

ELBERT COUNTY, COLORADO
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting Held in the BOCC Meeting Room

May 22, 2024 at 9:00 AM

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Rhonda Braun Recorder, Elbert County, Co



A. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pastor Bill Anderson from Son Country Community Church provided the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was called to order at 9:02 AM. Deputy Clerk Emily Backhus-Irwin called the roll and all Commissioners were present.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approval of Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes - Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Approval of Consent Agenda as presented

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes - Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

1. Approval of CDS Mylars as needed
2. Approval of Vouchers as needed
3. Acknowledgment of Receipt of Variance Reports

E. ELECTED OFFICIALS/DEPARTMENT HEADS/STAFF REPORTS

County Assessor Susan Murphy provided an update on the legislative bill SB24-233 in regard to property tax reduction. Ms. Murphy stated that Elbert County citizens will receive a \$55,000.00 actual reduction for residential properties in 2024 and commercial properties will receive a \$30,000.00 reduction as well. Ms. Murphy also stated that the property assessment rate will stay at 6.7% for 2024 payable in 2025.

Clerk and Recorder Rhonda Braun provided an update to the Elections department's annual testing. Ms. Braun stated that the testing is complete and it was a success. Ms. Braun also said that the Elections Department will be hosting Town Hall on June 13, 2024 at 6:30 PM at the fairgrounds. The Town Hall is open to the public to educate citizens about how the elections process works.



Ms. Braun said the ballots for the Primary Election will be going out in the mail on June 3, 2024.

Commissioner Richardson inquired about Dominion and Clear Ballot and if the questions they had were sent out to them. Ms. Braun stated that Clear Ballot has been working on their proposal but here department has not had any responses back yet. Commissioner Richardson requested a follow-up from Ms. Braun.

County Finance Manager Tiffany Hermes provided an update to the audit that has been in progress. Ms. Hermes feels that their department is on track with no concerns. The audit will be available to present by this July. Ms. Hermes stated the 2025 budget calendar is now available for public view on the county website and that the finance department will be holding a workshop with the BOCC and the public on September 4, 2024.

Community and Economic Director Marc Dettenrieder presented the Water Master Plan update. Mr. Dettenrieder stated that it is currently in the draft recommendation phase. CED will be holding two discussion groups on May 29, 2024 on the fairgrounds and the AG building. One from 5:30PM - 7:00 PM and a second one from 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM and inviting the public to review and provide recommendations. All of the information is available on the county website. Mr. Dettenrieder is asking that anyone who would like to attend, to please RSVP.

Commissioner Thayer inquired about when the master plan will be complete. Mr. Dettenrieder stated that it is a few more months out yet for completion.

F. CITIZEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Kerry Jiblits - 19656 Wedemeyer Road. Ms. Jiblits provided an update to the Xcel project and the most recent meeting with Robert Kenny. Ms. Jiblits was told by Mr. Kenny that they can send back the application with conditions that need to be met, except moving the route. Ms. Jiblits stated that residents along Kiowa-Bennett Road have been approached by Xcel land agents and are being told this is the final offer regarding the project. Ms. Jiblits said that in El Paso County, Xcel will submit their application to the Commissioners at the end of May.

Commissioner Richardson stated that their staff receives more information from Kerry and her team than Xcel and is ready when and if anything comes across their desks.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Discussion on Legislative Updates

Commissioner Richardson provided an update to the 2024 Legislative Update where there were 703 bills introduced and the Commissioners took positions on 128 bills. Five were enacted that were opposed.

1) HB 24-1304 which eliminates minimum parking requirements and may create hazards for snow removal.

2) HB 24-1313 Overrides local authorities for land use in areas served by mass transit. It feels like a step in the wrong direction.

3) SB 24-024 Short term rental marketing for individuals to have to now collect and remit taxes, the state is trying to step in.



4) SB 24-131 Bans the carrying of firearms in areas the state has defined as "sensitive". The bill provides for local governments to restore this protected right through promulgation of an ordinance.

Commissioner Richardson feels the state is trying to gain more gun-free zones.

5) SB 24-194 That allows special districts to impose sales taxes for emergency response. Basically to collect more money.

