

# EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

COLORADO'S CENTRAL PLAINS



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## EAST CENTRAL COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES APRIL 5, 2017

### **Call to Order**

Vice Chairman Troy McCue called the April 5, 2017, teleconference meeting of the ECCOG Board of Directors to order at 7:03PM. Chairman Nancy Bogenhagen joined the call and then conducted the meeting. Roll call was taken by Deputy Director Candace Payne. Board members participating included: Steve Burgess, Julie Coonts, Linda Corbin, Monica Halde, Dave Hornung, Troy McCue, Hal McNerney, Don Means, and Chris Richardson. Staff members participating included: Jo Downey, ECCOG Executive Director; Candace Payne, ECCOG Deputy Director/PDC Administrator; and Dora King, Senior and Transit Services Director (at the Stratton office). Board members Gary Beedy and Valerie Rhoades were unable to attend. The Elbert County Municipal COG Board seat is currently unfilled. Staff stated that the three incorporated communities in Elbert County are in the process of determining whether to submit the name of a nominee for that position.

### **Introduction of Board and Guests**

There were no new board members or guests so introductions were not needed.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Based on the nature of the call, the pledge was dispensed with.

### **Approval of March 1, 2017 ECCOG Meeting Minutes**

There were no additions or corrections to the Minutes of the March 1, 2017 reorganizational meeting or the regular meeting. Dave Hornung made a motion to approve these Minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Linda Corbin and carried unanimously. Julie Coonts abstained from the vote due to her absence from the March meeting.

### **Financial Report and Approval of Bills for March 2017**

The April 5, 2017 Financial Report and the March payroll of \$29,468.41 and bills totaling \$56,085.26 plus \$1,105.41 in debit card transactions were reviewed. The motion made by Hal McNerney was seconded by Monica Halde to approve the bills and accept the financial report for filing. Motion passed unanimously.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **Broadband Plan Adoption**

Jo Downey summarized the final draft of the East Central Council of Governments' Regional Broadband Plan. Copies were provided to the ECCOG Board and the Steering Committee prior to this meeting. Linda Corbin commented the plan was very comprehensive and impressive. Linda liked that it compared apples to apples although the Interviews section showed the date of 2015. Jo explained we will footnote the Interview section as those were the actual dates the interviews were performed. Comments on provider services and expansion and referral to the Lincoln county has been given to Paul Recanzone to correct in the plan however new copies will not be printed as the final copy will be available on the websites. Steve Burgess reported the local school has issues with connectivity during testing.

Phase II of the plan includes developing the educational component which established a website and brochures. These methods will reach most our businesses and citizens explaining the opportunities and barriers to improving

coverage and speed. A meeting will be held with the Steering Committee to further enhance the education phase. Hal McNerney made a motion to adopt the Region 5 Broadband Plan as presented. Troy McCue seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### **2017 Board Member Selection Status**

Jo Downey explained ballots were provided to the three communities in Elbert County and we await their response. Candace Payne reported Simla nominated Scott Smith and Kiowa nominated Trevor Smith. Each community will then cast a ballot since there were two nominations. We expect Mr. Smith to be on board for the next ECCOG meeting. Jo stated if there was a tie after the ballots were cast, the Elbert County Commission will break the tie.

### **2017 Events and Places Brochures**

Jo Downey asked for feedback on the 2017 Our Journey Events Guide and Places brochures. Copies of the text for both brochures were included in the Board packet. Any corrections or additions need to be submitted to our office by Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. The golf course tournament schedules will only be posted on the website due to their late scheduling. The bright colors of the brochures follow the same design element of last year that was so popular. Steve Burgess commented that he and his spouse recently attended a travel show and our region was not represented which he has mentioned to Candace. Candace reported Danielle Dascalos is checking into the costs of the event and may represent us at that travel show and possibly other relevant shows in the future.

### **Other**

Danielle Dascalos' report on media coverage to date was discussed as provided in the packet. Jo stated Danielle has received a list of upcoming coverage as a result of a presentation on "Our Journey" to the Colorado Broadcasters Association. Hank Smith of the Elbert County Historical Society and Museum presented information on Our Journey and Off the Beaten Trail to the group. Featured events included the Mountain Plover Festival in April and Colorado Prairie Music Festival in late June. Danielle also contracts Lincoln County tourism as well as with ECCOG for the Our Journey program which pays great dividends to our region. Her work continues to glean more interviews for our tourism sites and events.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Area Agency on Aging Audit**

Dora King briefly reviewed the State Unit on Aging (SUA) on-site audit of the senior services programs administered by ECCOG and funded by the State Unit on Aging. Dora explained the audit responses regarding Health and Safety have been submitted and approved by the SUA office staff. The remaining responses are currently being worked on and will be sent to the SUA by April 17<sup>th</sup> and will be pending approval. Jo stated the on-site evaluations and staff protocol/training have been or will be scheduled to comply. Chairman Bogenhagen offered to speak with other commissioners on our behalf if needed in the future. A copy of audit and ECCOG's AAA responses was provided to the Board prior to the meeting and a copy is included with the official copy of these minutes.

A CDOT audit scheduled for this summer has Dora diligently working with ECCOG staff Debby Conrads and CDOT staff Glen Krause to be prepared. Dora complimented Glen and CDOT for their assistance in helping fill out the extensive pre-audit questionnaire that has been provided by CDOT.

#### **Enterprise Zone Contribution Projects Expiration Deadline Extension**

Executive Director Jo Downey stated the six East Central Enterprise Zone contribution projects that were to expire at the end of 2017 have been extended to December 31, 2018 by the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT). All state-wide EZ contribution project deadlines have now been moved out an additional year due to the delay in the State Economic Development Commission officially adopting the new criteria. The list of nineteen projects in our region which was earlier provided in the Board packet was reviewed. A copy is included with the official file copy of these minutes. The new policy of five different contributions or \$5,000 minimum in less than five contributions each year to maintain eligibility regardless of expiration date was

covered by Jo Downey. Going forward if a project lapses by not receiving contributions, the project may reapply for designation of five years or less. ECCOG is interested in new projects so please have potential applicants contact Jo or Candace.

Project meetings with the six projects that will expire in 2018 have begun as Jo has met with Keefe Memorial Hospital Board via teleconference. Jo and Candace have a meeting scheduled with Lincoln Community Hospital on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Both Jo and Candace met with Peak Vista EZ Contribution Project staff in late March and Jo as briefed the Kit Carson County Carousel Association members on the new criteria. Candace and Jo will attend the Limon Heritage Museum meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>. The sixth project that has an expiration deadline of December 31, 2018 is the Kit Carson County Memorial Hospital. Candace and Jo will be setting up a meeting with that hospital in the next few weeks. A region-wide meeting for the other 13 projects (that have expiration dates of 2019-2021) will be scheduled in a central location once the State Commission has adopted the final policies.

#### **Next Two Meeting Dates/Locations**

June 7<sup>th</sup> will be the next in person meeting in Limon at the TA Truck Stop. The meeting on July 5, 2017 will be held as a teleconference. There will not be an August meeting so bills must be approved by mail ballot. For September 6<sup>th</sup>, the ECCOG Board will meet in Limon at a site to be determined. Jo reminded the Board that special teleconference meetings may also be called at any time by the chairman. All teleconference meetings also have a physical location which is the ECCOG office in Stratton so that interested citizens can attend.

#### **Other**

No other items were brought forth.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting declared adjourned at 8:43 PM.