The Work Session of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, June 13, 2016 at the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Courthouse. Board members present were Chairman Dennis Giese, Commissioner Dave Potts, and Commissioner Frank Holman.

Others present were Director of General Administration Christiansen, Director of Finance Dan Short, County Attorney Jenny Davis and Deputy County Clerk Chris McGinnis.

The complete Work Session was recorded on electronic media. The following parts of the Work Session were held in Regular Board of Commissioners meeting format and will be subject to action minutes being taken.

Landfill Committee Meeting
Committee members present were Chairman Dennis Giese, Commissioner Frank Holman, Commissioner Dave Potts, Director of Finance Dan Short and Landfill Manager Shannon Wilcox.

Others present were Director of General Administration Christiansen, County Attorney Jenny Davis, Staff Accountant Becky Venes and Deputy County Clerk Chris McGinnis.

Chairman Giese called the Landfill Committee Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Director Wilcox said they are working on implementing a credit card system.

Surveys are underway to secure a free use permit from the BLM.

The County is working with the BLM to purchase property where the shop is. It is a slow process. The agency has had significant staff turnover and the plan gets lost in the shuffle.

Crews are prepping an expansion area north of the current cell. The County may need to use it in five years.

Staff Accountant Venes reported total fees collected at the landfill in April were $76,175. Average daily fees were $2,929.81 from 2,088 customers. The landfill averaged 80 customers a day.

Fees collected at the landfill in May were $103,485.75. Average daily fees were $4,139.43. Total customers were 2,648. The landfill averaged 106 customers a day.

Commissioner Potts asked if 2016 is on track to be a record building year in the County, and if so, will it be a record year at the landfill? Director Wilcox said yes.
Mickey Berry, Angel of Shavano Recycling, reported material markets are going up. Recycling will be moved from the existing swimming pool site to a metal building near Wal-Mart at summer’s end. Mr. Berry said he is skeptical the new site will be easy to use, so questions whether it will be successful. Chairman Giese said if the new Salida site does not work, citizens would demand a better one.

Mr. Berry said he is working with the Saguache landfill to partner on collecting recycling materials, which may reduce the amount of material coming in to the County from Crestone.

The Landfill Committee Meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

County Attorney Jennifer Davis introduced Chip Mortimer as new assistant County attorney.

Board of Health
Members of the Board of Health Committee present were Chairman Dennis Giese, Commissioner Dave Potts and Commissioner Frank Holman

Giese opened the regular meeting of Health and Human Services at 9:15 a.m.

Environmental Health
Food inspections

Environmental Health Manager Victor Crocco said the number of food vendors was limited by Buena Vista at PaddleFest. All were licensed vendors.

Las Camelinhas has moved to 128 W 1st. It is now permitted to operate. Previous mold issues were checked and deemed dry. Air quality is fine. Documentation of the case and a letter summarizing corrective actions taken at the site is available for review.

Food vendors at FIBArk will also be inspected.

Locally, there is a need to work on strategic plan for making sure food trucks in the area are properly licensed. The State is looking at standardizing an approach to the trucks. Some vendors arrive from out of State, all are mobile, and so it is hard to keep track of each operation.

Public Health

Environmental and Public Health Director Andrea Carlstrom presented the Public Health report for month. The report included:

The department has developed plague, tularemia and Hantavirus information signage for trails this year. Information will be available at trailheads and in bike and outdoor
shops. The signs feature simple messaging and a QR code for smartphones that will link with the County’s website for more information. The department will also be issuing press releases as part of a proactive approach to getting information out.

A higher number than usual of area residents are traveling to different countries. The department has been busy giving appropriate vaccines for that travel. The department will contract with VAX Care for vaccine ordering & billing.

The department held a teeth sealant clinic at Avery-Parsons Elementary school. Forty percent of the participants said this was their first time at an oral health visit. Director Carlstrom said she feels the department has a lot of work to do to make oral healthcare accessible.

Chaffee County has made 536 appointments for consultation about the Connect 4 Health program. From those appointments, 388 people have enrolled. The department is hiring a new coordinator who will start June 27.

Live Well organized a May 4 Bike to School Day.

The Buena Vista schools community garden is flourishing.

Availability of the lactation room has received a positive response.

Healthy Start appointments are booked to October. Participants do not have to qualify and can be accepted in to the program as long as staff and room is available.

A Little Help coordinated more than 50 volunteers to help seniors do projects around town on a recent weekend.

The 2017-2021 community health improvement plan is being undertaken. Under evaluation for the plan among other topics are the availability and affordability of health care, mental health, substance abuse and the lack of a detox center. Top priorities for the department will be established in the plan.

In Colorado, 1.4 million people are now signed up for Medicaid. Now that people have health coverage, there is increased demand for health services.

Full Circle Restoration Justice will be administered through the Department of Health to operate as a non-profit organization. Director Carlstrom said she had no objection on the plan as long as funding for the program will not come out of the health department’s budget. The program must be independently funded.