Some other concerning bills passed that included allowing schools to hide information about children from their parents, curtailed 2nd amendment rights, redistribution of TABOR refunds over 3 years, and multiple referred measures will be sent to ballot.

And lastly, bill 212 - Dictating setbacks that has now turned into a study.

Commissioner Schroeder thanked Commissioner Richardson for all his efforts and providing this summary. Commissioner Schroeder stated it appears the effort of more consolidation of power is what's happening anymore.

2. Discussion on the Updates to the Fleet Management Policy

County Attorney Bart Greer provided an update on the Fleet Management Policy. Mr. Greer has received requested changes to the policy and made those revisions. He has gotten good feedback and is close to finalizing the policy. Mr. Greer is hopeful this will move forward at the next BOCC meeting.

Commissioner Thayer inquired if the Fleet Manager is in charge of procedures. Mr. Greer confirmed that is true and having the new larger facility has made a big impact to how well the maintenance on fleet vehicles occurs.

3. First reading of an Ordinance to Protect the Right to Carry in Sensitive Spaces in Accordance with SB 24-131

Commissioner Richardson made some comments about the Ordinance and how important it is for the citizens. The Ordinance is available for the public to review on the county website. Commissioner Richardson stated it was vital to maintain the status quo. Commissioner Richardson said ordinances aren't done very often, and he feels this one is important to protect the rights of Elbert County citizens.

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration of May 8, 2024 Minutes

Motion: Approval of May 8, 2024 Minutes

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Approve the Minutes as presented. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes - Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No - None



I. BOARD PLANNING

1. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- 1) 2nd reading of an Ordinance to Protect the Right to Carry in Sensitive Spaces in Accordance with SB 24-131
- 2) Updates for ballot voting
- 3) Adoption for Vehicle Maintenance Policy
- 4) Vendor voting systems update

Commissioner Richardson called a recess at 9:34 AM to return at 1:00 PM for the Land Use Hearings

J. LAND USE HEARINGS 1:00 P.M.

The Land Use meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM. Deputy Clerk Emily Backhus-Irwin called the roll and all Commissioners were present.

1. Alpine Ready-Mix Economic Development Zone Site Development Plan

Motion: To Open a Public Hearing for Alpine Ready-Mix Economic Development Zone Site Development Plan

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Open a Public Hearing for Alpine Ready-Mix Economic Development Zone Site Development Plan. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes - Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No - None

Public Hearing Opened at 1:01 PM

Community and Economic Development Director Marc Dettenrieder requested a continuance on behalf of the applicant for June 12, 2024 at 1:00 PM in the BOCC.

Motion: To Continue the Alpine Ready-Mix Economic Development Zone Site Development Plan

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Continue the Alpine Ready-Mix Economic Development Zone Site Development Plan for June 12, 2024 at 1:00 PM in the BOCC. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes - Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

Motion: To Close a Public Hearing for the Alpine Ready-Mix Economic Development Zone Site Development Plan

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Close a Public Hearing for the Alpine Ready-Mix Economic Development Zone Site Development Plan. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes - Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No - None

Public Hearing Closed at 1:03 PM

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Rhonda Braun Recorder, Elbert County, Co



K. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To Adjourn

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

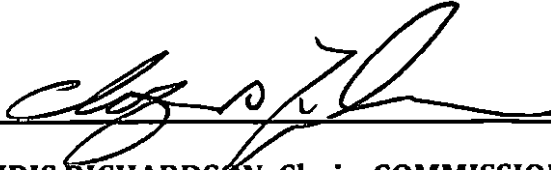
Yes - Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No - None

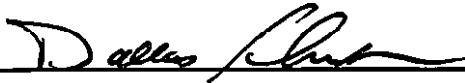
The meeting Adjourned at 1:03 PM

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ELBERT COUNTY, COLORADO



CHRIS RICHARDSON, Chair, COMMISSIONER District 1



DALLAS SCHROEDER, Vice-Chair, COMMISSIONER District 2



GRANT THAYER, COMMISSIONER District 3

ATTEST: Emily Backhus-Irwin

Deputy Clerk

BY: 

Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners