



Crested Butte is a small mountain town with a big community that strives toward a balanced and sustainable lifestyle while enjoying and protecting the soul of the Valley.

Town Council Values

- Support Crested Butte's quality of life
- Promote resource efficiency and environmental stewardship
- Encourage a sustainable and healthy business climate
- Actively support an authentic and unique community
- Remain fiscally responsible
- Continue thoughtful management of our historic character
- Seek collaborative solutions to regional and local issues

Critical to our success is an engaged community and knowledgeable and experienced staff.

AGENDA

Town of Crested Butte Regular Town Council Meeting Monday, September 21, 2020

Meeting Information to Connect Remotely.

Please use the address below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88390785071>

Or Telephone:

Dial US: +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 883 9078 5071

The times are approximate. The meeting may move faster or slower than expected.

6:00 WORK SESSION

Presentation on the Verzuh Ranch Trails Modification Proposal.

7:00 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR OR MAYOR PRO-TEM

7:02 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7:04 CONSENT AGENDA

1) September 8, 2020 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes.

2) Resolution No. 18, Series 2020 - A Resolution of the Crested Butte Town Council Authorizing the Town of Crested Butte to Apply for a State of Colorado, Department of Local Affairs Energy and Mineral Impact Program Grant for the Funding for the Town of Crested Butte Energy Performance Contract.

The listing under Consent Agenda is a group of items to be acted on with a single motion. The Consent Agenda is designed to expedite Council business. The Mayor will ask if any citizen or council member wishes to have any specific item discussed. You may request that an item be removed from Consent Agenda at that time, prior to the Council's vote. Items removed from the Consent Agenda will be considered under New Business.

7:06 A PROCLAMATION OF THE CRESTED BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL CONDEMNING RACISM AND COMMITTING TO BECOMING AN ANTI-RACIST COMMUNITY

7:15 PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens may make comments on item not scheduled on the agenda. Those commenting should state their name and physical address for the record. Comments may be limited to five minutes.

7:20 STAFF UPDATES

7:30 UPDATE FROM GUNNISON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR JONI REYNOLDS

7:50 PRESENTATION BY JOHN NORTON FROM THE TOURISM AND PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP

8:10 NEW BUSINESS

1) Update from Chief Marshal Mike Reily on Emergency Mental Health Services.

8:30 LEGAL MATTERS

8:35 COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

8:50 OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE COUNCIL

9:00 DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING FUTURE WORK SESSION TOPICS AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

- Monday, October 5, 2020 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

- Monday, October 19, 2020 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

- Monday, November 2, 2020 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

9:05 EXECUTIVE SESSION

For a conference with the Town Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b) regarding the Verzuh Trails Modification Proposal.

9:35 ADJOURNMENT



Staff Report

September 21, 2020

To: Mayor Schmidt and Town Council
From: Mel Yemma, Planner I
Thru: Troy Russ, Community Development Director
Subject: **Work Session: Verzuh Open Space Trail Re-Route Proposal**

Purpose: The purpose of this work session is to learn about and discuss a trail re-route proposal sent to the Town by the owners of the Verzuh Open Space. No official action from Council is requested at this time. Staff the Town Council will discuss the proposal, opportunities and concerns for the Town and potential alternatives. Staff and the property owners view this work session as a kick-off to a meaningful community conversation where the outcome of the process will be presented to Council for action at a future date.

Summary: Through the Verzuh Annexation agreement in 2000, the Town gained public access to Tony's Trail on McCormick Ranch Road, public access to the Slate River, as well as additional trail easements including the boardwalk trail, a section of the Rec Path encompassing the bridge, and nordic trails through the Verzuh Open Space and McCormick Ranch. Additionally, the Verzuh Open Space has a conservation covenant on the property limiting development and perpetually protecting the property as private open space.

The owners of the Verzuh Open Space, Wynn and Ryan Martens, have approached the Town, with support from various entities and organizations, with a proposal to re-route and reconfigure some of the trails on the property to better align with their conservation goals. The desires of the property owners are summarized in the attached proposal from the Martens. Overall, the Martens are proposing to eliminate public access on McCormick Ranch Road from Elk Ave. and replace the access with a new trail closer to the Rec Path Bridge that would connect to McCormick Ranch Road near the bridge. The Martens are also proposing to remove the boardwalk trail and provide an easement on the western edge of their property or in the 9th street alley as a replacement to extend the recreation path access to Town Ranch/Tommy V Field/Deli Trail. The proposal would not change the Nordic skiing trails and easements. The Martens had previously approached the Town in 2019 with similar requests, and the Town Council decided to not proceed with the discussion at that time. The Martens cite protection of the nesting waterfowl and enhancement of high quality wetlands on the property as the primary reasons for the proposed trail changes.

During this work session, Town Staff and the Martens plan to present the proposal to the Town Council. This is intended to be a preliminary discussion for Council and the community to learn about the request, discuss its pros and cons, and brainstorm possible alternatives. Staff will lead a subsequent public engagement process in collaboration with the property owners to explore possible

modifications or alternatives, which is outlined later in this staff report. After the outreach efforts are completed, the resulting alternative will be returned to Council for consideration and action.

Background: The 40.5 acre Verzuh Open Space was created as a condition of approval of the Verzuh Annexation in 2000. After negotiations between the Town and Bill Lacy failed, the open space parcel was sold to Sheep Mountain Partners, a.k.a. Wynn and Ryan Martens, in 2015. They plan to work on improving the irrigation system utilizing their McCormick Ditch water rights and to take steps towards improving the riparian habitat while practicing the regenerative impact model for grazing. There is an existing covenant on the property which limits the development potential in addition to protecting the wetlands on the site.

The Martens' Proposal: Wynn and Ryan would like to re-envision how the property is approached and utilized by recreational users. Their primary goal is to improve the property for wildlife habitat and make it a community wetland resource. They are also supporters of Mountain Roots and see a possible future for their utilization of portions of the property, in addition to plans for regenerative cattle grazing.

In order to realize this vision for the property, they see the need to create a different recreation flow on the property. In particular, they see the boardwalk connection from Tommy V Field to McCormick Ranch Road as disruptive to nesting waterfowl and the flow of pedestrians and cyclists on McCormick Ranch Road as disruptive to both wildlife and cattle. Their proposal includes eliminating the boardwalk trail and eliminating public access onto McCormick Ranch Road from Elk Avenue. As an alternative they offered to work with the neighboring property owners Jeff Serra and Kirsten Tollefson-Serra to route a new trail from the Rec Path Bridge to McCormick Ranch road east of where the Serras plan to build their home, which would connect to McCormick Ranch road closer to the bridge. *Please see the attached maps labeled "Verzuh Open Space Trail Proposal" as a reference for the proposal.*

Boardwalk Trail: The boardwalk trail from Tommy V Field to McCormick Ranch Road runs along the eastern property boundary between the Verzuh open space and Lot 7 of McCormick Ranch owned by the Serras. The Verzuh annexation agreement, Section 6.6 D, states that "Trail use may be closed during nesting season, from May 1 through July 10, each year and to avoid damage during the wet season. These dates may change when better information is acquired about nesting season and the impacts of people on nesting and animals". The Martens are working with Dr. Pat Magee from Western Colorado University to conduct a specific study about the birds and their nesting season, and closed the trail for the full 2020 season (with the Town's consent) for the study.

It would be possible to close this section of trail permanently to walkers/bikers and direct them down the 9th street alley as an alternative to reach the rec path extension or McCormick Ranch Rd. In the proposal, the Martens indicate a willingness to place an extension of the Rec Path near the western edge of their property, where they also plan to pipe the McCormick Ditch. The Town could also route a new trail from the southern end of the alley and behind the Town Ranch triplex/community garden, around Tommy V Field, to the Town Ranch trailhead. Overall, the boardwalk trail has not been well-utilized by pedestrians or bikers.

The boardwalk trail was constructed utilizing funds through the CO State Trails grant program in 2010/2011. In reading the grant document, Town Staff did not find a requirement that the trail be maintained or funds repaid if it were to be abandoned. The Martens indicated developing a cost share agreement with the Town for removal of the boardwalk, and they also suggested repurposing the boardwalk wood and materials for another project or use.

Winter use – The nordic easement remains on the property in the location of the boardwalk trail for winter use at this time. In 2018, the Town and Nordic Center worked with Jeff Serra to gain a revocable easement to install the Nordic Trail on his adjacent property instead of the boardwalk due to ongoing annual damage incurred to the boardwalk from the grooming equipment. The Martens' proposal would not impact the Nordic Trail easement on the property, and that easement could be used instead of the revocable easement on the adjacent property if the boardwalk were to be removed. Unfortunately, due to snow plowing of the 9th street alley, as well as snow storage on the Verzuh Open Space, nordic grooming of the new summer rec path extension down the Alley would be infeasible to maintain.

Tony's Trail Access on McCormick Ranch Road: McCormick Ranch Road serves as an important connector from Town to Tony's Trail and the trail system beyond. However, the Martens and Bill Lacy continue to experience issues with dogs on this road and the property despite the many postings that dogs are not permitted. The Martens, with support from Pat Magee's study, also assert in their proposal that pedestrians on the road are causing disruption to the birds and nesting waterfowl. The Martens have proposed that the public access on McCormick Ranch Road at Elk Avenue be eliminated and an alternative trail be installed connecting the Rec Path to McCormick Ranch Road further to the northeast, near the Rec Path Bridge.

The proposed trail would cross through both the Verzuh Open Space property and the Serra's property to the east. Jeff & Kirsten Serra are interested in the concept. It benefits the Serras because it gets the public traffic off of McCormick Ranch Road until after they are beyond where they plan to build their home near the pond.

The Martens, with support from CBMBA, believe that the new alternative trail near the Rec Path Bridge would be a better experience for users accessing Tony's. They generally think that by concentrating users near the Rec Path, an already impacted area of their property, that the recreational use could be better managed. The Crested Butte Land Trust also cites in their letter of support their success with having a human presence at that location to better educate users, which could also be an added benefit to this new trail.

As mentioned above, the Martens overall want to implement these changes to better uphold the conservation values of the property. If the proposal is not considered, they assert instituting seasonal closures on all trails on their property per the language listed above in the annexation agreement: "Trail use may be closed during nesting season, from May 1 through July 10, each year and to avoid damage during the wet season. These dates may change when better information is acquired about nesting season and the impacts of people on nesting and animals". The Town Attorney believes that the language is only in relation to the boardwalk trail, but the Martens believe that the language applies to all trails on the property, which includes the boardwalk trail, McCormick Ranch road, and the small section of the Rec Path and bridge.

Town Staff's Initial Comments: Overall, Town Staff understands the conservation values of the Verzuh Open Space and the importance of this property as it sits adjacent to Town, and provides a balance of scenic views, recreation access, wildlife habitat, and education potential with regenerative agriculture and wetland protection.

However, Staff has some initial concerns regarding removing access from McCormick Ranch road. The access to Tony's from the end of Elk Avenue helps spread recreational users out throughout the Town. If a new trail were to be placed near the Rec Path Bridge, staff anticipates that concerns could be raised by the Paradise Park neighborhood. With closure of the boardwalk trail and McCormick

Ranch Rd at Elk Avenue, all users seeking to access Tony's and Upper Loop would now be diverted onto the Rec Path at the bridge, resulting in increased traffic in a neighborhood that is already overwhelmed with increased boater related traffic in the summertime. Additionally, Staff has concerns with the public losing access to a road used by various type of users (bikers, hikers, walkers, and joggers) that is on the edge of Town and helps spread users out through the various trail networks connected to the Town. The proposal would keep McCormick Ranch road open to private vehicles of homeowners in McCormick Ranch, it would not be reclaimed into wetlands. Overall, Staff has concerns with developing a new trail through a wetland area, close to a river (which could impact wildlife), and in a congested neighborhood/area, when there is already an existing road that has public access. Lastly, Staff has concerns about the community's reaction to removing public access to a road that been well utilized by the community for the past twenty years. Town Staff has shared these concerns with the Martens, and has begun discussing ways to refine the proposal with relevant stakeholders and the community to find a workable solution that balances the protection of the conservation values on the property.

One consideration that the Martens and Staff would like to explore would place the northern portion of the property encompassing the Rec Path Bridge, into public ownership to better manage the river access, Rec Path, and potential new trail. Public ownership of this property could help advance the goals of the Slate River Working Group and better manage the river access at the Rec Path Bridge. The Verzuh Open Space plat and annexation agreement currently allows for boater access to the Slate River on the northeast side of the Rec Path Bridge. This is not where most boaters currently access the River. Most people access the river from the southwest side of the bridge as it is closer to their vehicles. Additionally, increased use in all areas surrounding the bridge has led to degradation of the riparian areas, river banks, and willows. Public ownership of this property would allow for better planning, design, and investment in improvements at that location to better facilitate the impacts that are being seen as more people choose to access the river in that area. Outside of the designated improvement areas, the Town could then restore the riparian and wetland areas that have begun to rapidly degrade with the increasing use.

Another consideration being discussed by the Martens and Staff would be to start the new trail at the Rec Path at the end of Teocalli, where winter Nordic access to the Teocalli Connector trail is, to reduce congestion at the Rec Path Bridge, and place the trail out of the wetlands and farther away from the river/riparian area, to help reduce the impacts to wildlife accessing the river. Additionally, Staff feels that if a new trail is to go in, then it should be a wide path, versus a singletrack trail, to accommodate the variety of users (walkers and bikers) that currently utilize McCormick Ranch Road for easy recreation or to access Tony's.

Recommended Next Steps and Town Council Direction and Proposed Public Process:

Overall, Town Staff understands the vision and concerns of the Martens for the Verzuh Open Space and believe that a workable solution can be developed with the various stakeholders involved in their proposal and with the larger Crested Butte community. The purpose of this work session is to hear preliminary thoughts and feedback from the Town Council and community regarding the Martens' proposal and Staff's preliminary refinement ideas. Town Staff also proposing the following public process and community outreach timeline before any action is requested of Council:

- 1) **Sept 21st: Council Work Session #1: Discussion**
 - Presentation of Proposal and Discussion of Alternatives
- 2) **Late September - Early October: Stakeholder Outreach**
 - Trout Unlimited; CBMBA; Land Trust; Western; etc.
- 3) **Early - Mid October: Public Meeting (Likely Zoom)**

- Alternative Feedback and Refinements
- 4) **Late October/Early November Council Meeting #2: Direction**
 - Presentation of Recommended Solution

Verzuh Open Space Trail Proposal



Gate

New Trail

Gate

Retain Nordic Easement

Abandon Trail Easement

New Easement For Rec Path Extension

Abandon Trail Easement

Enhance Habitat For wildlife And Migrating Birds

Remove Boardwalk Trail

Convert to Nordic Use Only

LEGEND

TRAILS

- Existing Trails
- Proposed Trails
- Nordic Easement
- Existing Recreation Path
- Proposed Recreation Extension

EASEMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Drainage Easements
- Ditches and Laterals
- Fencing
- Snow Storage Easements

August 17, 2020

Subject: Verzuh Ranch Private Open Space Trail Easement Realignment

Town Council Members,

We are writing to ask for Town Council to collaborate with us regarding a proposed trail realignment on our property that will better balance recreational access with habitat conservation and agriculture. Currently, the Town's trail easements on our property, the Verzuh Ranch Private Open Space, traverse delicate wetland and wildlife habitat that has tremendous potential to be restored and brought to the highest level of functionality. The volume of use on these public trails has tipped the balance away from the protection of this sensitive landscape. Our proposed trail route modifications could involve two new public trail easements that would reduce these conflicts between human use and protection of habitat and wildlife.

We are committed to emphasizing the important ecological aspects of our property. As the side yard of the community, our pasture affords a unique opportunity for collaboration and balance around ecological elements, the valley's agricultural heritage, and access for recreation. We take our stewardship seriously and are inspired by the opportunity to realize fully all of these important benefits. As Mark Reaman so appropriately put it in this week's newspaper, "Taking real steps, locally, regionally, nationally and globally to mitigate a changing climate matters." Thriving wetlands are a powerful way to build resilience in this community. We recognize that nature is more than pretty scenery and wildlife needs pockets of privacy in order to survive. This treasured open space can play a key role in adapting to a changing climate.

Modification Details:

We propose placing the recreational trail easements along the perimeter of the valuable open space asset, rather than through the interior. The proposed realignment involves: (see attached map)

- The dedication to the Town of a new 10' wide public recreational trail easement along the 9th street alley, where the open McCormick Ditch runs north and south from Elk almost to Belleview (the ditch that flows along the alley is on the private open space property — it would be buried in a pipe as part of our irrigation work this year with NRCS). Once piped, the ditch can serve as a new trail or be fenced as part of our pasture.
- The dedication to the Town of a new public recreational trail easement between the Rec Path Bridge and the McCormick Ranch Bridge, along the old roadbed on the south side of the Slate River. (This trail would cross our property as well as neighboring McCormick Ranch property (lot 6)—the lot owner has expressed support for the new easement, as has the McCormick Ranch HOA).
- The vacating of the Town's trail easements along the boardwalk trail and the McCormick Ranch Road trail, from Elk to the McCormick Ranch bridge. (McCormick Ranch

homeowners hold a private access easement that they would retain to access their properties via the private road.)

- The new alignment would entirely maintain existing regional trail connections, but no longer be subject to seasonal wildlife closures (as outlined in the Verzuh Ranch Annexation Agreement and that we intend to exercise moving forward).
- Winter nordic trails would not be impacted by the proposed trail realignment.

Trail realignment would present several benefits for the community:

- A safer route to US Forest Service land (getting to Tony's trail), that doesn't involve crossing cattle guards or interacting with cars and livestock.
- The potential for a new connection from Town Ranch to the Rec Path.
- A more practical and accessible route for the Town perimeter trail.
- A more efficient and impactful set of locations from which to conduct stewardship and education.
- A more productive and unfragmented bird and wildlife habitat.
- A diverse and highly functioning wetland that is protected from degradation.

Partners and Stakeholders:

We are fortunate to have partners working with us on this project whose shared vision and missions align with current science and research, as well as adaptive stewardship and holistic management practices.

Western Colorado University is conducting a multi-year survey on the private open space to document nesting season and the impacts of human activity on wildlife and habitat. The survey will also inform appropriate seasonal closure dates. The Crested Butte Land Trust and the Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association have also helped guide the trail realignment location details. High Country Conservation Advocates is particularly interested in seeing recreation balanced with protection of this landscape, as this type of habitat and the ecosystem services provided by it are an essential part of a resilient and sustainable Upper Gunnison Basin.

These quotes from our partners and other supporters illustrate scientific, organizational, and grassroots support for the realignment opportunity.

“While Crested Butte is surrounded by seemingly limitless public lands, healthy and relatively intact wetlands spreading across valley floors are much rarer.”

“The Verzuh Ranch also represents a strategic conservation property that could link to adjacent properties to expand the significant preservation of Crested Butte's wetland resources.”

“This is a unique parcel of land being right on the edge of Town, yet still provides opportunities for ecological, agricultural, educational, aesthetic, and recreational values. These values are not entirely compatible. However, windows of opportunities exist for all of them to be maintained and in many cases, improved.”

“As Crested Butte continues to grow and change, maintaining essential wildlife habitat will be critical.”

“Functioning wetlands have been degraded throughout the valley bottoms of the Upper Gunnison Basin and opportunities to restore them are limited.”

“The scientific literature clearly connects human presence, activity, and disturbance to reduced avian use of wetlands across the globe.”

“Uninformed recreation use is currently the greatest threat to the core pillars of our mission, our community’s scenic vistas, recreation access, wildlife habitat, and working ranches.”

“The human activities that tend to have the greatest impact ... fast, unpredictable, and loud events. Running, children, and dogs have been identified by numerous researchers to cause significant impacts to birds. Many research studies demonstrated that humans on bikes or afoot pose a greater disturbance threat to wetland birds than automobiles.”

“Clearly there needs to be a spatial and or temporal separation of trails and trail use from avian foraging, nesting, and molting sites.”

“Thank you for fighting for what's important!”

“More and more we are finding the need to embrace multiple benefit management systems that maximize the services gained on our available open space as our demands on these resources continue to increase.”

“I welcome the Town of Crested Butte to join in the collaborative effort to extend the potential benefits of this treasured property.”

“...the Martens have identified and proposed a win-win solution that appropriately balances the ecological aspects of the property with other important agricultural and recreational goals.”

“I’m so glad we will have another way to access Tony’s without going across the death cattle guard!”

“Thanks so much for your continued efforts to bring the highest level of functionality to this system. It is super exciting out there and I am honored to be working with you.”

“Landowners are watching how this community responds to recreation and its impacts and many are reticent to pursue conservation if they do not trust that conservation values they hold dear will be protected in perpetuity.”

Context and Background:

When Verzuh Ranch was annexed in 2000, the Town and the developer had the foresight to provide for public access across the development by dedicating public trail easements. The resulting approval documentation protects the natural state of the property by prohibiting dogs and motor vehicles as well as allows for closure of the trails during the nesting season of migratory birds. It is our intent to more regularly invoke these protections going forward.

The annexation agreement does not distinguish among trail routes with regard to seasonal wildlife closures. Rather, the agreement expressly allows for closure for the nesting season of all trail use through the Verzuh Ranch property, including not only the boardwalk, but also the trail on McCormick Ranch Road, and the Rec Path. However, we do not view a comprehensive seasonal closure of all public recreational trail use as being a balanced solution or a way to build a collaborative relationship with the Town or other community stakeholders at this point. Rather, we wish to explore the proposed public trail modifications.

The Verzuh Ranch Annexation Agreement places significant emphasis on protecting the undeveloped land. Further still, the land conservation covenant for the Verzuh Ranch Private Open Space prioritizes ecological protections. Our proposal is consistent with:

- Crested Butte Town Code Section 17-8-60 (Wildlife Habitat)
- Crested Butte Town Code Section 17-8-90 (Wetland and other water feature buffers)
- Verzuh Ranch Annexation Agreement, paragraph 6.6.d
- Verzuh Private Open Space Land Conservation Covenant Recitals b, c, d, e, f, and g
- Town of Crested Butte climate action goals

Our goals for the Verzuh Ranch Private Open Space are also consistent with these agreements, covenant, and codes. Goals include, but are not limited to:

- restoring the historic riparian area and improving wetlands habitat that will improve water quality in the Slate River Valley;
- improving irrigation efficiency to reduce demands on Coal Creek water supplies;
- protecting habitat for wetland and other migratory birds as well as wildlife,
- implementing sustainable grazing methods that build healthy soil that in turn sequesters carbon and requires less irrigation water;
- improving recreational access in order to eliminate the need for seasonal closures for nesting season and to minimize unnecessary impacts to wildlife and the natural setting; and,
- restoring the riverbanks along the Slate River at the Rec Path Bridge and adding access infrastructure that protects the banks from future damage.

In closing, there are many ways that the Verzuh Ranch Private Open Space intersects with the Town of CB and its basic services. A collaborative and constructive partnership with us stands to benefit current and future citizens of Crested Butte. Our family has continuously owned land in the Upper Gunnison Basin since arriving in the valley in the 1880s. We have a long family history in Colorado of ranching, protecting land, engaging with communities, and being creative partners.

