lot of families and students.
 - The county has a great partnership with the school district on mental health and has funded an Early Childhood position with the school district. The commissioners are looking forward to the data from the OK programs being implemented.
- **Nicotine/Vaping Prevention and Cessation Programs/Partnerships**
 - The school district has been gathering a fact sheet on student health and the nicotine/vaping issue is one piece of it. The school district leadership team is focusing on social emotional support and mental health. The county hopes to have additional funding to help SSD in the future with these goals. Commissioner Davidson mentioned that the students with the YESS program have been doing amazing work and SSD may want to include them with their initiatives.
 - If the Nicotine/Vaping measure is to be approved by voters, the school district would like to weave any prevention strategies into already existing programs to make sure it works for the kids. Any funds collected if the measure passes should not be used for cessation program as the goal is for those funds to decrease over time.
 - School Board members commented that the vaping epidemic seemed to sneak up on everyone, and there seems to be a misconception, even among adults, that vaping is not harmful. Parents and teachers need to be educated about the signs of vaping and how innocuous smells like cotton candy can be one of those signs.
- **Census Partnership Opportunities**
 - Commissioner Lawrence was informed that the Federal Department of Education has sent information to schools related to the census and curriculum. So far, Summit School District has not received anything yet.
 - More than 80% of Summit County residents will not receive a census notification because they use a PO Box for USPS mail. The notification instructs them to go online and complete the census; therefore, the county will mail out the information. The response numbers for the last census were incredibly low, with Dillon Valley being one of the lowest responding neighborhoods.
 - Commissioner Lawrence inquired if the schools could encourage parents to go online to complete the census, they can even use their kids Chromebook. Sue Wilcox suggested contacting all PTSA groups, and Tracey Carisch will connect the Dillon Valley Elementary PTSA President. Superintendent Buhler pointed out that the school district has to be careful with the information it shares due to funding restrictions but noted that PTSA groups are not tied to those rules
- **SSD/SCG Partnership Xcel Energy Resiliency Grant**

- The grant would convert Summit Middle School (SMS) into an emergency shelter with backup solar power. Investing in a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) System would help the Summit County's energy program. The county can provide the initial investment and the school district would pay back the loan. Having an emergency facility available with backup power in case there is a power outage due to winter conditions is very attractive to Xcel Energy.
- Board members commented that the benefits to SSD are not obvious and asked if the county would consider an equal split in cost so the school district does not foot the bill alone. Another consideration is the cost for maintenance, replacement and disposal as the system becomes obsolete.
- SSD has reached out to their architects to evaluate whether or not the roof at SMS can support the weight of the solar system before doing anything else, and Xcel Energy still needs to conduct additional studies.
- As of now, the county is using Xcel's estimates on the cost for the panels. If the difference is too high, the application can be withdrawn.
- **Extended Preschool Hours and Special Education Services in Centers**
 - Carly Nixon introduced Damarys Peralta, Consuelo Redhorse and Gloria Quintero whose children have participated in the Early Intervention Program. These moms are active council members and Ms. Peralta is now an Early Childhood staff member.
 - They shared their experiences with the program and the challenges they have faced. Their jobs require them to arrive early and stay late, especially during the winter season. This may be the case for many Hispanic families where the parents work in the ski resort industry. Preschool is not available on Mondays which also influences the parents' decision to find a more flexible childcare option.
 - As part of Part B Services, the school district saves a spot for a child who ages out of Early Intervention after the start of the school year. However, these spots are for half a day. Working parents are unable to benefit from this opportunity because the half a day schedule is impractical with their work hours. Most cannot afford to pay for the additional half day, if it's available. There are no other alternatives for parents to send their kids to, and when parents turn down Part B services and the child later comes to school, teachers have no idea of what Special Education issues the child may have.
 - Head Start is well aware that there are gaps and they are working to analyze how many students are being affected within the 3-5 age-gap. They will collect data and bring it to the Early Childhood Board.
 - Commissioner Davidson suggested working together to come up with a solution to extend PK hours. It may be necessary to go to the voters.

Commissioners and staff thanked School District staff and parents for attending and participating in the discussion of these important issues.

Respectfully submitted:



Sara Lopez, Deputy Clerk



Approved by:



Thomas C. Davidson, Chair