

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING, JULY 31, 2013**

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTER COUNTY MET IN REGULAR SESSION IN THE COMMISSIONER’S BOARDROOM.

Commissioner Lynn Attebery called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call was taken:

Lynn Attebery	Chairman	Present
Allen Butler	Vice-Chairman	Present
Kit Shy	Commissioner	Absent
Kris Lang	Deputy Clerk to the Board	Present

Also present was Nora Drenner, managing editor for the Sangre DeCristo Sentinel.

AGENDA:

- Call meeting to order
- Pledge of allegiance
- Roll Call
- Amend agenda
- Audience introduction
- Approval of minutes
- Public Comment
- Commissioner Items
- Executive Session
- Old/New Business
- Review vouchers and sign checks
- Custer County Clinic – Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Study Update

MOTION by Commissioner Butler, seconded by Commissioner Shy:

To approve and accept the minutes of July 16, 2013 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Attebery asked if there were any public comments. Hearing none, he continued with the meeting.

County General	\$227,270.17
Road & Bridge	\$ 88,406.33
Emergency Services	\$ 15,245.25
Human Services	\$ 21,993.83
Capital Improvement	\$ 1,307.85
Airport Fund	\$ 11,934.71
Tourism Fund	\$ -0-
Self Insurance	\$ -0-
TOTAL	\$366,158.14

MOTION by Commissioner Butler, seconded by Commissioner Shy:

To approve the July 2013 payroll and accounts payable. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Butler said that he was not able to attend the recent STAC meeting due to a scheduling conflict. He reported that the Water Round Table Conference was rescheduled to the Denver, CO. area and therefore he did not attend. He remarked that it was his understanding that the attendance and participation at the meeting was minimal due to the revised location.

Commissioner Shy reported that the County Public Auction scheduled on July 17, 2013 was a success. He said that the BOCC participated in the 2013 Custer County Fair Event Activities.

Commissioner Attebery said that Vera Matthews, Realty Specialist for the Bureau of Land Management was being transferred to the New Mexico area. He said that the BOCC would like to have the non-compliance COC-40761 issue at Lookout Mountain aka TV Towers AKA Hibbs Hill Communication site regarding the county sub-leasing of the communication uses resolved prior to her transfer. Commissioner Attebery said he would continue to communicate with Ms. Matthews on the issue.

Joe Arbuckle, Brent Brueser, Bob Dreher, Christe Feldmann, Chris Haga, Nan Haga, Chuck Ippolito, Pete Michaelson, Lockett Pitman, Bob Tobin, Virginia Trujillo and Jillian Ward joined the meeting.