We would ask for your support and Town staff's further engagement in this process in the hope of achieving shared goals. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Ryan and Wynn Martens
Sheep Mountain Partners, LLC

Attachments:

- Map of proposed changes developed by Town Staff in May 2019
- Letters of Support:
 - Western Colorado University
 - Crested Butte Land Trust
 - High Country Conservation Advocates
 - Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association
 - US Department of the Interior Fish & Wildlife Service
 - US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Trout Unlimited, Upper Gunnison

Cc: Pat Magee, Western Colorado University
Noel Durant and Jake Jones, CBLT
Brett Henderson and Matt Reed, HCCA
Dave Ochs, CBMA
Dan Olson, NRCS
Brandon Miller, USFWS
Jesse Kruthaupt, Trout Unlimited
Mark Hamilton, Holland and Hart
Jeff Serra and Kirsten Tollefson
Holly Conn, Mountain Roots Food Project
Christie Hicks, Crested Butte Nordic
Ben and Janae Pritchett, Colorado Backcountry
Amy Nolan, Crested Butte Devo
Kelli and Bill Parker, Parker Pastures



Wildlife and Conservation Biology

PHONE | 970.943.7121

EMAIL | pmagee@western.edu

3 June 2020

Crested Butte Town Council
P.O. Box 39
Crested Butte, CO 81224

RE: Verzuh Ranch Wetlands

To Crested Butte Town Council,

I am writing to share my interest in and support of the wetlands and conservation activities on the Verzuh Ranch in Crested Butte, Colorado. Many partners have taken an interest in the conservation of these wetlands because of their high values associated with hydrological, ecological and sociological functions and values. In particular, these wetlands have great value to a variety of waterbird species that potentially occupy this landscape during migration, breeding and molting events in their annual cycle. These bird populations depend on relatively undisturbed habitat to thrive and successfully complete their life cycle.

The scientific literature clearly connects human presence, activity and disturbance to reduced avian use of wetlands across the globe. In 2000, Sinnott reviewed 74 scientific papers on effects of human recreational activities on waterbirds, and concluded, "enhancing access of humans and their pets is likely to have significant adverse effects on bird populations". Borgman in 2010 reviewed 50 scientific papers, 86% of which reported negative impacts of human recreational activities on wetland birds. The types of impacts to waterbirds include displacement to distant and often sub-optimal habitats, interruption of activity patterns (particularly feeding), significant increases in birds taking flight in response to disturbance, abandonment of broods by adult birds (often temporarily making the chicks highly susceptible to predation, especially for ground nesting species), nest abandonment (up to 60% of nests of mallards), direct mortality of birds due to dogs, and significantly increased energy expenditures.

The human activities that tend to have greatest impact on ducks, shorebirds and allies include fast, unpredictable, and loud events. Running, children, and dogs have been identified by numerous researchers to cause significant impacts to birds. Many research studies demonstrated that humans on bikes and foot pose a greater disturbance threat to wetland birds than automobiles. Universally, researchers recommend significant spatial buffers (100-250 meters) between human presence/activity and avian habitat. The clear conclusion from hundreds of scientific publications summarized is that human recreational activities are mostly incompatible with bird occupancy and productivity.

I am a wildlife biologist at Western Colorado University and have studied birds for 30 years. Currently my graduate student is conducting bird surveys for Wynn and Ryan Martens to determine



Wildlife and Conservation Biology

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species composition and phenology of life cycle events. The landowners of Verzuh Ranch are equally passionate about the cause of conservation and being good neighbors. They have worked collaboratively, invested funds, and dedicated much time into thinking creatively about ways to provide recreational access and simultaneously provide effective refuge for wetland birds. Clearly, there needs to be a spatial and/or temporal separation of trails and trail use from avian foraging, nesting and molting sites. When a bird takes flight it expends over 12X its basal metabolic rate and this high level of energy expenditure, along with increased stress and greater susceptibility to predation, make human recreational activities cause otherwise productive habitat to be dysfunctional. Over the years, human activities have spread farther into existing habitats and bird populations have suffered. In fact, present day bird populations may seem relatively stable compared to their status only ten years ago, but, the longer view often reveals a dramatic decline in birds and breaking the stability illusion. Many populations are dying from a thousand cuts.

The Crested Butte community has a strong land and conservation ethic and the Verzuh Ranch is a key property that should be conserved for its ecological values. The Verzuh Ranch also represents a strategic conservation property that could link to adjacent properties to expand the significant preservation of Crested Butte's wetland resources. The Martens have purchased this land to protect its ecological values for society's benefit. The protected land itself is only part of the solution. The land also must be managed appropriately to retain or restore its habitat values to numerous wetland bird species. While restricting pedestrians, bicycles, and dogs from accessing the Verzuh Ranch open space would provide the most protection of critical wetland habitat areas, either seasonally or altogether, another option that would preserve public recreational access but provide better protection of ecological resources would be to relocate the route that is presently used by pedestrians, bicycles and dogs to get across the open space from where it is now (the existing McCormick Ranch vehicular access road) to a new trail alignment along the northern edge of the open space where it would not traverse right through critical habitat.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the importance of the Verzuh Ranch wetlands to waterbirds. We will have a compiled list of species that used the property in 2020 later this year and would be happy to share our results with the council. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Magee".

Patrick Magee!

Assistant Professor of Wildlife and Conservation Biology

July 9, 2020

Subject: Verzuh Trail Easement Modification



To Whom It May Concern:

When it comes to trail access, recreation opportunities, land stewardship, and conservation opportunities, CBMBA is always glad to have a seat at the table. We have met with the Martens Family/Sheep Mountain Partners in regards to the Verzuh Ranch Trail Easement, and we appreciate their desire to continue trail and public access through the Verzuh/McCormick Ranch.

User experiences, sustainable access, and well-planned trail and recreation infrastructure are important to the Crested Butte community. Tony's Trail provides access to the Upper Loop trail network, and without that access, impacts to outlying trailheads would increase, and there would be less opportunity to access public lands directly from Town.

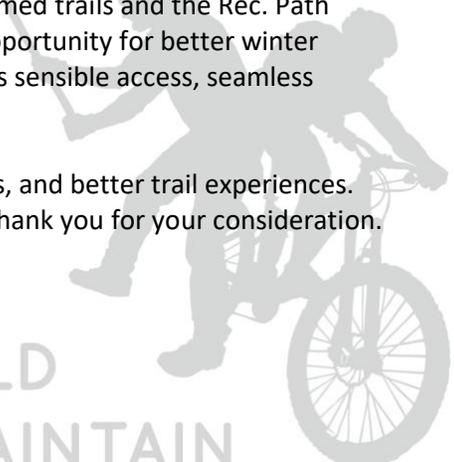
The proposed singletrack trail at the Rec. Path Bridge to the McCormick Ranch Bridge along the south side of the Slate River would allow better access to Tony's Trail. This proposed trail starts and finishes at an existing impacted recreation area, the well-used and accessible Rec. Path, providing better network and system connections. It also consolidates recreation impacts by keeping users to just one end of the Verzuh Ranch Open Space. In addition, riding directly from the Town of Crested Butte on singletrack to public lands is one of many amenities that allows our recreation-based community to thrive.

CBMBA supports the proposed 10' wide easement along the 9th Street alley, as winter trails are an important component of CBMBA's advocacy efforts. We appreciate the excellent work that CB Nordic provides the community with not only world class Nordic Trails, but also trail connectivity. Fat biking continues to increase in popularity, and provides another form of winter recreation, a commuting option, and way to access public lands in the winter. In the past, fat bikes have been allowed on the Town Ranch groomed trails and the Rec. Path groomed trail, but not allowed on the groomed connection in between. This opportunity for better winter connectivity, in addition to a better continuation of the Rec. Path itself, provides sensible access, seamless connectivity, and encourages proper behavior and use.

We appreciate the Martens' proposal for sustainable access, logical connections, and better trail experiences. We hope that common ground can be found for mutual benefit of all parties. Thank you for your consideration.

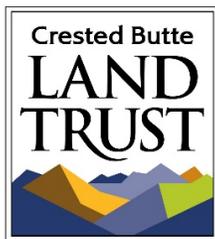
Sincerely,

The Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association Board of Directors



RIDE
BUILD
MAINTAIN

A large, light gray watermark logo is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page. It features a silhouette of a person riding a mountain bike. To the left of the silhouette, the words "RIDE", "BUILD", and "MAINTAIN" are stacked vertically in a bold, sans-serif font.



22 June 2020

Crested Butte Town Council
P.O. Box 39
Crested Butte, CO 81224

RE: New Tony's Connector Trail
To the Crested Butte Town Council,

Over the past few years, the Crested Butte community and the conserved lands of the Crested Butte Land Trust have experienced a significant growth in recreation. As a core component of our tourism-based economy, it has been encouraging to see that there are many who are willing to make the trek to Crested Butte to enjoy what this place offers, but this increased use does come at a cost.

Uninformed recreation use is currently the greatest threat to the core pillars of our mission, our community's scenic vistas, recreation access, wildlife habitat, and working ranches. To respond to this threat, the Land Trust has adapted its management of recreation, investing heavily in community driven solutions in partnership with residents, local municipalities, and fellow non-profit organizations who are aligned in support of more intentional approaches to guide wise use of our rivers and trails.

The approach that is currently working in land conservation is multi-faceted. Local partners and the community are asked to provide their feedback on the current conditions, the Land Trust and project partners take this information and plan out how to address the present issues. The Land Trust and our partners have found that a combination of intentional design of trail access points with consistent signage, necessary infrastructure such as parking boundaries and bathrooms provide the recreating public with a baseline understanding of how to recreate responsibly. When these elements of the built environment are paired with a human presence who can intercede when irresponsible behavior is occurring, we see a change in behavior.

The new connector trail to Tony's from the Rec Path Bridge provides a strong starting point to guide the recreating public on how to responsibly use one of our community's most cherished public accesses. Taking a page from the National Park Service's playbook on managing people on conserved lands, a well-designed point of departure with an interpretive human presence can protect the sensitive natural resources that lie ahead. The Verzuh Ranch and lands beyond are critically important not just for access to Tony's, but for the future of open space conservation. Landowners are watching how this community responds to recreation and its impacts and many are reticent to pursue a conservation if they do not trust that the conservation values they hold dear will be protected in perpetuity.

The Crested Butte Land Trust supports this new community connection to Tony's Trail. This project is a needed adaptive step that will pay dividends for future generations. If we are not intentional now in changing recreating behaviors, we will lose the character of our valley, its wild nature and working lands that make this place what it is. The Land Trust hopes that the Crested Butte Town Council will support making an intentional choice to guide recreation to the benefit of what we all know and love here. With gratitude,

Noel Durant
Executive Director

Preserving the present for the future

P.O. Box 2224 Crested Butte, Colorado 81224 970-349-1206 cblandtrust.org





July 14, 2020

Town of Crested Butte
507 Maroon Ave
Crested Butte, CO 81224

RE: Verzuh Trail Easement Modification

Dear Dara,

High Country Conservation Advocates (HCCA) supports the efforts of the Martens family to better emphasize the ecological aspects of the Verzuh Ranch Private Open Space, while sustaining important recreational use and public access. HCCA's mission is to protect the health and natural beauty of the lands, rivers, and wildlife in and around Gunnison County now and for future generations. We believe that the goals identified by the Martens for their open space property are very much in line with HCCA's mission.

The wetlands in and around the Verzuh Ranch Private Open Space are of tremendous ecological importance. While Crested Butte is surrounded by seemingly limitless public lands, healthy and relatively intact wetlands spreading across valley floors are much rarer. As Crested Butte continues to grow and change, maintaining essential wildlife habitat will be critical. The Verzuh Ranch contains that essential wildlife habitat, and the Martens are caring, engaged, and proactive stewards of that resource. Their proposal for this property ensures that this resource will be safeguarded in perpetuity, while anticipating and adapting to future needs and conditions.

