
Minutes of the Board of County Commissioners Meeting, held on December 20, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present:

Lori Laske, Chair by Zoom
Vern Heersink, Vice-Chair
Arlan Van Ry, Commissioner
Jason Kelly, County Attorney
Roni Wisdom, County Administrator
Jamie Greeman, Deputy Clerk

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Changes to the agenda were, presentations for Judy Jackson and Betty Arellano moved ahead to the first item on the agenda. In addition, the door decorating contest winner announcement was moved forward and the liquor license renewal for Beer Keg Depot was removed from the Consent Agenda.

**m/s Van Ry/Laske motion to approve the December 20, 2023 agenda as amended
Motion was passed unanimously**

Employee Retirement Recognitions

Judy Jackson had a career with the County Sheriff's Department for 33 years. She's had several different roles in that time. She worked diligently and faithfully and that is greatly appreciated. On January 2nd, there will be a career celebration for Judy Jackson at the Sheriff's Office. She had a great work ethic and moral compass. She's done just about everything that there is to do with the Sheriff's Office and she's done a great job and she will be missed. Commissioner Heersink read the plaque, "Alamosa County Commissioners Recognition Award honoring Judy Jackson in sincere appreciation for over 33 years of service and dedication to Alamosa County Sheriff's Department. July 1992, December 2023."

Betty Arellano has been a part of the Assessor's Office for 35 years. The Commissioners thanked her for her work not only for Alamosa County but the whole community. Sandra Hostetter added her thanks to Betty Arellano as well. She was the first friendly face that Sandra Hostetter met and has found that Betty Arellano is that way with every new employee. She will be greatly missed. Commissioner Heersink read the plaque, "Alamosa County Commissioners Recognition Award honoring Marie Betty Arellano in sincere appreciation for over 35 years of service and dedication to Alamosa County Assessor's Office June 1988 to December 2023."

Approval of Minutes

m/s Van Ry/Laske motion to approve the December 6 Regular Meeting Minutes, December 6 Public Hearing Minutes for RWE Clean Energy Permit Waiver Request, and December 6 Public Hearing Minutes Dune Glamping Violation, Motion was passed unanimously

Approval of Bills/Obligations

Miscellaneous recurring checks 158904 – 158942
Miscellaneous checks 158943 – 159101

Department of Human Services checks 159102 - 159124

Public Health recurring checks 35738 – 35746

Public Health checks 35747 - 35762

m/s Van Ry/Laske motion to approve the Bills/Obligations of Alamosa County

Motion was passed unanimously

Public Comment

Diane Woodard expressed concerns about the river dike. She understands that this is a very complicated issue. She would like to encourage the County to take their time studying the issue. Commissioner Heersink suggested that Diane Woodard could follow up with Richard Hubler, Land Use Director, with her concerns.

Phillip “Bix” Busby Jr, Mosca Gardens Crematorium, asked if he would be able to get the topic of open burning on a Commissioner meeting agenda.

Jason Kelly explained that the County is in the middle of doing a new comprehensive plan. The County needs to go through a process to determine whether or not those types of regulations would be incorporated within the new plan. There will be Public Hearings involved with the new plan so it would be best for any questions to be asked of the Land Use Office or the Commissioners at that time.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Van Ry asked to pull the Avenu contract from the Consent Agenda.

m/s Van Ry/Laske motion to approve remaining Consent Agenda items

Motion was approved unanimously

Commissioner Van Ry asked Jason Kelly if the contract was just a one-year contract.

Jason Kelly said that it is a three-year contract with an automatic renewal. After the first year, it will automatically renew unless 90 day notice is provided at the end of the year.

m/s Van Ry/Laske motion to approve the Avenu Insights & Analytics contract

Motion was approved unanimously

Public Hearing

2024 Supplemental Budget Resolution 2023 F-5 – See Public Hearing Minutes

The Public Hearing ended and the Regular Commissioner Meeting resumed.

m/s Van Ry/Laske motion to the approve the Supplemental Budget Resolution 2023 F-5

Motion was approved unanimously

Appointments

Peace Officer Mental Health Grant was presented by Reyna Martinez-Ramirez. This project was started in 2021 with three agencies in Alamosa and quickly expanded to neighboring law enforcement agencies. From there, it grew to 11. At the end of the grant, 103 officers were served for mental health therapy, counseling, and consultations in 2023. The grant was in regards to expanding the project and allowing

RETAC to include jail deputies that are not post certified, first responders, and dispatchers. In critical incidents, everyone is affected, not just one agency. The San Luis Valley really comes together and unites as one, and that's a big motto for RETAC, one mission, one team. They come together and help each other out in their most needed times.

