MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

LAND USE HEARING

The Board did not hold a Land Use hearing due to the Labor Day Holiday.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS MEETING

The Board of County Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with Linda Hoffmann, County Manager. Chair Kefalas presided. Commissioner Shadduck-McNally and Commissioner Stephens were present. Also present were: Austin Harvill, Community Information Resident Technician, and Elizabeth Carter, Deputy Clerk.

Chair Kefalas opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT: Chair Kefalas opened the meeting for public comment. Debbie Wilson, Sonia Warberg-Mast, and Jason Wright addressed the Board.

Chair Kefalas also noted that the Board had received an email from Joseph Flannigan regarding public improvement districts.

Chair Kefalas closed public comment.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30, 2021.

M O T I O N

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the draft minutes for the week of August 30, 2021.

Motion carried 3-0

3. REVIEW OF THE SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2021: Mr. Harvill reviewed the upcoming schedule with the Board.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

AGREEMENTS:

1. HARRIS SYSTEMS USA, PURCHASE ORDER 6578, HARRIS GOVERN

2. ESTES-LYONS AMENDATORY CONTRACT AND GRANT OF EASEMENTS

3. CONSTRUCTION SERVICE CONTRACT – PROJECT NO. 9332

4. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AGREEMENT FOR SKY VIEW CAMPGROUND

5. T2 MASTER CUSTOMER AGREEMENT AND STATEMENT OF WORK

LIQUOR LICENSE: Fall Equinox Marathon (Green Events Inc)-Special Event 6%-Bellvue; Overland Mountain Bike Association-Special Event 6%-Fort Collins; Verns Liquor LLC dba Verns Liquor-Retail Liquor Store (transfer of ownership)-Laporte

MISCELLANEOUS: Colorado-Big Thompson Project Special Use Permit

M O T I O N

Commissioner Stephens moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda.

Motion carried 3-0

5. COMMISSIONER GUESTS: The Commissioners did not have any guests.

6. REVIEW OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF 2020 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT. Carol Block, Finance Director. Ms. Block presented the Board with the County's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The report was prepared by the Division of Accounting and Reporting under the County's Department of Financial Services. The Financial Report represents the culmination of all budgeting and accounting activities engaged in by management during the year, covering all county funds and financial transactions. The county assumes full responsibility for both the completeness and reliability of the information contained in the report.

Larimer County has established a comprehensive internal control framework designed to protect the county's assets from loss, theft, or misuse and compile sufficient reliable information to prepare the county's financial statements. Because the costs of internal controls should not outweigh the benefits, Larimer County's comprehensive framework of internal controls is designed to provide reasonable rather than an absolute assurance that the financial statements will be free from material misstatement. Ms. Block also relayed to the Board that the county engages an outside party to perform an audit of the county's financial report. This year's report was audited by RubinBrown.

Ms. Block introduced Matthew Marino from RubinBrown to present the company's findings. Mr. Marino conveyed to the Board that the financial team at Larimer County is extremely collaborative and always produces a high-level product. He noted that his company's primary purpose is to conduct an audit in accordance with accepted auditing standards. Additionally, he stated that it is the auditor's responsibility, if necessary, to communicate any internal control matters, issues, or discrepancies.

Mr. Marion walked the Board through the audit findings. He stated that the fiscal health of the county is sound. Specifically, the cash to liability, the general fund operating margin, and the general fund unrestricted fund balance ratios are stable. Also of note, the county can payout liabilities it has in the near term. Mr. Marino did note there was one relatively minor issue with single vendor reporting. He noted that this was a documentation issue and not a reflection on the vendor selection process or the vendor chosen.

The Board thanked Mr. Marino and his team for their work on the audit and for walking the Board through the report. There was a discussion between the Board and Mr. Marino regarding public improvements districts and if they are included in the audit. There was also a discussion between the Board and staff regarding steps that have been or will be taken to correct the issues surrounding the documentation of the single-source vendor selection. Staff also noted that the report can be found on Finance Department's website. Lastly, the Board thanked the Finance Department for a clean audit and all their work.

M O T I O N

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners accept the 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

Motion carried 3-0

7. AMENDMENT #2 (P19-18 BH SERVICES PLANNING AGREEMENT): Laurie Stolen, Behavioral Services Director. Ms. Stolen noted that Michael Allen and Leslie Brooks of SummitStone were present in the audience.