In addition to our many years of wildlife and wildlands advocacy, HCCA also supports sustainable recreation in the community. The Martens' proposal to identify an alternate route for public access that would alleviate impacts to nesting birds and allow bank restoration and recovery of the Slate River is a win-win. Their proposal would allow continued recreation access, while emphasizing the long-term health and sustainability of the wetlands and wetland-dependent wildlife. In fact, recreational access would be improved by not being restricted by seasonal closures for nesting season.

In conclusion, HCCA believes that the Martens have identified and proposed a win-win solution that appropriately balances the ecological aspects of the property with other important agricultural and recreational goals. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding HCCA's support of this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett Henderson".

Brett Henderson
Executive Director
High Country Conservation Advocates

United States Department of Agriculture



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Gunnison Service Center
216 North Colorado Street
Gunnison, CO 81230
(970) 707-3045

May 29, 2020

Town of Crested Butte
P.O. Box 39
Crested Butte, CO 81224

To whom it may concern,

A collaborative conservation effort is underway on the Verzuh Ranch in Crested Butte involving the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, Western Colorado University, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Sheep Mountain Partners LLC – property owners. This developing collaborative project aims to improve wetland functions and wildlife habitat. Sustainable agricultural use will be promoted in a way that is compatible these goals. This effort supports various ecosystem services by planning of a number of proven conservation practices. Functioning wetlands have been degraded throughout the valley bottoms of the Upper Gunnison Basin and opportunities to restore them are limited. Wetlands provide habitat for a variety of wildlife species and are closely linked to residents such as waterfowl, neotropical birds, and amphibians. Wetlands are also important for improving stream health as they act as a storage and filtration system to adjacent streams and open water.

This is a unique parcel of land being right on the edge of town, yet still provides opportunities for ecological, agricultural, educational, aesthetic, and recreational values. These values are not entirely compatible. However, windows of opportunities exist for all of them to be maintained and, in many cases, improved. As wildlife habitat and wetland functions are improved, more opportunities will exist for certain species to utilize the property. Since nesting season is a vulnerable time for many species, perhaps there is an opportunity to limit the disturbance to wildlife that we all enjoy watching and listening to. If recreation were limited, perhaps the chance to educate the community about wetland functions and their importance would be added. More and more we are finding the need to embrace multiple benefit management systems that maximize the services gained on our available open space as our demands on these resources continue to increase. I welcome the Town of Crested Butte to join in the collaborative effort to extend the potential benefits of this treasured property. The more we can discuss and understand what values are the most important to community stakeholders, the more we are able to find creative ways in which we can help with securing a diversity of values for the future.

Perhaps some compromise might bring about a newly recognized importance of this property to the residents and visitors of Crested Butte. Thank you for your consideration and support in making this a better place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Olson'.

Daniel Olson – NRCS Resource Conservationist

USDA is an Equal Opportunity provider, employer, and lender.



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
134 Union Blvd
Lakewood, Colorado 80228



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R6

2 June 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Colorado Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (CO PFW) is working with Verzuh Ranch (Sheep Mountain Partners LLC) in Crested Butte through a partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Trout Unlimited and Western Colorado University to improve flood-irrigated working wet meadows that create a win-win scenario for both sustainable agriculture and wetland wildlife habitat.

This ongoing partnership project has been a great opportunity to demonstrate conservation practices that provide public benefits in a highly visible location. Specifically, CO PFW has worked with the Landowner to restore a wetland on the property that was historically drained as the result of a prior land use, as well as improve habitat diversity of the property by creating a low-head levee that provides seasonal shallow water habitat. These projects in conjunction with planned irrigation infrastructure improvements attracts a great number of migratory nesting birds to the site, including Sora, Wilson's Snipe, Wilson's Phalarope, Mallard, Green-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Gadwall, Red-winged Blackbird and many others.

It is our understanding that Verzuh Ranch would like to relocate public access to a portion of the property that will mitigate impacts identified by the landowner to the wetlands while still meeting the needs of the public. While CO PFW fully supports public access and recreation, we agree that relocating public access will reduce the potential for disturbance to nesting birds and the investments made by the landowner and project partners to this property.

If you have further questions about the ecology of the site or would like to discuss ways we can work together to satisfy the interests of stakeholders, please contact me by email: brandon_miller@fws.gov or by phone: 970-615-0119.

Sincerely,

Brandon Miller
Private Lands Biologist
Colorado Partners for Fish and Wildlife

INTERIOR REGION 5
MISSOURI BASIN

KANSAS, MONTANA*, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA,
SOUTH DAKOTA

*PARTIAL

INTERIOR REGION 7
UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN

COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, UTAH, WYOMING

Jesse Kruthaupt

June 15, 2020
Town of Crested Butte
507 Maroon Ave
Crested Butte, CO 81224

RE: Ecological Values on Verzuh Ranch

Dear Dara,

Trout Unlimited (TU) is a non-profit, coldwater fisheries conservation organization with the mission to reconnect, protect, and sustain coldwater fisheries across the United States. TU has a robust membership in the Gunnison Valley who are dedicated to the ongoing health of the Gunnison River and its tributaries.

In my role as a National TU employee I focus on working with private landowners and agricultural producers to develop management practices that balance watershed health, ecological health, and agricultural productivity. In that context, I have worked with Wynn and Ryan to evaluate options to improve irrigation water management, grazing management, wetland habitat enhancement, and stream bank restoration on the Verzuh Ranch.

The improvements Wynn and Ryan have planned on the Verzuh Ranch will clearly provide ecological benefits on the property and the Slate River. However, managing future uses on the property will be key to how these ecological benefits are realized. Balancing the timing of uses like livestock grazing and recreational access to align with seasonal cycles is a logical solution that will allow wildlife, livestock, and recreational uses on the property. This approach is often used by resource managers to manage multiple uses while sustaining ecological values.

Further, I understand Wynn and Ryan have proposed an alternate route for public access that would alleviate impacts to nesting birds and allow bank restoration and recovery of the Slate River near the rec path bridge. TU is optimistic that Wynn and Ryan's proposal will allow continued access, protect the values they hold for Verzuh Ranch, and allow the section of deteriorated bank near the rec path bridge to recover.

Thank you for taking these points into consideration as you continue to work with Wynn and Ryan to develop the appropriate solutions to sustainably manage the Verzuh property. If I can be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to via phone or email.

Sincerely,

Jesse Kruthaupt
Trout Unlimited, Upper Gunnison Project Manager
970-209-0976
jesse.kruthaupt@tu.org

MINUTES
Town of Crested Butte
Regular Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 5:31PM.

Council Members Present: Will Dujardin, Candice Bradley, Chris Haver, Mallika Magner, Laura Mitchell, and Mona Merrill

Mitchell connected to the meeting during Executive Session. She voted on all of the motions after approval of the agenda and the motion to go into Executive Session.

Staff Present: Town Attorney Barbara Green, Town Manager Dara MacDonald, Community Development Director Troy Russ, and Town Clerk Lynelle Stanford

Town Attorney John Sullivan, Parks and Recreation Director Janna Hansen, Chief Marshal Mike Reily, Public Works Director Shea Earley, and Town Planner I Mel Yemma (for part of the meeting)

Everyone connected and participated in the meeting via Zoom. Schmidt and Stanford were present in Council Chambers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Magner moved and Dujardin seconded a motion to approve the agenda. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes,” except for Mitchell, who was not yet present. **Motion passed unanimously.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Schmidt read the reason for Executive Session: 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. Section 24-6-402(4)(e) regarding the potential transfer of TP-1 to CBFPD.

Haver moved and Dujardin seconded a motion to go into Executive Session for that reason. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes,” except for Mitchell, who was not yet present. **Motion passed unanimously.**

The Council went into Executive Session at 5:35PM. The Council returned to open meeting at 6:15PM. Mayor Schmidt made the required announcement upon returning to open meeting.

JOINT DISCUSSION WITH CBFPD BOARD

Jack Dietrich, Chairman of the Crested Butte Fire Protection District Board of Directors, stated they were looking to build a new fire station. He pointed out they would be abandoning downtown Crested Butte real estate. He encouraged the Town to deed the property (in TP-1) to the Fire District. They were aware of the limitations on the property. Dietrich acknowledged they had comparisons to other pieces of property.

Russ brought the discussion around to timing related to the site. Dietrich reported the Fire District was looking at a bond question for 2021. Ken Lodovico, Board Member, affirmed they were looking for the deed in order to move forward. Dietrich identified the Fire District had a 55-year lease on Station One. Schmidt recognized Town had a different idea of what the property was worth. Schmidt confirmed the property would be located in Town through the annexation. MacDonald provided background on the property related to the annexation and that Town's initial priority at the beginning was for Search and Rescue.

The Fire Protection District Board thought all along they were getting this piece of property. MacDonald stated the reverter clause was part of the conversation from the beginning. The discussion became focused on the value of the land. MacDonald acknowledged the property was a valuable asset of the Town's. Russ said the Town could go down the appraisal path. Dietrich thought the Fire District was giving up a lot with Station One. Lodovico suggested they have an appraisal and go from there. Green recognized the entities needed to agree on the appraiser. Eric Tunkey, Secretary of the Fire Protection District Board, felt Town was treating this transaction as a business transaction. Russ clarified the reasoning behind the reverter clause and price range. Dujardin said the bottom line was the value of land was really high. The Council was motivated to find the best solution for the community. Lodovico reiterated that they should move forward with an appraisal.

Schmidt asked whether the Council was agreeable to an appraisal and having the two staffs negotiate. Mitchell questioned which entity would cover the appraisal. Schmidt was okay with splitting the appraisal, and no one voiced disagreement. Russ and MacDonald would work with the Fire District on behalf of the Town.

CONSENT AGENDA

1) August 17, 2020 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes.

Dujardin moved and Magner seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kent Cowherd

- He recommended that the new Fire Station building include a community room and public restrooms.
- He hoped the Town and Fire Department could resolve the land discussion.

Kami Garvey - 717 Butte Avenue

- She lives 100 meters from the location of the new cell tower.
- She asked why residents were not notified until after the vote about the location of the tower.
- She had opposition to the distance and the location of the tower.
- She was disappointed.

STAFF UPDATES

- MacDonald pointed out the broadband question from her staff report that could be discussed under Other Business, as it related to the 2021 budget.
- MacDonald said that Staff would be participating in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training, and the Council members were welcome to join.
- Schmidt asked about the fall sports update from Parks and Rec. MacDonald explained they were following County protocols.
- Schmidt questioned the plan for Vinotok, which Stanford summarized from their proposal. The formal application had not been submitted. Dujardin affirmed there were no in-person events. He elaborated upon plans.
- Schmidt noticed the update from Finance regarding funds from the CARES Act.

TAPP PRESENTATION BY JOHN NORTON

Norton was unable to connect to the meeting due to a power outage.

OLD BUSINESS

1) Discussion on the Duration of the Elk Avenue Mandatory Mask Zone.

MacDonald reminded the Council that the health order enacting the mask requirement was set to expire on September 30th. The Council could extend the order or allow it to expire. She thought it would be confusing to lift the enactments and then reinstate them. She was looking for direction from the Council regarding the mask requirement for pedestrians on Elk Avenue. Haver did not see a big negative for continuing the order.

Mitchell moved and Magner seconded a motion to direct the Town Manager to extend the public health order requiring pedestrians to wear face coverings on a portion of Elk Avenue and its side streets until such time as the order is repealed. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

LEGAL MATTERS

Green told Council the attorneys were spending time on dealing with staff issues and the items in front of Council today.

The rule making on the Oil and Gas Commission was going through. It was going well, but it was never ending.

Green, responding to Schmidt's question regarding Mt. Emmons, informed the Council they were focusing on the water quality piece. MacDonald said they would present to the Council after they wrapped up the remediation work. Green elaborated that the mining company said the reclamation was going really well. They were still interested in a land exchange, and the Forest Service was open to it.

