The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, July 11, 2016 in the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Courthouse. Board members present were Chairman Dennis Giese, Commissioner Frank Holman and Commissioner Dave Potts.

Others present were Director of General Administration Robert Christiansen, Director of Finance Dan Short, Chaffee County Planning Manager Jon Roorda, County Attorney Jennifer Davis and Deputy County Clerk Chris McGinnis.

Landfill Committee Meeting
Meeting as the Landfill Committee, the Board heard Chaffee County Landfill Manager Shannon Wilcox give his monthly report.

The Landfill averaged 115 customers daily in June, for a total of 2,985 total customers. Average daily fees collected were $3,953.15, for a total of $102,781.00 in revenue.

Overall, in the second quarter of the year, the Landfill averaged 100 people a day, for 7,721 total customers, $3,619.73 in daily fees, and $278,719.25 total fees collected.

Manager Wilcox said the County has an agreement with the Bureau of Land Management for use of 80 acres at the site. The County will develop the 80 acres in 10-acre increments.

Chairman Giese noted the County needs to be sure it has a revegetation plan and storm water agreement in place with the BLM prior to development of the cells.

Manager Wilcox said Chaffee County Gun Range’s shooting direction has been changed slightly, as there have been some ricochets reaching the Landfill.

The Landfill is now able to accept credit cards.

A total of 76,000 pounds of televisions were processed for recycling at the landfill last year.

Environmental Health
Environmental Health Manager Victor Crocco said seven Individual Sewage Disposal System (ISDS) permits and one repair/replacement permit were issued in June 2016.

Year-to-date 2016, 57 new ISDS permits and two ISDS repair/replacement permits have been issued.

There were 8 ISDS permits issued in June 2015 and two repair/replacements permits issued in June 2015. Year-to-date for 2015, 33 permits were issued and six repair/replacement permits were issued.
Manager Crocco said his department vehicle now has 200,000 miles on it and suggested it may need to be considered for replacement in the budget.

Public Health
County Public Health Director Andrea Carlstrom said Madison House concert organizers will have a final vendor list available this week. Lake County will help inspect the concert venue August 4 and the morning of August 5.

Director Carlstrom said a proposed special events decision tree has been developed and will be brought before the Board during the July 19 meeting.

Director Carlstrom said her Department has been placing informational signs at trailheads warning of vector-borne illnesses. Several of the signs have torn down and must be replaced.

Two new dental clinics, one in Salida and one in Leadville, will accept Medicaid patients.

A child fatality occurred in Park County last month. The child was a student in the Buena Vista School District. When a county experiences a child fatality, a review system goes in to effect. If a county does not a have a child fatality during the year, money allocated for the review process is used instead to provide mental health services for youth.

Rates of smoking remain high in Chaffee County. Fourteen percent of pregnant women in Chaffee County smoke, compared to six percent statewide.

An effort to provide primary care by Valley Wide Health Systems Inc. in Buena Vista and Salida is not currently supported by the Department. Director Carlstrom said she knows that two local providers have primary clinic provisions in their long-range planning.

Health and Human Services
A staff member of Health and Human Services took minutes for this portion of the meeting. David Henson, Director of Health and Human Services presented his report for June 2016.

Agenda items to be discussed were:
- Financial Report
- Child Welfare Report
- Telephone RFP Discussion
- State Repayment Discussion
- Update on Child Welfare Mitigation
- RevGen Contract Approval/Signatures
Chairman Giese adjourned the Board of Health and Human Services Meeting at 10:30 a.m.

**Development Services Report**

Director of Development Services Dan Swallow said the Department is on track to collect $1 million in fees this year. Additional staffing is needed. Department revenue has exceeded expectations.

Chairman Giese said adding an additional plan review person in the office concerns him, because it may create more hurdles for those seeking permits and more heartburn than it deserves.

Director Swallow said an additional person would not change the review process, it would add an additional person to handle the workload.

Commissioner Giese asked the Department how it might handle a downturn in building permits and the resulting need to adjust staffing.

Director Swallow said most of the department’s staff is within two to seven years of retirement. Staff reductions could probably take place through retirements.

Commissioner Holman said he would like to see a list of job duties for the new position.

**EMS and Emergency Management Report**

Chaffee County Emergency Management Director Phil Graham said the Hayden Pass Fire near Coaldale in Fremont County will be under Type 2 Management the evening of July 11. A plan will need to be developed, including when the fire should be allowed to burn, fought or suppressed. The fire is burning in beetle kill pine in the Sangre de Cristo wilderness boundary and there is widespread belief it should burn to clear fire fuels in the area.

Director Graham said he did not think people near the fire were in great danger at this time, but evacuations are precautionary. He said the fire could burn towards Chaffee County, though it is not now. Livestock is being evacuated from the fire to the Chaffee County Fairgrounds.

The County hazard mitigation plan is at the State for adoption.