Chairman Giese asked if Full Circle would be more appropriately operated under the human services department. He noted it should be very clear that when Full Circle Restorative Justice’s grant funding runs out, the County is not obligated to fund the...
program. He said it is a valuable program, but when funding for the program ends, so does the program, and employment of staff. The County’s position on that understanding needs to be clear and in writing.

D. Health and Human Services  *(sitting as the County Board of Social Services)*
A member of Human Services took minutes for this portion of the meeting. Agenda items to be discussed were:
- Approval of Minutes
- Financial Report
- Child Welfare Report
- Aspen Point/Sol Vista Contracts
- SafeCare Grant Outcome
- Consultant Proposal Discussion
- Other

Chairman Giese closed the Board of Health and Human Services Meeting at 10:25 a.m.

E. Development Services Report – Dan Swallow
Director of Development Services Dan Swallow said department-wide for the month of May 344 permits were issued and $82,926.84 was collected in fees, compared to 265 permits issued and $51,593.71 in fees in May 2015. Year-to-date, $408,832.77 in revenue has been collected, compared to $263,627.85 last year. Swallow said the department is projecting just under $1 million in revenues this year.

Swallow said it is busy for his department across the board. No big ticket projects like school buildings are underway.

F. Road & Bridge Report – Mark Stacy
Chaffee County Road and Bridge Superintendent Mark Stacy said the department has finished their magnesium chloride projects for the year.

Director Stacy said he has updated the Schedule A agreement with the US Forest Service. No changes were made to the previous agreement. The previous agreement expired and prevented the County from receiving payment for costs during clean up of the Cottonwood Lake mudslide last year.

Chaffee County Emergency Management Director Phil Graham said he is working on the final parts of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Once approved by the State, the plan will allow FEMA to reimburse the County if necessary monetarily for emergency impacts.

A G-402 course hosted by the County went well.
An exercise held with Lake County, using a scenario involving handling classified and sensitive material, emergency management and the continuity of government plan also went well.

Director Graham said he would like to be the planning agent for large special events to coordinate Countywide planning efforts.

Director Graham said he would like to be the funnel event planners go through to prepare an event comprehensive plan. He said there is no coordination between departments.

Commissioner Holman said if the office of Emergency Management is designated as contact for events planning for attendance over a certain number of people, it can also ask the Planning and Zoning Department to get involved in planning.

Commissioner Holman said there is a need to fix the planning process for these events and the County needs to make clear what the permit process is.

Director Graham said two significant events occurred during the week and he was not notified about them through Sheriff’s dispatch. Two wildfires started and a plane went off the runway in Buena Vista, shutting down the airport while the FAA investigated. He said he would be following up on why the communications breakdown occurred.

Director Graham said he asked representatives from various County agencies to attend a planning review for the Madison House concert event in August. All but one responded.

Emergency Medical Service Director Josh Hadley said call volume is down slightly from last year, but compared to 2014, calls numbers are right on track. He said checking with Summit County, they too have seen a slight decrease in calls this spring.

A revised site plan layout has been developed by the Madison House concert organizers to reflect a decrease in projected attendance.

A new ambulance will be in service soon on the south end of the County. A new ambulance was put in service on the north end of the County last year.

EMS will be changing their collection agency. Director Hadley said he is comparing ambulance rates in nearby counties.

Regarding hospital transfers, Director Hadley said it is EMS’s responsibility to get patients to Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center, and then it is up to the hospital to arrange for the transfer of patients to other care facilities. He said the perception by patients of which entity is responsible for which aspect of transfer is not always accurate.
H. SPOT Trail Projects for 2016
SPOT trail group representative Donna Rhoads spoke about the Salida Trail Ecological Restoration Project.

- Trail planning and development began in the 1990s.
- The group would like to extend the trail from CR 120 to U.S. 285.
- Stage & Rail trail help is being explored.
- The group would like to extend its trail to CR 140 to Valley View School and on to the airport.
- Chaffee County has always been a partner in the process.

Currently SPOT’s Emphasis is improving the Monarch Spur Trail, which is the most heavily used, most popular trail in their system. Efforts are underway to maintain and beautify the trail. SPOT, the Land trust Upper Arkansas and GARNA are taking care of land around trail currently, not taking on trail building.

Many invasive species have grown in the area, and it is denuding vegetation, Ms. Rhodes said. The small creek along the trail has been altered. SPOT is trying to bring back some of the ecological function along the trail, making for better user experience. The organization hopes to increase wildlife habitat and help native pollinators.

Southwest Conservation Corps crews have worked on several projects throughout County; including building bird nest boxes and working on weed mitigation for SPOT.

Dominique Naccarato, Program Development Director for GARNA, said the Monarch Spur Trail is a living lab that encourages youth participation in its upkeep. Youth learn about the environment, water quality, water temperature impacts, and storm water runoff.