OTHER BUSINESS

Schmidt brought up the broadband question from the Manager's Report. MacDonald reminded the Council that Region 10 had applied for a DOLA grant, and that grant was really successful. The grant was about to expire. A portion of the grant was to match the cost of a carrier neutral location. She explained what a carrier neutral location was. There was a local match required. She reviewed cost breakdowns to entities, including the Town matching about \$75,000, in addition to the \$35,000 needed to construct the carrier neutral location. Mt. Crested Butte was at the table. MacDonald expected that the entities could close the funding gap. She wanted to know whether the Council was interested in moving ahead. If so, the funds would be included in the 2021 budget. No one on the Council voiced disagreement.

COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMITTEE UPDATES

Mona Merrill

- She attended the STOR meeting.
 - A lot of the meeting was presenting on backcountry expectations for this winter.
 - They were discussing having a board at the entrance to Town reflecting the avalanche danger.
 - MacDonald stated that Hedda Peterson from Met Rec was involved. Peterson would be coming to the Council to ask to leverage Town money with Met Rec money.
 - Merrill appreciated they were already being proactive.
 - Schmidt was aware of CDOT funds available for trail work.

Laura Mitchell

- She attended Chris Larsen's retirement so-called party.

Mallika Magner

- The Valley Housing Fund was in the process of creating a statement in regards to doing their part to end racial inequality and injustice.

Candice Bradley

- She attended one of the Crested Butte Marshals' trainings. The training covered information about victims' rights and resources in the valley.

- The Marshals held trainings each month, and she encouraged the Council members to attend.

Will Dujardin

- He had Black Lives Matters meetings. He thanked Yemma and MacDonald and other citizens for getting involved.
- The EOC meetings were moving to one day a week on Thursdays. He recognized it could be tough for Gunnison County to make COVID thresholds due to the population.
- The Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District affirmed the area was still in a drought despite the snow.
- There were meetings about the crises response in the community. Kari Commerford suggested municipalities prioritize mental health in their plans. It seemed the meetings would keep going.
- He was part of a group that met with Senator Bennet at Rainbow Park.
- He attended the intergovernmental dinner. Affordable housing was still a big issue.
- He met with Julie McCluskie and Barbara McLachlan. They wanted to check in on issues.

Jim Schmidt

- The meeting with Senator Bennet went on for longer than planned.
- He appreciated the intergovernmental meeting. He took away that the housing problem was still large. The Garden Walk should be open sometime in the spring. Paintbrush would be ready in more like a year from now.
- The Mayor/Managers meeting was hosted by the school district. They had a detailed report on how the school would deal with COVID.
- He attended a Region 10 Zoom meeting.
 - They talked about broadband.
 - The Little Blue Canyon project would start in February. There would be delays through February and March and major delays thereafter. Marlene Crosby and he brought up Kebler many times, to which the response was wishing them good luck.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Black Lives Matter Committee Recommendations.

Yemma reported on the inception of the Crested Butte Black Lives Matter Committee, beginning with direction from the Council from the work session. The first meeting was spent discussing the mission. She explained that each committee member was assigned to a subcommittee. Yemma listed the five subcommittees. She named the leaders of the subcommittees and briefly described each subcommittee.

Yemma reviewed the recommendations to the Council from the committee, starting with continuing to convene the committee. Yemma pointed out a proposal in the packet from

the REAL consultants. The second recommendation was for the Council to endorse the action items of the subcommittees. The third recommendation was for the Town Council to make a formal proclamation against and condemning racism. The fourth recommendation was to paint Black Lives Matter on Elk Avenue.

Schmidt opened the meeting to public comment.

Chloe Bowman

- They were seeking the Town to really condemn racism and show support of a community facing a lot of trauma.
- They were asking the Town to acknowledge what was happening outside of the bubble.

Karen Hoskin

- It was hard and exhausting for people of color.
- Her goals were to welcome and amplify their voices.
- It was important to back up and listen.
- She emphasized the unification that was taking place.
- There was an opportunity to do beautiful things together as a community.

Peter Viets

- He voiced his support for painting Black Lives Matter on Elk.

Laura Yale

- She supported some form of public expression of Black Lives Matter.
- The statement was not political; it was communal.

Susan Sweetra - Lives on Belleview Avenue

- The work that was beginning sounded fabulous.
- She was concerned about city services that had not been provided to people, particularly on the east side of town, due to not having money.
- She would much rather see an expenditure of money for a substantive thing.

Elana Hirschkatz

- She supported Chloe and Karen.
- Painting Black Lives Matter on Elk is a step toward proving Town is inclusive.
- She did not think it was unfair to ask for money for this.

Kelly Jo Clark - Pastor at the Union Congregational Church

- She agreed with Karen and Laura, that it was a human rights issue.
- What was being put forth for the mural was absolutely fabulous from a faith perspective.

Malia Jones - 701 Red Lady

- She supported painting Black Lives Matter on Elk Avenue.

- Through art was the Crested Butte way.
- It was a great way to set Crested Butte apart.

Arvin Ramgoolam - 121 Packer Way and Co-owner of Townie Books/Rumors Coffee and Tea House

- He referred to his letter that he sent to the Council.
- They were showing the identity of the Town that had been in flux.
- It was a great thing to underline who we were and what we value in the community.

Chase Rockwell - 602 Butte

- If it came down to financing, he would help with raising funds.

Mary Boddington

- She agreed that this was a way as a community to express ourselves.
- It could be figured out financially.

Betty Sue Gurk - 413 2nd Street

- She supported what the subcommittees brought to the Council and painting Black Lives Matter on Elk Avenue.

Sooner McKay

- She was in full support of painting Black Lives Matter on Elk Avenue.

Merrill questioned the timeline and the inception of the committee. Merrill did not question that Crested Butte wanted to be open to everybody. She thought there was more to gain, including pulling in the community members who might not be aware. She felt like this was a difficult subject, and it was quick for her to absorb. Magner agreed with what all of the speakers had said. The identity of the Town was at stake. She was proud of the Council and the Staff for making this a priority. Mitchell acknowledged most respondents wanted to paint the street. She thought a long-term art installation would be long lasting and have a larger impact. She would support painting the street. She thought messaging as people were coming into Town was important. Mitchell was persuaded by the multitude of letters today. Haver appreciated the sentiment. He wanted to make sure they were not skipping over anything. He asked if they could start working on the formal proclamation. Merrill reiterated she wanted to gain more awareness and knowledge. Mitchell said they needed more time to process and digest where they were going. Haver wanted to show his support for specific goals from the subcommittees. The education piece was huge. He cited examples of proposed actions that stood out to him. He wanted to move forward on a lot of things. Magner agreed that it would be awesome for the Council to draft a strong proclamation that clearly stated their support and intent to make this community an anti-racist community. She recommended diversity training for the Council. Magner would like to see the committee and subcommittees be able to finish their work. She thought some of the proposals needed more discussion. Bradley recognized the community was in support of the actions. She acknowledged that a lot of people focused on the painting on Elk Avenue, but there were many great actions listed

that would make real change. Dujardin made observations regarding the letters that were sent. He saw that a lot of the community wanted the Council to take action. When they said they needed more time, they triggered community members with traumatic experiences. There was so much work. Schmidt was heartbroken that the country was going backwards. He thought they should proceed with the proclamation. He attempted to summarize that the Council should go forward with education and training and generally endorse action items, separating and specifically discussing the painting and uniforms. Merrill mentioned the idea of a retreat to help the Council understand how to continue.

The discussion became focused on the next two agenda items (painting on the street and the Marshals' uniforms) and the subcommittees' recommendations. Mitchell supported agenda item one (the committee and subcommittee recommendations) as it stood. Magner heard other great ideas that were worthy of consideration, such as an idea from the museum.

Dujardin moved and Haver seconded a motion to continue to convene the subcommittees and endorse them to continue to develop and refine these action items.

Suzanne Pierson

- She asked whether the Council could make a motion for a proclamation.
- It was not trivial to change the color of the Marshals' uniforms.
- She recommended options to get a top-notch training piece.

Zibula NuNu Tilton

- It was frustrating to be putting in all of this energy and then seeing it not go anywhere.
- She asked whether the Council could just make up their minds.
- They were being told again and again they had not done enough work.

Karen Hoskin

- They were talking about people dying.
- They were continuing the work and did not ask the Town to be in charge.
- She identified what actions the Town could do, which were a proclamation and painting on the street.

Ashley UpChurch - 526A Teocalli Road

- She urged the Council to make a motion approving the painting of Black Lives Matter on the street.
- It was time to stop dithering and standing with the status quo.
- There were enough committees.

Dujardin made a motion regarding a proclamation that he withdrew.

There was a roll call vote on Dujardin's motion that Haver seconded, to continue to convene the subcommittees and endorse them to continue to develop and refine these action items, with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

Dujardin moved and Bradley seconded a motion for the Crested Butte Town Council to make a formal proclamation against and condemning racism. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, "Yes." **Motion passed unanimously.**

2) Consider the Town of Crested Butte Painting the Message Black Lives Matter on Elk Avenue.

Schmidt pointed out this agenda item was not on the agenda published in the paper, although it was properly noticed, and that CB South lost power for a while. Merrill wanted to hear more and had more questions and concerns in order to make the right decision as a Town Council member. Haver identified controversy in the words. He thought they should use their own words and stand behind what they meant. Bradley was trying to honor the emails and voices they heard this evening. Mitchell supported the painting on Elk. She also hoped they could have a bus that would be painted and a permanent work of art in Town. Schmidt suggested a sign at the entrance to Town. He asked whether they considered other venues and whether this was the best and most effective. Dujardin recognized it was about the Council using its voice. Magner would love to see the Town make a statement in support of people of color. Her personal preference was for it not to be something on which people walked or drove. She would like to see Black Lives Matter emblazoned somewhere. Merrill felt they could do something that was better and bolder. Yemma clarified the sentiment on street painting that she took away from the meeting.

Mary Boddington

- This was not a one-time project.
- She wondered why it was even a question.
- They needed to be bold as a community.

Paige Rumery

- Their energy should be towards the community taking a strong front.
- They should be taking a worldwide voice.

Laura Yale

- She was on the community expressions subcommittee.
- Painting on the street was meaningful.

Ashley UpChurch

- Black Lives Matter was not a "red herring."
- Stay away from negative rhetoric.

Kyle Anderson - 506 5th Street

- He felt that there needed to continue to be movement.

- Painting Black Lives Matter was not the end of the fight.
- He begged the Council to really listen.

Olivia Haas

- They asked Black residents what they wanted to see in the community, and they wanted to see the street painted with Black Lives Matter.

Elana Hirschkatz

- She reminded the Council they were voted in to speak for the community. The community had spoken a lot and had not been listened to.

Bill Leer

- He was on the committee and lived part-time in Skyland.
- The spokesperson for his subcommittee was not on the call tonight.
- It seemed there was pressure to vote and an ultimatum to vote tonight.

Sooner McKay

- This request for a street mural was brought to the Council as an act of good faith moving forward.

The discussion focused on logistics for the painting, such as design. Green advised the Council that the Town exercise control over its own property. If the Council turned the public street into a forum, anyone could write anything on the street. Magner questioned the environmental impacts from the paint. Green explained that art could be done under the art in public places policy. Haver asked for clarity on the meaning of Black Lives Matter. He wanted to be clear they were saying what they meant by these words.

Bradley moved and Dujardin seconded a motion to paint Black Lives Matter on Elk Avenue at 3rd and Elk. A roll call vote was taken with all voting, “Yes.” **Motion passed unanimously.**

3) Consider Changes to Marshals’ Uniforms.

Agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

4) Update from Chief Marshal Mike Reily on Emergency Mental Health Services. Agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

5) Update on Town’s Fall/Winter Initiatives for COVID-19 Business Assistance Considerations (Tents).