Joe Arbuckle, Chairman of the West Custer County Hospital District (WCCHD) said that he and the Board were on the agenda to provide the BOCC with a follow up report regarding the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and the Ambulance Corp. He said that the CRS 25-3.5-101 states that the BOCC is responsible to adopt standards, requirements and procedure for providing emergency medical services as well as the licensure and regulation of the ambulances and services. He said that in 1988 the county delegated those responsibilities to the West Custer County Hospital District. He said that the EMS/Ambulance Program has no organizational relationship with the clinic and that it is a hindrance to the clinic operations and distracts from the main mission. He said that the EMS program has consistently lost money and that the Custer County Clinic does not have the funding or resources to support the program and they are requesting that the EMS/Ambulance Corp. be severed from the clinic and become a stand-alone operation. Mr. Arbuckle said that if the program remained in house, another organization other than the clinic should assume the responsibility of the operation. He also proposed contracting and outsourcing the program to a third party. He said that any of the options will require additional funding. He said that the hospital district is currently receiving a 4.9% mill levy from the property taxes. He stated that an additional 3% mill levy would be necessary to fund a stand-alone EMS/Ambulance Corp operation. Mr. Arbuckle said that the WCCHD is requesting a 3% mill levy increase that will be placed on the ballot before the voters in November 2013. He said that the WCCHD Board will actively brief and educate the public on the issue to ensure that there is a complete understanding of the risks and costs involved with the proposal. The BOCC encouraged the WCCHD to make certain that the ballot question was specific and detailed so that the public is aware that the increase request is specifically for the EMS/Ambulance Corp. Mr. Arbuckle said that they are requesting that the BOCC pass and adopt a county resolution supporting the 3% mill levy increase. Brent Brueser, Bob Dreher, Christe Feldmann, Lockett Pittman, and Bob Tobin agreed. The BOCC remarked that although they may support the request, the Board has not previously adopted a resolution for a special district on an election ballot question. They did acknowledge that a county resolution supporting a proposed mill levy increase for the Road and Bridge Department had been issued in the past. The Board explained that the Road and Bridge Department operations are under the auspice of the county and that the request from the WCCHD Board was not within the same parameters. Attorney Pete Michaelson, legal representation for the WCCHD said that due to the uniqueness of the situation he would encourage the BOCC to reconsider adopting a resolution of support. Commissioner Attebery said that the 2002 election ballot question from the WCCHD requested a mill levy increase and reads that the clinic providers and nurses would be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Commissioner Shy said the 1988 amended Service Plan for the WCCHD reads that the district will provide regular and 24 hour emergency medical services. He said the Service Plan should have been revised and the public should have been informed when those services were revised, changed or discontinued. Mr. Arbuckle said that there is some public misunderstanding, misconceptions and incorrect expectations that the Custer County Clinic (CCC) can provide twenty-four hour emergency services. He said that due to budget restraints and certifications the CCC cannot be open or offer twenty-four hour emergency services. He did say that the clinic can provide emergency care for walk in patients during regular hours. He said that patients requiring emergency ambulance transportation after hours are automatically transported out of the county to an emergency or hospital facility. Commissioner Shy expressed concern and frustration that CCC offers routine services but has limitations with emergency care. He said that in the rural environment it is the emergency care and services that are urgent and necessary for the citizens of Custer County. Commissioner Shy said he was still concerned regarding a previous statement made that clinic personnel were not qualified or insured to help or assist with emergency services and yet were asking the fire department and sheriff's office to provide that service. Following a brief discussion it was clarified that clinic personnel have participated, provided and assisted in emergency situations. Commissioner Butler said he understood the clinics funding limitations and asked for an update on the status of providing treatment and services to the veterans at the clinic. Mr. Dreher responded that to date they have not been successful in accomplishing that goal. Virginia Trujillo asked if the mill levy passed would the ambulatory patients still be responsible for additional ambulance fees. Mr. Arbuckle responded that they would.

The BOCC recessed at 10:55 AM.

The BOCC reconvened at 11:10 AM.

Ron Fisher gave a briefing and report on the Custer County Public Auction that was held on July 27, 2013. He reported that the auctioneer took a few of the remaining items to auction for the county at a future event. He said the remaining items could either be offered to the public or transported to the landfill. Following a brief discussion the Board agreed to contact CCI regarding the legalities involved in offering the remaining items to the county employees and the public. They did agree that the remaining electronics would be stored at the landfill. Deputy Mike Halpin said that he was aware of two families in the Wetmore area that could use and would benefit from the stair chairs. The BOCC agreed to make those items available as needed. Mr. Fisher said once the remaining auction items were removed from the resource center garage that he would clean out the area in the event that the Sharing Center would need the space again. Commissioner Attebery said he had some concerns regarding the items that would be brought back from the Sharing Center and stored in the garage. He said that he hoped it would become more of a distribution operation rather than a storage facility. He said that the contractual agreement obligated the BOCC to approve any items being stored in the garage and that Ruth Mitchell of the Sharing Center would need to come before the Board before storing the items.

Commissioner Attebery asked if there was any more business to discuss or review. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.

Debbie Livengood, Clerk and Recorder
Attest

Lynn Attebery,
Chairman