Ms. Stolen reported to the Board that the amended agreement is due to lessons learned and the delayed opening of the Behavioral Health Facility from fall 2022 to summer 2023. The amended agreement also allows for a shift from a planning contract to a start-up contract. She noted that this amended agreement will serve as an on-ramp to opening the facility. The core purpose of the amended project is to increase services within the community until the facility opens. Additionally, the agreement includes an internship program for individuals interested in working in the behavioral health service field. The belief is that these internships both train and help to attract future workers to the field.

Ms. Stolen also relayed to the Board that the amended agreement will allow for the creation of a Care Coordination Team and increased levels of care at the Garcia House and Crisis Stabilization Unit. Lastly, Ms. Stolen reviewed the updated timeline with the Board for a targeted opening in summer 2023.

There was a discussion between the Board and staff regarding efforts to get the infrastructure and staff in place to be ready for the opening of the behavioral health facility. There was also a discussion between the Board and Dr. Brooks regarding services that are currently offered in the county and which services would move into the new facility. The Board also asked if the internships that would be available as part of the amended agreement would be paid positions. Representatives from SummitStone stated that the positions would be paid. They noted that paid internships provide greater equity for those applying for the positions by not eliminating students who cannot afford to work for free.

The Board also had questions for staff and the SummitStone Team regarding recruitment and efforts to highlight careers in the behavior health field at both the high school and collegiate level. There was also a discussion surrounding the importance of those working in behavioral health services field to be representative of the community they are serving. The Board also asked the representatives from SummitStone for more detail about services that are being and will be offered to those leaving the emergency room after a suicide attempt or suffering from suicidal thoughts. Lastly, the Board asked about services surrounding pediatric mental health.

M O T I O N

Commissioner Stephens moved that the Board of County Commissioners approve Amendment #2 to the Behavioral Health Services Start-up Contract between Larimer County and SummitStone Health Partners, which accounts for cost changes associated with the modified facility opening date.

Motion carried 3-0

8. COVID-19 UPDATES FROM PUBLIC HEALTH: Tom Gonzales, Public Health Director. Mr. Gonzales reported to the Board on the desired outcomes of the county's continued Covid-19 response. These include keeping children learning in-person, maintaining necessary resources to meet critical health care needs, and returning to pre-pandemic conditions through near-universal vaccination.

Mr. Gonzales relayed to the Board the Larimer County remains in the red, or high-risk category. He stated that the seven-day case rate remains high at 245 cases per 100,000 people. Also, the intensive care unit (ICU) percent capacity remains at 104% placing an increasing strain upon hospitals and health care workers. Mr. Gonzales also reported that there were 12 deaths in August 2021 due to Covid-19.

Mr. Gonzales stressed that it is strongly recommended that individuals, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks indoors. He also emphasized the importance of continuing to social distance, getting tested if you have symptoms, working remotely, and postponing indoor gatherings when possible. Mr. Gonzales noted that most patients in the hospital are unvaccinated and between the ages of 40-49. He relayed to the Board that his team is focusing its vaccination outreach efforts, on the "wait and see" crowd of the unvaccinated population. He stated that the Public Health Department is continuing to coordinate vaccination events and holding pop-up clinics throughout the county.

There was a discussion between the Board and Mr. Gonzales as to what it looks like for a hospital ICU to be over-capacity at 104%. The Board also asked about updates to the website especially as it relates to ICU capacity. The Board also requested information on booster shots and if they will be administered to hospital personnel first.

There was a further discussion between the Board and Mr. Gonzales regarding the potential for mask requirements in the county. The Board expressed its strong support for the efforts of the Public Health Department on vaccinations and testing. Additionally, the Board strongly encouraged residents to wear masks while indoors.

9. COUNTY MANAGER UPDATE: Manager Hoffmann updated the Board on this week's coordination meetings and upcoming projects and activities.

10. COMMISSIONER ACTIVITY REPORTS: The Board detailed their attendance at events during the previous week.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S 24-6-402(4)(a) purchase acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real or personal property interest.

M O T I O N

Commissioner Shadduck-McNally moved that the Board of County Commissioners enter into Executive Session pursuant C.R.S 24-6-402(4)(a) purchase acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real or personal property interest.

Motion carried 3-0

With there being no further business, the Board adjourned at.11:35 am.

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JOHN KEFALAS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ANGELA MYERS
CLERK AND RECORDER

ATTEST:

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Elizabeth Carter, Deputy Clerk