Yemma explained they were thinking of ways to support restaurants through the fall and winter seasons. If directed by Council, Staff would waive the BOZAR requirement, in order to allow tents on private property. Yemma outlined other ideas that had been

discussed in the recovery group. In the short-term, Staff recommended they waive the requirements through the emergency order by the Town Manager. Schmidt clarified they were talking about parking spaces on private property. He had no problem with it. He knew that in Breckenridge they asked for an okay from the Fire District. Merrill suggested it might not be fair to all businesses. Russ said they were still working with the industry to find other ideas. Staff was looking at ways to be equitable to the other businesses. Merrill was in support of it. No one on the Council voiced opposition.

OTHER BUSINESS

Haver requested a retreat to discuss their role as Council. Magner voiced she was not in favor. Merrill said she was in favor, but the discussion did not proceed.

DISCUSSION OF SCHEDULING FUTURE WORK SESSION TOPICS AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

- Monday, September 21, 2020 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council
- Monday, October 5, 2020 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council
- Monday, October 19, 2020 - 6:00PM Work Session - 7:00PM Regular Council

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 11:02PM.

James A. Schmidt, Mayor

Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk (SEAL)



Staff Report

September 21, 2020

To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Mel Yemma, Planner I
Thru: Troy Russ, Community Development Director
Subject: **DOLA Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance Grant Application Official Action**

Summary: The Town of Crested Butte will be applying for funding assistance from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Energy and Mineral Impact Grant for funding assistance for energy efficiency improvements (lighting, building envelope, mechanical improvements) and two rooftop solar arrays on Town-owned buildings, as part of an Energy Performance Contract (EPC). The Town will be asking DOLA for \$300,000 in funding assistance to help offset the upfront capital contribution needed to make the EPC a reality. The total cost of the project is \$916,000. The Town would provide a \$73,000 contribution in 2021 through a capital budget allocation, and then would finance the remainder of the project (\$543,000) over a 15-year term, in which the guaranteed annual energy savings will pay for the upgrades through an EPC. This project would be the Town's first major step in implementing its Climate Action Plan (CAP), and will reduce the Town's municipal GHG emissions by 22% and annual energy usage by 20%.

Background: The 2019 CAP laid out goals, projects, and recommended policies in four primary categories: Building Energy Use, Renewable Energy, Transportation, and Waste. Simultaneously with developing the CAP, the Town worked with Johnson Controls, Inc. and the Colorado Energy Office through their EPC program on a comprehensive investment grade audit of all of the Town's facilities to identify energy efficiency and roof-top solar projects that would reduce the utility costs and GHG emissions of the Town. The intent of a proposed EPC project is to help the Town meet its short-term goal of reducing GHG emissions for the Town's operations, which is an important first step of working towards our community-wide goals. The Town has now completed the investment grade audit and after working through multiple scenarios, on August 4th Town Council gave direction to Town Staff to apply for a DOLA grant for funding assistance for a project that would include energy efficiency improvements of lighting, building envelope, and mechanical improvements on Town-owned buildings, as well as two rooftop solar arrays on the Fire Station and Marshals' Office. This project not only makes significant progress on the Town's CAP goals, but it is also financially sustainable in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will be making necessary infrastructure improvements to Town-own buildings, while having a minimal budget impact by utilizing an EPC, in which the project will mostly pay for itself through the Town's guaranteed energy cost savings.

Recommended Action: Staff recommends to approve Resolution No. 18, series 2020, a Resolution of the Town Council authorizing the Town of Crested Butte to apply for DOLA Energy and Mineral Impact Grant for the Town of Crested Butte Energy Performance Contract, as part of the consent agenda.

RESOLUTION NO. 18**SERIES 2020****RESOLUTION OF THE CRESTED BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL
AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE TO
APPLY FOR A STATE OF COLORADO, DEPARTMENT OF
LOCAL AFFAIRS ENERGY AND MINERAL IMPACT
PROGRAM GRANT FOR THE FUNDING FOR THE TOWN
OF CRESTED BUTTE ENERGY PERFORMANCE
CONTRACT**

WHEREAS, the Town of Crested Butte, Colorado (the "**Town**") is a home rule municipality duly and regularly organized and now validly existing as a body corporate and politic under and by virtue of the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado, Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) has available grant funding for the implementation of the Town's specific Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions reduction measures identified through the recent energy audit created in conjunction with the Colorado Energy Office; and

WHEREAS, DOLA is responsible for the disbursement of such funding to successful applicants; and

WHEREAS, the Town staff desires to apply for grant funding for the purpose of helping finance and implement energy efficiency and rooftop solar installations on Town-owned facilities through an Energy Performance Contract and as the first major implementation step of the Town's Climate Action Plan, and for such reason, recommends that the Town apply for such grant funding; and

WHEREAS, a financial commitment from the Town improves competitiveness of the grant application; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to apply for such grant funding from DOLA, and hereby instructs the Town staff to so apply in order to enable the reaching the Town's climate action goals; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council finds that it is in the best interest of the health, safety and general welfare of the citizens and visitors of Crested Butte for the Town to apply for the grant funding from DOLA for the purpose of implementing energy efficiency and rooftop solar installations through an Energy Performance Contract

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO, THAT:

1. **Findings.** The Town Council hereby finds that is in the best interest of the Town to apply for DOLA grant funding, with a Town contribution of \$73,000 from the 2021 Capital Budget and \$543,000 from Energy Performance Contracting financing, from DOLA’s Energy and Mineral Impact program for purposes of funding support for the Town’s Energy Performance Contract with Johnson Controls to implement energy efficiency and rooftop solar installations as a component of the Town’s Climate Action Plan.

2. **Authorization of Mayor.** Based on the foregoing findings, the Mayor is hereby authorized to apply for the grant funding with the Town’s financial commitment from DOLA’s Energy and Mineral Impact program. Should any formal contract be required for the receipt of such funds, such contract shall be delivered to the Town Council for approval upon recommendation therefore by the Town Manager.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED BEFORE THE TOWN COUNCIL THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2020.

TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO

By: _____
James A. Schmidt, Mayor

ATTEST

Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk

(SEAL)



**A PROCLAMATION OF THE CRESTED BUTTE TOWN COUNCIL
COMDEMNING RACISM AND COMMITTING TO BECOMING AN
ANTI-RACIST COMMUNITY**

September 21, 2020

WHEREAS, we stand against racism; and

WHEREAS, black lives matter to us; and

WHEREAS, we stand with all who raise their voices to condemn racism and inequality; and

WHEREAS, we encourage everyone to listen, learn, respect and stand alongside those who are standing for equality for everyone within our community, throughout the State of Colorado, our country and our world; and

WHEREAS, as an organization, the Town of Crested Butte prioritizes the importance of embracing and welcoming people of diverse backgrounds as a critical part of fostering a vibrant community; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the countless contributions of the black community to the academic, athletic, artistic, civic, and economic successes of the world as a whole must be recognized, supported, and applauded; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Crested Butte is committed to ensuring the right of every citizen to enjoy life, to experience equality, and to live free from discrimination in a more inclusive and just society

WHEREAS, the Crested Butte Town Council urges every sector of our society and community to condemn racism and immediately take steps to address, fund, and support areas that reduce the long term impact of racism - this includes reducing and eliminating preferential treatment for the majority while subjecting people of color to increased hardships.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE COLORADO HEREBY PROCLAIMS THAT;

the Town of Crested Butte is making a long-term commitment to listen, learn, reflect, reassess, openly converse and take action to address systemic racism, oppression, social injustice and inequity within the Crested Butte community and throughout the Gunnison Valley.

By: _____

James A Schmidt, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lynelle Stanford, Town Clerk



Memorandum

To: Town Council
From: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager
Subject: Manager's Report
Date: September 21, 2020

Town Manager

- 1) The MetRec Board has approved of a matching fund to assist with winter recreation initiatives such as expanding access to Nordic skiing and increasing avalanche risk awareness and backcountry stewardship education. MetRec approved the allocation of two MetRec dollars (up to \$30,000) for every dollar of matching funds. Expect a funding request from the Town on the October 5th agenda.

Public Works -

- 1) No updates

Marshals

- 1) Over the last month, several Council members have taken the Marshals Office up on our offer to hang with us on patrol or during training. In August, Candice attended Victim's Rights training delivered to both CB and Mt. CB officers. Not the most exciting training but she stuck with us and hopefully learned some information on services afforded to crime victims in Colorado.
- 2) Mallika took a ride with Pete during a night shift to get some insight into our daily operations and surely they had some entertaining conversations.
- 3) On September 16, Will and Dara attended rapid decision making response-to-resistance/de-escalation training and were bombarded with information over the four hours of training. We were pleased with Will's willingness to participate in several drills and officers were impressed with his responses. Thanks to all of you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to spend time with us.

Parks & Rec

- 1) Hockey Changing Rooms – Concrete block work is complete and steel work has begun. Project remains on budget and on schedule.

Community Development

- 1) No updates.

Town Clerk

- 1) Staff is working with King Systems for an estimate to modernize our sound and recording system in the Council Chambers to integrate with Zoom.
- 2) There may be a petitioners' committee formed for the Council to reconsider Ordinance No. 23, Series 2020, the ordinance related to the land lease with Verizon. The deadline for the formation of the committee is Friday, September 25.

Finance

- 1) IT Improvements in process:
 - Implementing a 24/7 help desk, working through Mitchell & Company
 - Installing new firewalls for improved security at Town Hall and Public Works
 - Installing server room batteries to help with backup and business continuity
 - Updating all computers to a current (supported) version of operating system
- 2) Finance process improvements in the works:
 - Automated check printing and mailing from Bank of the West. This in contrast to current process of ordering check stock, printing, signing and mailing from Town Hall. The new approach will streamline the process, cost less over time and reduce fraud potential.
 - Laser fiche process will be implemented for invoice routing, approvals and document retention. This will greatly improve related processes, especially with more and more Town Employees working remote.
 - A check reader and interface with Bank of the West will be installed so as to more quickly deposit checks and improve security.

Intergovernmental

Upcoming Meetings or Events

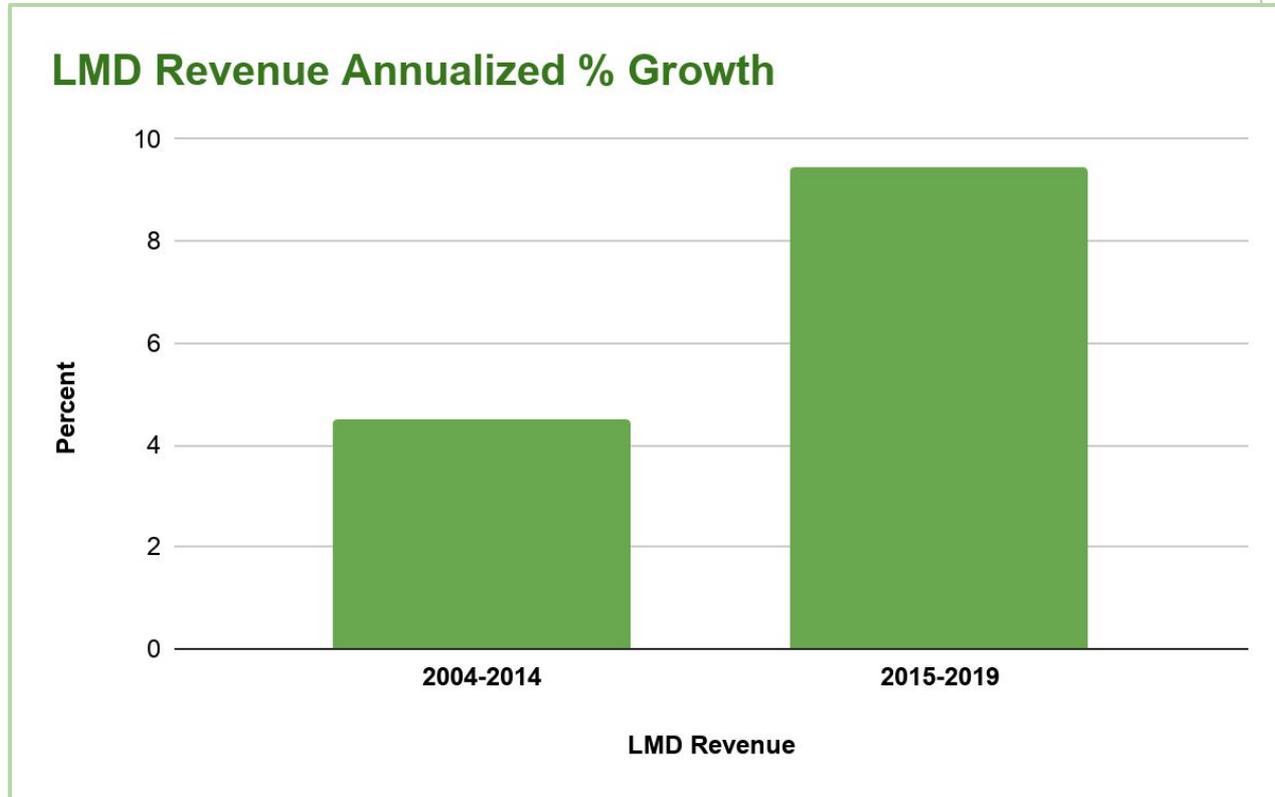
* As always, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. You may also directly contact department directors with questions as well.

