

**REGULAR MEETING
PONCHA SPRINGS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
330 BURNETT AVE., PONCHA SPRINGS, COLORADO**

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2012 - 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Thonhoff, who asked for a roll call. Those present:

Mayor:	Mark Thonhoff
Mayor Pro-tem:	Aaron Kroschel
Trustees:	Rick Roberts, Galen Angelo, Darrell Donahoo, Ron Slaughter, Bret Collyer
Town Attorney:	Brad Redmiles
Town Administrator:	Jerry L'Estrange
Public Works Director:	Greg Smith
Clerk/Treasurer:	Diana Heeney
Town Planner:	Dee Miller
Visitors:	Christy Culp, Tareq Wafaie, Vermie Martz, Richard Furton, Pat & Dub Chambers, Jan & Chuck Azzopardi, Joe Stone(Mtn. Mail)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Trustee Collyer made a motion to approve February 27, 2012 Board meeting minutes; seconded by Trustee Slaughter. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

DOLA Presentation on Economic Development

Christy Culp, DOLA Regional Manager and Tareq Wafaie, DOLA Community Development, gave a power point presentation on Economic Development and Downtown Revitalization. Wafaie posed the question, what makes a community? He then outlined various features that make up a "sustainable community"; involvement, safety, walkability, amenities, cleanliness, and public gathering space. Culp outlined ways to make downtown a priority; policy decisions, citizen and business groups, and financing. She noted a starting point could be the Town's Land Use Code, looking at landscaping, parking, and public space to help make a vibrant downtown area. Culp went on to say business development groups are a key factor in energizing downtown development. She provided information on financing sources that can be used for investing in a downtown area.

Appoint Election Judges

Mayor Thonhoff made a motion designating authority to Clerk Heeney, to appoint election judges due to the late notice that two judges would not be able to serve; Clerk Heeney will contact the three alternates and make the election judge appointments; seconded by Trustee Slaughter. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Adoption of Bid for CR 120 Package

PW Director Smith informed the Board that the documents have not been received from CDOT, noting when the documents are received they will be on the Board agenda. Ron Slaughter ask for clarification on the process. Smith stated the award will be made on costs not qualifications.

Business License Form

Administrator L'Estrange informed the Board that the form has been updated, noting if the Board approves it as is a Resolution will be drafted to adopt/implement the form.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Meet the Candidates – March 13, 2012

Administrator L'Estrange informed the Board that the League of Women Voters would conduct the "Meet the Candidates Forum".

Update on Water Case Proceedings

Administrator L'Estrange informed the Board that Xcel has gotten out of the case and negotiations with Salida are going well, with a few engineering concerns being discussed.

Economic Development Update

Administrator L'Estrange informed the Board that Wendell Pryor, CCEDC, gave a presentation at the March 5th Planning Commission meeting. He stated Pryor gave an overview of what is going on "Broadband" efforts in Chaffee County and how Poncha Springs fits into that picture.

Business Development Group Meetings Update

Administrator L'Estrange informed the Board that the business development group meets the last Tuesday of each month, noting at the last meeting social media and downtown revitalization/development were the topics. He noted the group will discuss future strategy, goals and objectives at the March meeting. L'Estrange stated it is great to have our business community feel the Town is behind them with some positive energy, complimenting Town Planner Miller for all her efforts.

Addressing Concerns in the Northwest Portion of Town

Administrator L'Estrange informed the Board that the local Post Office contacted him regarding properties in Poncha Springs that have a Salida address. He stated the Post Office is not able to give these properties a free mail box due to the conflict of the Salida mailing address and the property being in Poncha Springs. The Board agreed staff should follow up to see what the town can do to resolve the issue.

Follow-up on Recycling Concerns

Administrator L'Estrange informed the Board that he has not received a response from the UAACOG on this matter.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Attorney Redmiles informed the Board that there has been some action on the TOMAR case, noting he will review the order and report back to the Board.

VISITOR'S CENTER:

PW Director Smith informed the Board that Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 5:00 p.m. there would be a walk through of the Visitor's Center followed by the Maintenance & Utilities Committee meeting at 6:00 p.m. The group agreed to do a walk through of South Park as well.

OTHER:

Authority to Hire/Fire Employees

Mayor Thonhoff stated he wanted to clarify the Town's policy on "authority to hire and fire". He referred to the February 8, 2010 minutes and adoption of the Town Administrator's job description, which stipulates "with Board approval".

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Mayor Thonhoff made a motion to adjourn to executive session for a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(e) and receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) regarding: the Farrow case; to include the Board, Town Attorney and Town Administrator; seconded by Trustee Collyer. Motion carried unanimously.

The regular Board meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.
The Executive Session convened at 8:26 p.m.
The Executive Session adjourned at 8:43 p.m.
The regular Board meeting reconvened 8:44 p.m.

The Board directed Town Attorney Redmiles to follow up with the Farrow's Attorney regarding negotiations on the Farrow case.

With no further business the Board meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Diana K. Heeney
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved As To Form and Content:

Mark F. Thonhoff, Mayor

Attest:

Jerry L'Estrange
Town Administrator