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**MINUTES**  
**March 16, 2021**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Board met at 11:00 a.m. in regular session at the Rio Blanco County Annex Building, Rangely, CO. Chairman Gary Moyer, Commissioner Jeff Rector, Commissioner Ty Gates, Budget & Finance Director Janae Stanworth, Vicky Edwards, Attorney Todd Starr and Deputy Clerk to the Board Melissa Dembowski were present.

**CALL TO ORDER - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance.

**AGENDA CHANGES:**

**APPROVAL OF THE March 16, 2021 AGENDA**

Commissioner Gates moved to approve the March 16, 2021 agenda including changes. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Gates-Aye.

**APPROVAL OF THE March 16, 2021 CONSENT AGENDA**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Approval of the BOCC meeting minutes of March 9, 2021.

Commissioner Rector moved to approve the March 16, 2021 Consent Agenda. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye.

**BUSINESS**

Commissioner Gates moved to approve a Grant Request Letter to the Electronic Recording Technology Board, Colorado Department of State, for the use and benefit of the Clerk & Recorder's Office, to improve Rio Blanco County's electronic filing and recording systems, including two new public viewing computer stations. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to appoint Luke Renninger (Member) and Mindy Musser (Alternate) to the Building Board of Appeals for terms expiring January 2024. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye.

Commissioner Gates moved to appoint Quenton Smith to the Fair Board to fill a vacancy expiring January 2022 and Alex Plumb, Jen Hill, and Crandel Mergelman for terms expiring January 2024. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to appoint Mindy Musser to the Fairgrounds Board for a term expiring January 2023. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye.

Commissioner Gates moved to appoint Emily Mohr to the Historic Preservation Board for a term ending January 2022. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to appoint Dan Schwartz and Melinda Parker to the Meeker Lodging Tax Board for terms ending January 2024. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye.

Commissioner Gates moved to appoint John Payne and Andrea Brannan to the Rangely Lodging Tax Board, for terms ending January 2023 and January 2024 respectively. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to appoint Kay Bivens to the Meeker Colorado Civic Improvement Corp. (MCCIC) Board for a term ending January 2024. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye.

Commissioner Gates moved to approve a letter to Colorado Parks and Wildlife, opposing fee title land acquisition of the Crystal Creek Ranch. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye.

**BID AWARDS**

Commissioner Rector moved to award the 2021 Rio Blanco County Road 73 Bridge Replacement Project, CDOT #C490-007 CODE # 23510, to Oldcastle SW Group, Inc. dba United Companies, in an amount not to exceed \$1,933,336.70. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye.

**MOU'S, CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS**

Commissioner Gates moved to approve Amendment #1 to Contract No. 21 IHJA 154617, between the Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County, Colorado, for the use and benefit of the Rio Blanco County Sheriff's Office, and the Colorado Department of Human Services Office of Behavioral Health, for the JBBS Mental Health Expansion Program State FY 2021, to provide screening, assessment and treatment for mental health and substance use disorders, in an amount of \$54,788.00. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to approve the cancellation of an Agreement for Services dated December 8, 2020 between the BOCC and Dr. Tonazzi for vasectomy services, no funds distributed. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye.

Commissioner Gates moved to approve a Purchase Agreement with Abbott Rapid DX North America, LLC for the purchase of two ID Now Covid19 Analyzers, printers and scanners, and 21 Test Kits containing 504 total tests in an amount not to exceed \$30,664.00. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to approve an Agreement with DataTech Labs for the GIS Data Restoration Project in an amount not to exceed \$9,088.99 and authorize electronic execution by the Rio Blanco County IT Director. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye.

Commissioner Gates moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with LEDS, LLC for the Rio Blanco County Recording Project Phase II, in an amount not to exceed \$21,100.19. Commissioner Rector seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye.

Commissioner Rector moved to approve an Agreement for Services with Old Castle SW Group Inc., dba United Companies, for the 2021 CR 73 Bridge Replacement Project, CDOT #C490-007, Project #23510, in an amount not to exceed \$1,933,336.70. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye, Moyer-Aye. Van wanted to thank the Commissioners for what they've gone through to make this project go forward.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Commissioner Gates moved to approve Resolution #2021-06, establishing Rio Blanco County as a Wolf Reintroduction Sanctuary County. Commissioner Rector seconded. Discussion followed. Commissioner Gates received phone calls regarding the name being misleading. Commissioner Gates received an email from Tony Theos that was forwarded from the Executive Director of the Woolgrowers Association. She made suggestions to rename it to natural mitigation, sanctuary, expansion, habitation or something similar rather than reintroduction. Todd suggested changing it to reaffirming RBC's opposition to reintroduction because the name sounds like the support of it.

Todd's recommendation is to change the resolution reaffirming RBC's opposition to reintroduction generally and specifically establishing RBC as a wolf reintroduction sanctuary county.

Jeff Madison discussed the reason for the name of Resolution #2021-06. He debated about the name also. Jeff stated that it's the wording from the ballot issue. There's some confusion about what the resolution really does until they read the text of the resolution. It's important to use this language in relation to the ballot issue as it exists. He's made some changes to the original document he drafted. He has talked to people in the Department of Parks and Wildlife, past DOW employees and some animal damage control past and present employees and the changes have been incorporated. The word "take" in a biological sense has specific meaning and has been added to allow the taking of wolves including by government employees to take out part or all of a wolf pack. Jeff also stated that this resolution needs to be robust and he has added, in tune with SB105, that funding should be limited to state general funds, not just game department funds. He added that the paper had just enough information to confuse many people, which prompted questions including getting public input before this goes forward. Commissioner Moyer stated this is time sensitive and he feels strongly considering the vote against wolf reintroduction in Rio Blanco County that we can move forward. Commissioner Gates and Commissioner Rector are satisfied that the meaning would be clear after people read the text in the resolution.

Commissioner Rector moved to amend the language for the previous resolution to the verbiage Todd recommended. Commissioner Gates seconded. Roll call vote: Moyer-Aye, Rector-Aye, Gates-Aye.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**Public Comment** – Frank Hewitt stated he would like to thank the Commissioners and Mr. Madison for stating our opposition to wolf reintroduction. It's very important that we stand strong on this.

**County Commissioner Updates**

Commissioner Gates did CCI commissioner orientation, NEPA day long training, met with Eddy, the new Emergency Manager, and went over fire billing, just trying to get him up to speed on that.

Commissioner Rector was on legislative CCI calls last week. He also met with the Uinta County group and noted that they're coming along fighting mandates from the national level. Jeff noted that we have a strong support group in Western Colorado.

Commissioner Moyer attended an AGNC subcommittee meeting regarding the wolf issue. Gary testified on SB105 which would, as amended, require each county to have a commissioner representative for wolf reintroduction. That failed 3-2. That testimony included Ben Rogers from the Cattlemens Association and Callie Hendrickson from the Conservation District, as well as several others. He also attended a legislative call to get an update on all the legislation moving through. He spent time with the Water Conservancy group regarding the Wolf Creek project and got the new Emergency Manager involved.

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Attest:



Boots M. Campbell, Clerk to the Board





Gary Moyer, Chairman