In 2023, they started with 103 officers and are now serving 175. With that they are also able to serve immediate families because it doesn't only affect first responders, it affects families as well. They will be able to provide counseling to their children and family. And they are starting a peer support group.

In 2023 there were 12 critical incidents that needed debriefing, and additional support on top of those. The critical incidents are from officer involved shootings, child fatalities, fires, and school shootings. RETAC is requesting additional funding for the police officer mental health grants, they might apply for another \$200,000. And they may reach out to neighboring agencies in Walsenburg, Trinidad, or Salida. The grant application is due January 19.

Roni Wisdom said that Alamosa County has a partnership with RETAC that allows for Reyna Martinez-Ramirez to apply for the grants and Alamosa County to act as a pass through. These grants are very important and make a big difference. The Commissioners have a meeting on January 17th, so if they could review the grant application at that time, it could address any final concerns that the Commissioners may have.

Work Session, SLV Regional Airport Parking Fees

Board/Staff Updates

There being no further business, the Regular Meeting of the Board of Alamosa County Commissioners was adjourned.

ATTEST:



Jamie Greeman, Deputy Clerk



Lori Laske, Chair



Vern Heersink, Vice-Chair



Arlan Van Ry, Commissioner

Note:

These minutes summarize the final decision made by the Board at the referenced meeting. This meeting was also audio recorded and that recording is available for review. In the event there is confusion as to what the final decision of the Board is, the Board will rely on the audio tape to interpret the Board's intent. The audio tape shall act as an official record of these proceedings for any necessary purpose when, in the opinion of the Board, the minutes are in any way insufficient. An audio copy of the Board of County Commissioners' proceedings is available by contacting the Deputy Clerk to the Board located at the Alamosa County Service Center, (719) 589-4848, or email to jgreeman@alamosacounty.org.

Minutes of the Public Hearing for Supplemental Budget Resolution Appropriating Additional Funds, was held on December 20, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners Chambers, Alamosa County Services Center, 8900 Independence Way, Alamosa, CO 81101.

Members Present:

Lori Laske, Chair by Zoom
Vern Heersink, Vice-Chair
Arlan Van Ry, Commissioner
Roni Wisdom, County Administrator
Jason Kelly, County Attorney
Jamie Greeman, Deputy Clerk

Public Hearing for Supplemental Budget Resolution Appropriating Additional Funds for Alamosa County - Maricruz Mora, Alamosa County Controller, presented Resolution 2023 F-5.

WHEREAS, on the 7th day of December, 2022 the Board of County Commissioners adopted its 2023 calendar year budget; and

WHEREAS, Alamosa County has:

- a) to account for increased capital outlay expenditures for the project completion of the Lane 6 North in the Road & Bridge fund
- b) to show increased expenses in the Capital Projects Fund
- c) to show increased expenses in the Debt Service fund
- d) to show increased expenses in the Justice Center Fund
- e) to show increased expenses in the Internal Services fund

WHEREAS, Alamosa County has received unanticipated revenue or revenues not assured at the time of adoption of the budget, or will utilize available undesignated fund balances as hereinafter set forth.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners, Alamosa County, Colorado as follows:

Section 1. That the FY2023 appropriation for the

- a) Road & Bridge Fund is increased by \$10,995,000.00 from \$3,689,393.00 to \$14,684,393.00.
- b) Capital Projects fund is increased by \$60,000.00 from \$20,000.00 to \$80,000.00
- c) Debt Service fund is increased by \$36,000 from \$1,863,000 to \$1,899,000
- d) Justice Center fund is increased by \$95,000 from \$5,326,995 to \$5,421,995
- e) Internal Services fund is increased by \$24,000 from \$129,000 to \$153,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Division of Local Government and the Department of Local Affairs by the Clerk of the Board.

There being no further business, the Public Hearing was adjourned.

ATTEST:



Jamie Greeman, Deputy Clerk



Lori Laske, Chair



Vern Heersink, Vice-Chairman



Arlan Van Ry, County Commissioner