

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES FOR JULY 12, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Kiowa County Commissioners was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Richard Scott on July 12, 2011. Commissioner Oswald opened the meeting with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Those attending were:

Richard Scott, Commissioner
William E. Koehler, Commissioner
Donald Oswald, Commissioner
Debra C. Lening, County Clerk
Peggy Dunlap, Administrator

The vouchers were reviewed. Six vouchers were questioned. Vouchers were approved and signed.

Jeanne Sorensen entered the meeting as a visitor.

Minutes from the June 28, 2011 Regular Meeting was presented. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to approve the minutes as presented. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Minutes from the July 11, 2011 Special Meeting was presented. Scott made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to approve the minutes as presented. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

Commissioner Oswald reported that the TV Tower air condition units are in and will be installed this week.

Bind weed issues were discussed.

The County picnic was discussed. It is planned for August 11th at Prairie Pines Assisted Living facility at 6:00 p.m.

Landfill issues were discussed. Requirements by the State Public Health will be closely monitored.

Prairie Pines Assisted Living roof issues were again discussed.

County Health Plans (CHP) training through CTSI will be July 25th.

Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) training will be July 20th for all Road & Bridge employees.

Due to conflicts, the first meeting in August was changed from August 8th to August 11th.

Mike Crain and Nick Johnson from the maintenance department met with the Commissioners regarding the Prairie Pines Assisted Living swimming pool and hot tub maintenance. The temperatures of both are set at recommended levels and need to be left at these levels. Constant temperatures are necessary for chemical levels to be maintained properly. The Commissioners agreed that for feasibility, the pool temperature should remain at 85 degrees and the hot tub at 98 degrees.

County office hour issues were discussed.

A scrap iron sample contract was reviewed.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed.

The Clerk's report was reviewed and filed.

Van Brown met with the Commissioners regarding a valve on the fire sprinklers at Prairie Pines. He stated that this valve needs to be replaced by a licensed plumber. He also told the Commissioners that an anti-siphon valve needs to be put on the yard irrigation system.

Cathy Garcia with Action 22 met with the Commissioners. She explained that Action 22 deals with issues having to do with transportation, economic development, education, energy, health, tourism and water in 22 counties in Southern Colorado, to help create jobs in these areas. She stated that there will be a rail meeting September 1st and she recommends that the Commissioners attend this meeting. There was lots of discussion on the economy boost the County would receive if the railroad became active again. She is pushing hard for the Towner line to stay viable for freight transportation.

The notice from Property Tax Administration – 2011 Notice of Valuation from the State of Colorado was reviewed.

Dennis Pearson, Director of the Department of Social Services (DSS), met with the Commissioners. DSS vouchers were reviewed and approved and checks were signed. Pearson presented the Medicaid Report for May, 2011. Medicaid paid out \$110,230 in May on behalf of Kiowa County residents. The Commissioners discussed the possibility of privatizing the Day Care instead of having it run by the County. Pearson said the biggest problem would be the rates would have to be raised significantly because there would be no state subsidies coming in if it was a private business. He stated that the food is all subsidized, as are all the employee expenses, since it is run through DSS. This is how they have been able to keep the costs as low as

possible for those using the Day Care. Privatizing it would probably make it cost prohibitive for most people in Kiowa County. Pearson stated that it would be very problematic all the way around. He stated that it would be unrealistic at this time for it to work as a private entity. The Commissioners asked him to do some research on the matter and it will be discussed again at the next meeting. Commissioner Koehler stated again that all positions, whether full time, part time or temporary, need to be advertised for with a cut-off date for applications. If someone wants to be on a substitute list, that's how the ad needs to read. This goes for all departments in the County, not just Day Care.

Alden Miller from National Parks Service met with the Commissioners. Miller is transferring to Arizona to a new assignment and came in to say goodbye.

Alexa Roberts with the Historic Preservation met with the Commissioners regarding the Towner Bus Tragedy. A \$25,000 grant was applied for. However, only \$2,500 was awarded. The historic background of the event will be done for \$2,500. If the Commissioners are agreeable to accept the \$2,500, the grant agreement needs to be signed. Oswald made the motion, seconded by Koehler, to sign the State of Colorado State Historical Society Grant Agreement with Kiowa County for the Towner Bus Tragedy. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

A letter was received from Governor Hickenlooper designating 9 counties as primary drought disaster areas, which includes Kiowa County.

Koehler made the motion, seconded by Scott, to authorize Mike Crain to bring in licensed people to fix the air conditioning problem if he is unable to fix it. All Commissioners voted affirmative.

The Commissioners would like to receive a monthly P&L (Profit and Loss) statement from the Day Care less the state subsidies to pursue the possibility of making it a private business. Currently, they receive this report quarterly. They would also like to know what the "aging" report (accounts receivable) is on the Day Care, how many employees it has, etc. This will be further discussed at the next meeting.

The next Regular Meeting will be July 28, 2011.

With no further business, Koehler made the motion, seconded by Oswald, to adjourn at 2:50 p.m. All Commissioners voted affirmative.