



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Breckenridge, CO 80424

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Scott Vargo
Jeff Huntley
FROM: Sara R. Lopez
RE: Work Session Meeting of May 5, 2020
DATE: May 5, 2020

Attendees:

Elected Officials: Karn Stiegelmeier, Elisabeth Lawrence and Thomas C. Davidson – Commissioners

Staff: Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Keely Ambrose, Assistant County Attorney; April Paige, Executive Administrative Manager and Sara R Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Staff (via phone): Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager; Julie Suttor, Communications Director; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Tom Gosiorowski, Public Works Director; Jim Curnutte, Community Development Director; Brian Lorch, Open Space & Trails Director; Robert Jacobs, Road and Bridge Director; Michael Wurzel, Sustainability Coordinator; Jason Lederer, Community Development Senior Resource Specialist; April Kroner, Planning Director and Lindsay Hirsh, Senior Planner.

Guests (via phone): Jennifer Schenk, Jess Hoover, Lucy Harrington, Tom Castrigno, Jack Taylor, Peyton Rogers, S.Decker, Anne Murphy, Chloe Lewis, Tom Daugherty, Mike Claffey and others who did not sign in.

I. Sustainability Policy Discussion

Michael Wurzel gave a digital presentation and update on topics including but not limited to:

2020 Work Plan for Climate Action Plan

1. Work with Summit Climate Action Collaborative partners to develop a regional electric vehicle (EV) readiness plan by the end of 2020
2. Pursue SolSmart designation (Bronze) for Summit County to analyze and remove barriers for solar installations, streamline the solar permitting process, and promote Summit County as a solar-friendly community, working collaboratively with the towns who have already begun work on a SolSmart designation through this free National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) program (Breckenridge, Dillon and Frisco).
3. Continue and expand residential home energy improvements and solar PV installation rebates, through state and local programs as Energy Smart Colorado and Solarize Summit, a countywide a bulk buy solar PV program for local property owners.
4. Continue to evaluate and enhance Summit County building efficiency with free Xcel Energy audits for buildings under 50,000 sq. ft.

5. Initiate a voluntary commercial building benchmarking program, as the first, initial step toward mandatory benchmarking programs. The commercial and industrial building sector produced 35% of overall community emissions for Summit County in 2017. Reporting programs can empower them to make smarter decisions about how their buildings and facilities run. To reduce emissions in the commercial building sector, the CAP recommends adopting local ordinances to require energy reporting for large commercial buildings. Owners of large commercial and industrial buildings will publicly report their energy use on an annual basis.
6. Foster a countywide culture of sustainability through training and support of county staff and partnerships with HC3, Xcel, towns, and other entities.

Commissioners and senior staff provided feedback and thanked Michael for his work.

II. Wetland Mitigation Presentation (Open Space & Trails)

Brian Lorch, Lindsay Hirsh and Robert Jacobs gave an update on topics including but not limited to:

Land Use and Development Code Amendment - Wetland Code Amendment Update

As part of the Special Area Management Plan effort that Summit County engaged in under direction from the EPA and US Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) beginning in 1998, the County contracted with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) to develop a pilot project to enhance management of wetlands. An important element of that program was the preparation of a final report titled Enhancement of Wetlands Management in Summit County.

The final report identified various strategies, presented in two phases, to enhance wetland management including specific amendments to the County's Land Use & Development Code (Code). Since the release of the final report, many of these recommendations have been implemented.

County staff have prepared draft Code amendments that we believe would further strengthen and support the No Net Loss Policy (BOCC Resolution #99-46), and which reflect recommendations in the final report that have yet to be implemented.

Planning and Engineering staff have prepared an overall summary of the status of various recommendations from the final report, and where appropriate proposed Code amendments, based on the Technical Appendix included in the Memo to the Board from the Wetlands Task Force dated January 24, 2002.

The following is a brief summary of the proposed amendments to the County's Land Use and Development Code:

- Currently the Code states that single-family and duplex developments on lots that were platted prior to February 26, 1996 shall be exempt from the 25-foot setback requirement. The proposed Code amendment will institute a minimum 25-foot buffer for all

development in unincorporated Summit County, and allow a variable (increased) buffer when defensible per established criteria.

- Defining expectations for buffer wetlands/mitigation plans with clearer expectations for wetland setback buffer areas.
- Creating a defined wetland/buffer disturbance permit and process that will run seamlessly with a grading and excavation permit.
- Establishing a codified priority sequence for mitigation options (i.e. on-site, bank option, etc.).
- Provide for administrative setback variances for the purpose of wetland or wetland buffer avoidance or minimization.
- Review the definition of wetlands in the context of Army Corps guidance documents.

The group will return with an amended code to a future BOCC Work Session for final review, before the document is adopted at a Regular Meeting.

III. **Managers' and Commissioners' Issues**

Senior Management and Commissioners discussed several topics including but not limited to:

Bentley Henderson gave an update on Summit Stage ridership for last week; he also informed the group that Geoff Guthrie has accepted a position with CDOT as Transit Planner and his last day will be May 22, 2020.

Commissioners also reviewed schedules and upcoming calendar events.

IV. **Open Space and Trails Matters and the Legal Issues related thereto (Attorney) (Executive Session Recommended)**

Jeff Huntley and Scott Vargo requested an amendment to the Work Session Agenda to add an Executive Session discussion regarding various confidential legal issues related to Open Space and Trails Matters.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lawrence and seconded by Commissioner Davidson to go into Executive Session pertaining to Open Space and Trails Matters and the Legal Issues related thereto. The BOCC voted 3 to 0 to go into Executive Session per CRS 24-6-402 (4) (a)(b)(e). The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted:

Sara R Lopez, Deputy Clerk



Approved by:

Karn Stiegelmeier, Chair