TAPP Principles

1. Trails, Summer & Winter
2. Synergies
3. Efficiency and Technology
4. Nimbleness and Speed

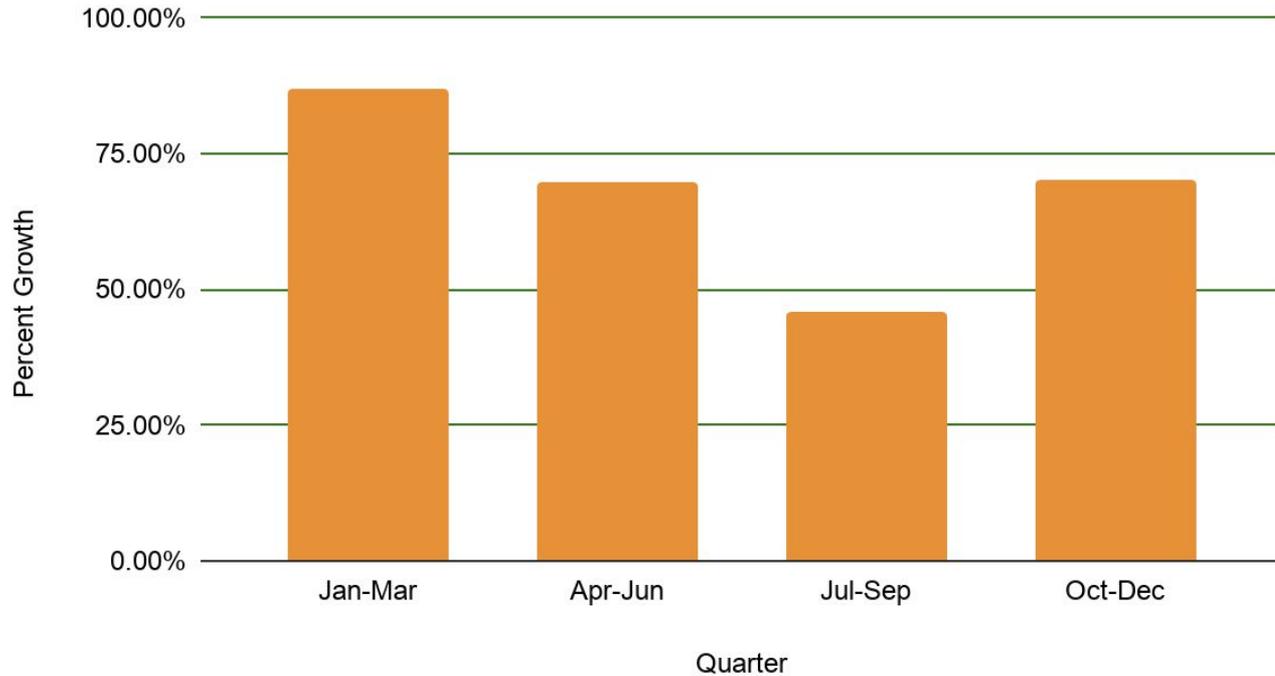
Revenue Growth Accelerated Through Trail Strategy

39

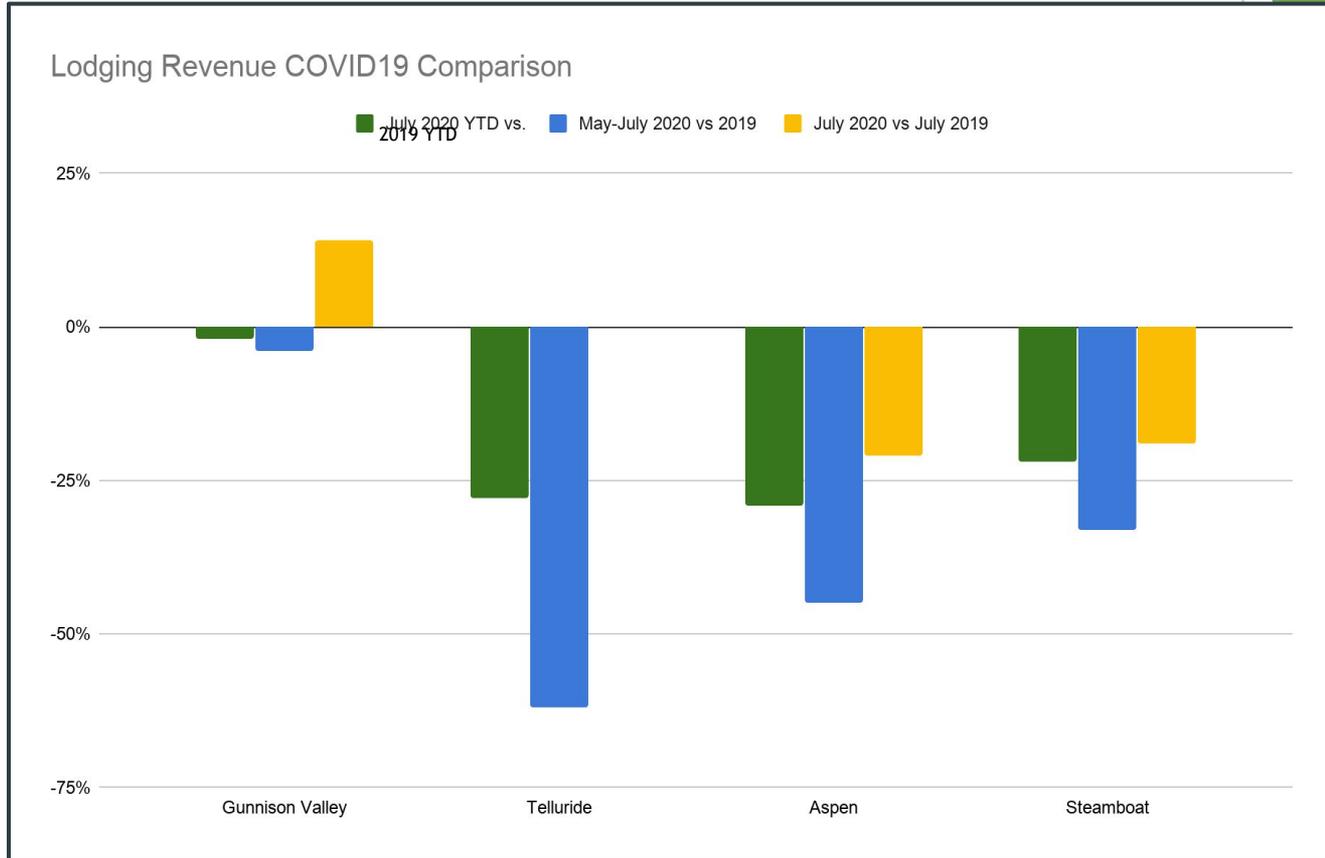


5 Year Seasonal Growth

Percent Growth By Quarter (13/14 vs 19/20)



2020 To Date





Staff Report

21 September 2020

To: Mayor and Town Council

Prepared By: Michael Reily, Chief Marshal

Through: Dara MacDonald, Town Manager

Subject: Information regarding Mental Health Response

Summary:

We want to provide the Town Council with an update on how the Marshals respond to non-criminal mental health calls for assistance and our role in transports when citizens are placed in a 72-hour mental health hold. There have been some significant changes this summer in how these services are provided.

Historically mental health and suicide emergency calls have been treated in a hodgepodge of ways that have ebbed and flowed over the years. At the end of last year, the Center for Mental Health (CMH) was contracted by Gunnison Police Department through DOLA funding to provide a Co-Responder program where a mental health professional accompanied law enforcement or emergency medical services (EMS) on mental health calls like potential suicides. Like the Aspen Hope Center mobile crisis team, this program worked relatively well as it put the correct resource toward the problem and allowed first responders to play a supplemental role if needed for safety.

On July 1, 2020 the grant for that program was not renewed, leaving police and EMS as the only field resources for potential suicide calls. During this same time Gunnison Valley Hospital and the Center for Mental Health updated their contract agreement to move to a 24-hour per day tele-video mental health evaluation service for individuals who have entered the emergency department with a behavioral health need for evaluation and placement. The services offered by CMH for evaluation in the hospital and placement have remained the same but due to resources and funding have transitioned to tele-based evaluation and placement with the hospital. An additional change that occurred in July of this year was that the state Office of Behavioral Health dollars that were funding a transportation program offered by CMH was unexpectedly cut leaving the community partners of CMH, GVH and law enforcement to quickly begin discussions about how to try to provide this service. GVH has identified the hospital as the lead in these conversations and as a financial contributor based on emergency department requirements for transition of care including transportation for individuals served.²

Background:

Colorado's Western Slope has a consistently high suicide rate when compared to the national average. Without easy access to mental health services, people will call 911 to address their mental health needs when in crisis. Calling 911 with a mental health issue usually results in

the arrival of police or EMS who, over time, have become the default entity for mental health response. With a lack of Western Slope mental health resources, it might seem reasonable for that to happen but, are police and EMS the best primary option for assisting people in a mental health crisis?

The Crested Butte Marshal's Office (CBMO) works with local EMS, the Gunnison Valley Hospital (GVH) and the Center for Mental Health to address the mental health concerns of our community and our officers are well trained in mental health issues when compared to their counterparts throughout the country. All CBMO officers receive regular training in De-Escalation and Crisis Intervention Techniques (CIT) which helps us with the garden variety mental health encounters we have over the course of our regular duties. None of us however, are trained to the level of a credentialed therapist or other mental health professional which makes law enforcement the improper solution for many mental health crises including when people threaten self-harm. We feel there are better solutions which allow for law enforcement to play an appropriate supporting role and give people in crisis some measure of hope.

Today, when someone in mental health crisis calls 911, police, fire or EMS respond if appropriate but not mental health professionals. Ironically, if someone calls the mental health crisis line, sometimes the crisis line calls 911 and police, fire or EMS end up responding anyway. These first responders assist in whatever little way they can using the limited mental health knowledge they have. Police, EMS and even doctors have limited mental health training in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) which is 991 pages long and weighs 3.5 pounds. Unless there is a criminal component or the person needs resuscitation, these professionals can be a liability working outside of their scope of practice. With this in mind, I contend that traditional first responders should simply be there for the assistance of properly trained mental health responders.

Elsewhere, mental health workers do respond in the field, get better results from their efforts and are able to limit the role of their police, fire and EMS partners by doing so. Why aren't we consistently doing that in this county?

