

SUMMIT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, September 3, 2019, 3:00 p.m. Special Meeting
SUMMARY MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 was called to order by Chair, Thomas C. Davidson, at 3:00 p.m. in the County Commissioners' Meeting Room, Summit County Courthouse, 208 Lincoln Avenue, Breckenridge, Colorado.

II. ROLL CALL

Board Members present and answered to the roll call were:

Thomas Davidson, Chair
Elisabeth Lawrence, Commissioner
Karn Stiegelmeier, Commissioner

Staff Present were as follows: Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Kathy Neel, Clerk & Recorder; Stacey Nell, Chief Deputy Clerk; Eva Henson, Administrative Manager and Lori Dwyer, Deputy Clerk.

Additional Attendees: Deepan Dutta, Eric Mamula, Tony Pestello, Kim Nix, Jeff Davis, Tim Applegate, Doug Berg, Mark McManis, Dick Carleton, Michael Spry, Rhoda Barr, Vic Gaglione, Nick Hoover, David Sedbrook, Richard Weil, Peter Bakken, Bob Barton, Lucy Kay, Michael Uleehla, Michael Steger, Bruce Horll, Jena Stricklan, Joe Heddings, Anthony Bulfin, Ryan Geller, Alex LaMarca, Bill Cipriani, Cynthia Spaulding, Eric Buck, George Connolly, Carol Rockne, Brett Howard, Adam Thompson and Bill Wishowski.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was approved, as presented.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

- A.** Consideration of a Resolution Providing for the Submission of a Question to the Registered Qualified Electors of Summit County, Colorado, regarding whether a Local Minimum Wage Law should be Adopted in Summit County (Attorney/Finance/Manager). **Continued from the August 27, 2019 BOCC Regular Meeting.**

Scott Vargo noted that staff has collaborated on an alternative approach to the local

minimum wage ballot question since the item was continued from the August 27, 2019 Regular Meeting. He noted that a Letter of Intent to participate in a workgroup has circulated among the towns, and participation from the Towns of Blue River, Breckenridge, Dillon and Frisco is expected. Mr. Vargo stated that staff's recommendation is to pursue this alternative approach.

Commissioner Lawrence clarified the timeframe of the workgroup with Mr. Vargo, who noted that early December would be the intended time of completion.

Jeff Huntley clarified that the implementation for a local minimum wage would most likely be January of 2020.

Commissioner Davidson opened the hearing for public comment.

Jeff Davis noted that he would like to participate in the workgroup. He also stated that it is challenging to retain kitchen staff when waitstaff make significantly more money.

Rhoda Barr spoke in favor of increased minimum wage, and noted her interest in joining the workgroup.

Tim Applegate expressed his opposition to increased minimum wage and stated his interest in joining the workgroup. He noted the difficulty in retaining kitchen staff with increased server wages. He urged the Commissioners not to rush to a decision.

Mike Spry noted his opposition as a restaurant owner, and stated his concerns that increasing wages could cause menu prices to become unappealing to tourists. He also commented that he is a member of the Summit Chamber of Commerce.

Eric Buck noted his preference for the alternative workgroup approach over putting this question on the ballot.

Peter Bakken thanked the Commissioners for raising the issue and noted his hope that the workgroup would be a diverse mix of people. He also stated that despite a booming local economy, food banks and free dinners are well-attended in Summit County.

Eric Mamula thanked Commissioners and staff for considering a workgroup and noted his hope that the towns and County could form a workgroup for other general issues affecting Summit County.

Carol Rockne stated her opposition to a local minimum wage, and noted that she believed taxes would increase due to administrative costs.

Cynthia Spaulding asked the Commissioners to consider the earning discrepancy between servers and kitchen staff, and noted that affordable rentals in Summit County are a real issue.

Vic Gaglione noted that he feels housing, not wages, are the real issue.

Doug Berg commented that the Summit Chamber of Commerce unanimously opposes a ballot for minimum wage. He also noted that as a member of the regulated insurance industry, he cannot raise wages, only reduce staff.

Joe Heddings expressed disappointment that other local employees were not represented at the meeting. He noted his struggles to afford to live in Summit County.

Tony Pestello stated that there is a difference between minimum wage and a living wage. He noted his support of a work group. He commented that he has concerns about how tracking wages would occur.

Adam Thompson read a prepared statement from the Breckenridge Retailers Association noting their opposition to putting a local minimum wage on the ballot.

Commissioner Davidson closed the hearing for public comment.

Commissioner Stiegelmeier thanked the meeting participants and noted her support of the workgroup.

Commissioner Lawrence gave a brief overview of how the idea for a workgroup formed.

Commissioner Davidson noted his agreement with the other Commissioners.

MOTION: A motion was made by Commissioner Stiegelmeier and seconded by Commissioner Lawrence to DENY Resolution 2019-67, Resolution Providing for the Submission of a Question to the Registered Qualified Electors of Summit County, Colorado, regarding whether a Local Minimum Wage Law should be Adopted in Summit County (Attorney/Finance/Manager).

MOTION TO DENY THE SUBMISSION OF THE BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORATE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE BOARD PRESENT

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:


Lori Dwyer, Deputy Clerk




Thomas C. Davidson, Chair

NOTE: These minutes are a summary of the proceedings and motions of the September 3, 2019 Board of County Commissioners' Special Meeting. The complete digital recording is available in the Office of the Clerk & Recorder, Summit County Courthouse, 2nd Floor, 208 Lincoln Avenue, Breckenridge, Colorado 80424.