

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 4, 2006**

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTER COUNTY MET IN
REGULAR SESSION WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dick Downey	Chairman
Kit Shy	Vice-chair
Dale Hoag	Commissioner
Ric Ferron	County Administrator
Debbie Livengood	Clerk to the Board

Also present was Commissioner Elect, Carole Custer and Nora Drenner.

Meeting was called to order at 8:45am.

The Pledge was recited.

Road & Bridge Supervisor, Clint Englehart, met with the Board to give his monthly report.

WORK COMPLETED IN NOVEMBER

- Repaired requested items on Verdemont by tower
- Graded on Rosita
- Continued blading in Blumenau
- Graded in Antelope Valley
- Continued patching on Rosita
- Continued grading in south valley
- Graded Airport Road
- Hauled rip-rap to turn on Wykagyl just north of Airport Road
- Plowed snow as needed

WORK PLANNED

- Continue patching
- Major rebuild of County Road 323 between County Road 320 & 325
- Plow snow as needed
- Haul pit run to Crystal Falls Dr
- Haul gravel and grade sheriff's parking lot
- Install new cattle guard on County Road 255

Discussed the earth bank on Rosita Road that is located on Len Lankford's property. According to Clint, this berm is going to cause a problem to drivers. On snowy days when the wind is blowing, it causes a white out effect to drivers since it is at the same level as the windshield in vehicles traveling on the road. When Dave Trujillo gets back

from vacation, both Clint and Dave will go out to the location to see what suggestions they can give to Mr. Lankford to correct the problem. The Board will invite Mr. Lankford to one of their meetings to discuss this issue, the fire plan and his SUP.

Also discussed were the possibility of receiving grants from DOLA to be used on our roads. Clint explained the to the Board that Huerfano County had received funds from DOLA just to be used for the roads. The Board asked Ric to contact Debbie Downs from DOLA to see if she could meet with the Board on December 29th to discuss the possibility.

The Board asked Clint to find out how many miles of paved or graveled roads are in Wetmore that they maintain.

Emery Bell, who is a Worksite Benefit Specialist, met with the Board to see if any of them or the commissioner elect were interested in the IRS Section 125 Plan, Long/Short Term Disability Insurance or the GAP insurance plan that is being offered to the county officials and employees.

Extension Agent, Karen Crumbaker, met with the Board to discuss the following issues:

- CSU has been taking a survey of the extension offices around the state to see what their preference would be in giving a new name to the extension program. Karen's preference would be to have it remain the same, CSU Custer County Cooperative Extension.
- Karen reminded the Board that there would be a forest service meeting from 5:30 to 9:00pm on February 14, 2007 at the bowling alley. They will be discussing a 15-year forest management plan.
- Discussed the Tamarisk Mapping & Inventory Grant Proposal (Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District). Mr. Phillips, the manager of the Fremont County Weed Control Program, wrote a letter to Bill Long, Bent County Commissioner, concerning the Upper Arkansas Cooperative Weed Management Area involving Lake, Park, Teller, Chaffee, Fremont, Pueblo, Huerfano, and Custer Counties, along with CDOT, Colorado State Parks, Colorado State Land Board, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service, and Conservation Districts. They would like to do a study on Tamerec in this area and are asking the counties to donate \$5,000.00 or an equivalent amount through in kind donations to do this study. Neither the Board, nor the extension agent, feel that our county needs to donate dollars or in kind work to this study since the county has been involved with this program all along. Extension Agent, Karen Crumbaker, will follow up with a letter explaining our position on this topic.
- Karen asked the Board to review a survey that she had filled out concerning the importance of the Cooperative Extension program and make any suggestions or corrections they feel are necessary.
- Karen will be attending a professional grant-writing seminar in Denver of December 13th through the 15th.

The Board met with the Social Service Department.

Sue Hutton met with the Board concerning the Regional Planning commission. Since the decision to disband this organization, there is a sum of \$138.61 left in their checking account. A check will be written to the Town of Silver Cliff, in this amount for reimbursement of copies that have been made for the Regional Planning Commission throughout the years. As soon as this check clears the bank, this account will be closed. Sue also presented to the Board copies of resolutions from the Town of Silver Cliff, Westcliffe, Custer County School District, Wet Mountain Fire Department, Round Mountain Water & Sanitation District, and the library and hospital districts, to disband the Regional Planning Commission. There was no resolution received from the conservation district since there was never a resolution adopted making them a part of this organization.

Under-sheriff, Craig Feldmann, presented a grant award statement to the Board in the amount of \$1,552.00 from the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice.

Bob Smith, the senior account manager of Motorola and Bob Benz who is employed by Motorola, along with Mick Kastendieck, Kenny Patterson, Christy and Craig Feldmann, and Chuck Ippolito, met with the Board in reference to the 800mgh radios and the new tower that was erected in the Verdemont area. Mr. Benz informed those present that they are planning on reprogramming the radios on December 19th at the firehouse.

Mr. Smith informed the Board that the removal of the old tower and converting everything into the new building from the old shed was not part of the bid price the county was given. To have these two items done would be an additional \$4,500.00. There will be a joint meeting with the county, the hospital and fire districts on December 13th to move the equipment from the existing tower to the new tower and turn everything on. Motorola will not remove the old shed and existing chain link fence. The county is responsible for the removal of these two items. Commissioner Shy was authorized by the Board to attend this joint meeting and represent the county. It was also noted that the fire department would loose VH power for approx. two hours while everything is being converted over.

Both Bob Smith and Bob Benz answered concerns that residents in the Verdemont area were having concerning the new tower. Listed are the questions and answers to those concerns:

1. Exactly how tall is the tower? – The tower is exactly 100’ tall plus the height of the 16’ antenna.
2. What is the radiation exposure from the tower? – OSHA requires that these signs be posted making individuals aware of the possibilities. There is no exposure to radiation at all on the ground. This is more of a reminder to the workers that they need to be careful.
3. What about lightning and the height of this tower? – There has been lightning protectors provided with the erection of the tower.

4. What about the notice concerning the generator? – The generator only runs between 10:00am to 12:00pm, and only for about fifteen minutes once a week. The only time the generator would run at any other time would be if there were power outages.
5. What are the chances of the tower blowing over? – the tower is located on a 13' X 12' X 12' concrete pad that has been treated for corrosion. The tower is also reinforced for winds up to 105 miles per hour. The standard requirement is 80 miles per hour.
6. What is the voltage of the tower? – It is a single phase 220, which is the same voltage that the old tower had.
7. Is it harmful to wildlife? – There is nothing about the tower that would be harmful to any animal.
8. Are you going to lease spaces to other vendors to use the tower and would they be able to attach the big microwave dishes to the tower? - That would depend on who and if the county chooses to.

Bob Benz stated that with the towers located on Deer Peak, Verdemont, and Twin Mountain, most of Custer County should have radio contact with the 800mgh radios.

Mr. Benz reported that while he was on site during the construction of the tower, he noted or sensed a lot of negativity from the residents in that area. They asked a lot of questions which he answered.

Being no further business the Board adjourned at 2:20pm.