Buffy Lenth was introduced as an ecologist working with SPOT, GARNA, and the Upper Arkansas Land Trust.

Commissioner Holman noted it is difficult to see trail users at the crosswalk of the trail and Holman Avenue. He asked the representatives of the trail to trim back some of the foliage along the trail so motorists can see trail users stepping out on the road.

The meeting recessed for a lunch at 11:55 a.m.

At 1:20 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

I Fire Mitigation Update and Projects – Damon Lange, Colorado State Forest Service

Damon Lange, Forester with the Colorado State Forest Service, outlined Fire Mitigation projects in the County.
Through Title 3 funding administered by Chaffee County, significant fuel treatment programs are underway, focusing on making subdivisions safer in the event of a wildfire.

Starting with a community wildfire mitigation plan, and working jointly with the United States Forest Service, CSFS, and through private efforts, multiple fuel breaks have been created to help protect and defend property from wildfires.

Forester Lange and CSFS employee Jeff McGinnis have evaluated about half of the lots in local subdivisions. The fire risk of each lot is evaluated and mapped. Homeowners are notified about their wildfire damage risk. Many homeowners clear their lots to improve their rating on their own or contract to have the work completed. Some use services provided by CSFS.

Forester Lange noted CSFS has great collaboration with federal partners, specifically John Markalunas from the USFS Salida office.

Jointly, with USFS, CSFS, and private efforts, numerous fuel breaks have been created to improve emergency response staging for wildfires.

An example of a high-risk area locally is Chalk Creek. There is one way in, one way out, many homes, and many people in the area for recreation.

Forester Lange said maps of wildfire risk areas are provided to emergency service providers. Agencies can then use the maps to determine how to respond to an emergency.

Another benefit from the program is the encouragement of public landholders to join the effort. After eight years of work in the Mt. Harvard Estates area, adjacent landowner BLM agreed to mitigate land near the subdivision.

Chaffee County is CSFS, USFS and private partners program gained a CSFS Unique Achievement Award, and is a program that the CSFS would like to model throughout the State.

Lange said he has been meeting with Realtors and is working with insurance companies. Homeowners are finding they need to mitigate wildfire potential issue before they are able to close on their transaction.

J. U.S. Hwy. 24 Enhancement Project and Acquisition of Property – Jenny Davis

County Attorney Jenny Davis advised the Board the Colorado Department of Transportation is interested in purchasing a parcel of land the County owns in Buena Vista for use in the U.S. Highway 24 improvement project. The land was previously
owned by the Buena Vista Land Company, which was dissolved in the early 1900s. By statute, the land’s ownership then transferred to the County.

An appraisal by CDOT for the County valued the parcel at $4,100. Chairman Giese asked approval of the sale be placed on the June 20 meeting agenda.

K. Airport Update, Zech Papp

Airport Manager Zech Papp said the airport’s fog seal and restripe project is complete. The same process was completed at the end of last season, but a snowplow tore up stripes. The striping company came back to restripe under its warranty guarantee. Manager Papp said it is going to look nice for the airport’s June 25 Fly-In.

Manager Papp said he is working on a master plan for the airport. The plan will include a demand forecast and what facilities and improvements are needed. The plan will go to the FAA for review.

The AGIS aerial survey is uploaded and online.

The Fly-In June 25 will include the Knights of Columbus cooking pancakes, a flight simulator, antique cars, vintage aircraft and discovery flights for kids.

There are three hangars under construction. Papp said he is working on standardizing the agreements with all hangar operators.

Papp said the airport’s advisory board approved the purchase of a 1980 2,200-gallon fuel tanker for $15,000. Half of the cost will be split with city of Salida. Papp said income from fuel sales would pay the cost of purchase off in a year.

Commissioner Holman said the truck is the first step in increasing business at the airport. He asked it be put on the June 20 meeting agenda for approval.

L. Discussion regarding Cache Creek Gold Placering Area

Randy Witham of Buena Vista and Jerry Mason of Poncha Springs appeared before the board to ask for help keeping Cache Creek near Granite open to gold placering. They fear the BLM is instating excessive regulation in the area with a goal to eliminate mining operations at the site.

Chairman Giese suggested to Mr. Witham that he contact Administrator Christiansen to draft a letter the board could send in support of his position.

M. County Attorney Monthly Report

County Attorney Jenny Davis said she is working on streamlining the process in processing contracts.
Behind the scenes, the office has been working on title searches, getting a handle on costs and procedures, and working on contracts for the fairgrounds, airport, dispatch center and the Chaffee County Visitor’s Bureau.

N. Administrative Reports - Dan Short, Bob Christiansen. Director Christiansen said the County would likely hear the results of the County’s FLAP application for Cottonwood Pass improvements between June and August.

A Request for Proposals for a remodel of the Commissioners’ room has been made public. At the July 5 meeting, there should be some proposals for consideration.

The Work Session for the Board of Commissioners of June 13, 2016 adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Attest:

Lori Mitchell, County Clerk