FEMA’s Emergency Management Performance Grant Program is in place. Director Graham hopes $13,000 to $14,000 in grant money returns to the County from the program.

Recent emergency incidents included small fireworks fires, a river fatality and a plane crash.

Director Graham attended the Homeland Security Academy.
Meetings are taking place with Buena Vista and Salida to adopt the County Emergency Plan.

Emergency Medical Service Director Josh Hadley said call numbers are down, but the calls to which the department has responded have been serious in nature.

Road and Bridge Report
Surveyor Mike Henderson brought a map of County Road 177 for review. The Board would like to improve the road so it could serve as an alternative route to Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center if either downtown or U.S. 50 were blocked due to an emergency.

Surveyor Henderson suggested an engineer be contracted to provide a study and suggestions on how to handle the flow of water through several washes and Cottonwood Gulch along the route. He said it may also provide an idea of the cost of the project, which he expects to be high.

Mike Smith and Sean Gillis, representing the Salida Mountain Trails System, appeared before the Board to discuss a proposed extension to the group’s trail system, which will be called the Southern Dreams Trail.

The Bureau of Land Management has given approval to route the trail through the agency’s land, pending a private property easement for a portion of the route and County approval to allow the trail to run through a portion of its property in the area.

Mr. Smith asked the Board to:
- Agree to allow the trail crossing County property, which ends on CR 177.
- Accept a non-motorized recreational easement from a private property owner to provide a crossing from Bureau of Land Management to County land.
- Allow construction of a trailhead on County property.

Discussion was held regarding the best way for the County to accept the portion of private property in to the trail. County Attorney Jennifer Davis will research what legal approach would be most appropriate.

Chairman Giese said he had no problems with the proposal as long as legal issues are resolved.

Heritage Grant/Projects update
Melanie Roth and Jackie Powell of Historic St. Elmo and Chalk Creek Canyon Inc. appeared before the Board to discuss matching grants for preservation efforts in the area.
Ms. Roth said their group has had great support for and success in restoration work in the area. The group has raised cash matches for grants to work on several projects in the area totaling $18,000. The total grant amount for projects in the area is $108,217.

The group still needs $13,073 for a cash match on current restoration projects.

Discussion was held.

A potential match of $5,000 from the County was considered by the Board, pending the outcome of fundraising efforts by the group over the next few months. Commissioner Holman suggested the request come before the Board for a decision in September.

**Ballot question discussion for Excise Tax on Marijuana Sales**
Discussion was held about whether the County should place an excise tax on marijuana grow operations in Chaffee County. A formal decision on the question needs to be given to County Clerk Lori Mitchell by July 29, 2016.

The Board floated several ideas about at what rate product should be taxed, what to use generated money for, what the costs would be to enact the tax, what revenue could be generated from the tax, what information was available from the State to evaluate sales, what other counties have done which have the tax, and how the funds should be allocated.

Chairman Giese asked each Board member to bring ideas on how money should be allocated to the next regular meeting, July 19. County Attorney Davis and Director Christiansen will research legal and additional information from other counties about similar taxes in place.

**Fairgrounds GOCO Update**

The Fairgrounds and GOCO update was continued, as Fairgrounds staff was helping the relocation of livestock to the site from the Hayden Pass fire near Coaldale in Fremont County.

**County Attorney Monthly Report**

County Attorney Jennifer Davis asked for direction from the Board regarding County-owned property now being used by Merrifield's Garden Hut in Buena Vista.

A portion of the property was purchased by the Colorado Department of Transportation for use in its U.S. 24 improvement project. Attorney Davis asked if the County wished to approach Merrifield’s about purchasing the remaining portion as previously discussed and for what price.

Discussion was held. Chairman Giese said he did not think the property would be very valuable to anyone but the Merrifield family. Commissioner Holman said he felt the Board is obligated to the taxpayers to sell the parcel for its full appraised value.
Chairman Giese and Director Christiansen agreed to approach the Merrifields and gauge their interest in purchasing the property.

**Administrative Reports**
Director Christiansen said he was reviewing plans for the DOLA administrative office remodel project.

Director Christiansen said Airport Manager Zech Papp was looking for someone with a Commercial Driver License, Hazmat endorsement, to pick up the airport’s new fuel truck in Cañon City. Up to eight Chinook Helicopters were arriving to use the airport for firefighting efforts and the fuel truck was needed on site.

Commissioner Potts volunteered to pick up the truck.

Chairman Giese said he has heard complaints that hay from fields which have been designated to produce feed for livestock at tax-exempt YoungLife properties is being sold on the open market. The person who brought the sales to Chairman Giese’s attention said the sales are in direct competition with local, taxpaying agriculture producers.

Discussion was held. General consensus was legal rulings would not favor the County in pursuing a change to YoungLife’s tax status. Pursuing such a case would be costly, and unlikely to produce a judgement for Chaffee County.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 3 P.M.

Attest:

Lori Mitchell, County Clerk