When a person appears to have a mental illness and, as a result of such mental illness, appears to be an imminent danger to others or themselves or appears to be gravely disabled, then an "intervening professional" may take the person into custody to be placed in a facility designated for seventy-two-hour treatment and evaluation. These types of imminent danger or gravely disabled calls are what police and EMS typically respond to as the result of a 911 call. We rely on the mental health professionals at the CMH to evaluate people in crisis and assist where we are able but they have rarely responded to the person in crisis in a co-responder role. Some of the reasons regarding this response have been due to the previous co-responder program funded through Gunnison PD only having funding to cover a portion of a 24-7 week and the recent discontinuation of that funding ending in July of 2020. Additionally, the state changes to the mobile crisis system in 2019 and no contracted provider for mobile response in the region until an upcoming October 2020 start date limited community based mental health response.² When CMH requires a person to be taken into custody for a mental health hold and transported out of the county, law enforcement and EMS agencies have historically been used to transport these patients to facilities for treatment and further evaluation at great burden to emergency response agencies and great physical and fiscal discomfort to the person in crisis. CMH has from time to time utilized sitters or transport services in an attempt to address mental health holds but when these services are not available the inappropriate default has always been police.

When officers throughout Gunnison County take someone into custody on a mental health hold (M1 hold) based on a short, non-clinical conversation where the person or a relative says they are a danger to themselves or others, the person is placed "in-custody," handcuffed (by policy and

practice), and transported in the back of a police cruiser. Where people are in grave danger to themselves EMS gets involved, and again the person is transported to a facility, usually GVH, where a mental health professional can speak with them in person or via video conference. These custodial interactions are rarely therapeutic and I can see where a person in crisis might have a negative response to being taken into custody. Most of the time the M1 process goes well but every so often things go awry. I would contend that using police and EMS in mental health situations is a bit like using a hammer to drive screws; the tool works some of the time, it doesn't do a great job and sometimes it makes a mess of the situation.

Traditional first responders as a resource for people in mental health crises can sometimes make situations worse. From a purely criminal law standpoint, it is not illegal to kill oneself. With this in mind, police officers are, given statutory ability under Colorado law to place people under a 72-hour M1 hold. To complicate matters, the Supreme Court has ruled that emergency services do not have a duty to act unless they have entered into a "special relationship" with a situation. Police and EMS have responded to threatened suicide calls because the public has an expectation that someone will respond quickly to a call for help. That is what first responders do in emergencies; however, the incompatibility of mental health services with our mission and training and an expectation, but not duty, to respond to mental health crises without a criminal component clearly creates conflicts.

Crested Butte had nine significant mental health crisis cases requiring police documentation in 2018 and six in 2019. We believe the addition of a mental health satellite office in the Ore Bucket building in June of 2019 paid dividends which allowed people to bypass 911 and seek local assistance for their mental health needs locally. Within their other duties, CBMO and CBEMS provide less formal mental health assistance and follow up to members of the community on a weekly basis.

GVH is having a regular set of conversations with law enforcement which is much appreciated and I am hopeful GVH is moving in the right direction. We are told the issues surrounding crisis transportation operations which existed at the beginning of July have apparently been solved by GVH entering into an agreements with Delta Ambulance, CMH and other providers to make those transports. Rocky Mountain Health Partners was named in 2019 by the Colorado Department of Human Services as a regional contracted Administrative Service Organization (ASO) for the provision and delivery of regional, county and state crisis services through the Office of Behavioral Health. The state crisis services to be provided include access to mobile crisis, crisis walk in center, crisis stabilization unit and respite services for regions that include Gunnison, Hinsdale, San Miguel, Montrose, Delta and Ouray counties among other regional county coverage.

In 2019 The Center for Mental Health was contracted by Rocky to provide services for residents of Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Delta, San Miguel and Ouray with the first regional walk in clinic that includes access to the state and CMH local 24 hour crisis lines and a crisis stabilization unit that serves as a 24-hour monitored bed based program that is a psychiatric hospital alternative. Rocky is now in final contract coordination with CMH to extend crisis services to include a 24-7 community mobile response team that will serve Gunnison county by providing mental health trained in person response to law enforcement, other community partners or individual resident request to assist the individual in the community with getting a mental health evaluation and rapid coordination with referral to services. Responders will also be equipped with security vehicles previously outfitted and used by the transportation program to assist with transport of an individual evaluated in the community to a hospital, crisis stabilization unit or other treatment location if indicated. CMH will continue at this time to contract with GVH for tele-based

mental health response, evaluation, and coordination of care 24-7 for individuals who present in the emergency department.

CMH intends to hire mental health professionals in Gunnison County to be available for a local response to streamline response time. The anticipated completion of contract and operations for the mobile team are anticipated for an October 2020 start date. Community education meetings will be held by Rocky and CMH with law enforcement, hospitals, and other community providers to further develop the county coordinated plan and communication for the mobile program.²

Discussion:

As discussed earlier, a tricky predicament for law enforcement is the armed suicidal person. The larger question we ask, is the person only threatening self-harm or is there danger to others? Is this occurring in a public or private location? Granted, that is often hard to conclude but, the distinction is important in determining an appropriate response if any. Our simplest solution is often to remove the "others" from the equation. Many department tactical teams will not respond to lone, armed suicidal persons if there is no public danger.

To further complicate everything, the Governor just signed SB-217, the Enhance Law Enforcement Integrity Act (ELEIA) into law. It may have implications to our ability to take an uncooperative person who hasn't committed a criminal offense into physical custody. The ELEIA act also exposes officers and departments to increased criminal and civil liability which could have a chilling effect on this type of mental health response. The Town Attorney and CML are engaged in conversations working to sort through the long-term implications of this new law.

Financial Implications:

For the past decade Colorado has been in the bottom half of the country for mental health spending.¹ More state and federal funding are needed for mental health facilities and mental health workers to ensure they are available when and where they are needed, especially in rural Colorado. Unfortunately, the situation we currently find ourselves in has had mental health services declining in funding for so many years that it will take a great deal of time for those services to recover. Civil liabilities stemming from improperly handling a suicidal or potentially suicidal person are of concern when officers act outside of their scope of practice or expertise. Ironically, unless we enter into a special relationship or other legal standing comes into play, doing nothing does not invoke this liability.

Recommendation:

This all leads to where we are today, trying our best not to get first responders involved where we are not required to act while trying to get the appropriate resources to handle the concern whenever possible. The conversations within the county entities are ongoing but no clear answers have been given on how best for all resources to respond, if at all, to mental health crises. Law enforcement officers are community helpers and we want to make every situation better, not worse. There are enough times where our uniformed presence does make a mental health call worse, either for the person in crisis, or for the officers involved, to make us look for a solution which better addresses the problem. A problem which will require more funding for mental health facilities and mental health workers to ensure they are available when and where they are needed.

A better solution would be for mobile crisis response teams, who provide crisis prevention, including education and school-based programs; crisis response, in partnership with law enforcement and EMS; crisis intervention; crisis stabilization; and crisis recovery which are much more appropriate in meeting crisis needs. Their Center also operates a 24-hour Hope Line, answered locally by experienced and licensed clinicians. According to the Hope Center, "51

people in 2016 were saved from suicide. All 51 had a plan, means and intent to end their lives, but they trusted their staff and clinicians. None of those people were sent to a facility outside of the valley; instead, they had professionals devise a safety plan, and they worked toward healing.”

The Town of Crested Butte and other law enforcement and EMS agencies in Gunnison County should work with surrounding counties, GVH and CMH to institute something similar to the Aspen Hope Center’s programs which include prevention, mobile crisis teams, intensive stabilization and education and outreach programs. The conversations have begun, largely initiated by GVH, and we would like the Council’s support in continuing to work with our partners towards a long-term, appropriate and sustainable solution. In the meantime, our officers will continue to respond to mental health calls and threats of self-harm by evaluating each situation individually and assigning the proper resources to address everyone’s needs in the best manner possible given the information we have at the time.

1. Michelle Muething – Executive Director of the Aspen Hope Center’s 8/25/2020 presentation.
2. Amanda Jones MA, LPC, CACIII – Chief Clinical Officer The Center for Mental Health.

**Agenda
Design Review Committee
Monday
September 14, 2020**

- 3:00 An insubstantial determination requested by **Vaquera House LLC** to make changes to the previously approved plan to the existing building associated with an existing PUD to add a covered porch for the deck on the north located at 510 Whiterock Avenue, Block 37, Lots 10-14 in the T zone. (Weber/Cook)
- An insubstantial determination is requested.
- 3:20 Consideration of the application of **Miller Property Holding, LLC, a Texas limited liability company** to remove a storage area on the east, make an entry addition also on the east and make revisions to windows and doors at the existing single family residence located at 213 Third Street, Block 16, Lots 28-30 in the RIC zone. (Jose)
- Architectural approval is required.
- Permission to demolish less than 25% of a non-historic structure is requested.
- 4:15 Consideration of the application of **JF Hermanson LLC** to amend a Planned Unit Development (PUD) to construct a single family residence, accessory dwelling unit and accessory building to be located at 1, 1 ½, 3 Sopris Avenue, Block 30, Lots 17-21 in the R1B zone. (**Delaney/Hadley**)
- Approval of the landscape and drainage plan as part of Building Permit Review is required.
- 5:00 Consideration of the application of **Bart Dalton and Eileen C. Dalton** to make an addition to the northeast corner of the existing single family residence and deck and make a larger addition to the existing accessory building located at 24 Butte Avenue, Lot 4 of Kapushion Subdivision in the R1 zone. (Murphy)
- Architectural approval is required.
- A conditional use permit for a heated and/or plumbed accessory building in the R1 zone is required.
- 5:40 An insubstantial determination requested by **TPB 3 LLC, a Colorado limited liability corporation** to revise the landscaping/site plan associated with the single family residence to be located at 6 Treasury Hill Road, Lot 3, Treasury Hill Subdivision in the R1B zone. (Patterson)
- An insubstantial determination is requested.

Topic: DRC – September 14th

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85248896315?pwd=V2xmSFNjRlhQbmR0VWVvSTkydEFSUT09>

Meeting ID: 852 4889 6315

Passcode: 071112

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,85248896315#,,,,,0#,,071112# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,85248896315#,,,,,0#,,071112# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 852 4889 6315

Passcode: 071112

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85248896315?pwd=V2xmSFNjRlhQbmR0VWVvSTkydEFSUT09>

The above times are only tentative. The meeting may move more quickly or slowly than scheduled



AGENDA

Regular Town Council Meeting

6:00 PM - Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Council Chambers

Page

1. CALL IN INSTRUCTIONS

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://www.gotomeet.me/TownofMtCrestedButte>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(224\) 501-3412](tel:+12245013412)

Access Code: 413-330-189

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/413330189>

2. WORK SESSION - 5:00 P.M.

2.1. Mt. Crested Butte Marketing Plan

3. ROLL CALL

4. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens may make comments on items NOT scheduled on the agenda. Per Colorado Open Meetings Law, no Council discussion or action will take place until a later date, if necessary. You must sign in with the Town Clerk before speaking. Comments are limited to three minutes.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.1. Approval of the September 1, 2020 Regular Town Council Meeting Minutes

3 - 7

[9.1.20](#)

7. REPORTS

7.1. Town Manager's Report

7.1.1. [Town Manager's Report](#)

8 - 10

7.2. Department Head Reports

7.2.1. Community Development Report

11 - 21

[Community Development Report](#)

7.2.2. Finance

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[Finance Report](#)

7.2.3. Police Department

7.2.4. Public Works

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Public Works Report

- 7.3. Town Council Reports**
- 7.3.1. [TC Mayor Reprot 9.15.20](#) 38 - 40
[TC Report 9-15 Bacani](#)
- 8. CORRESPONDENCE**
- 9. OLD BUSINESS**
- 10. NEW BUSINESS**
- 10.1. Discussion and Possible Consideration of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Gunnison County for Winter Road Maintenance – Carlos Velado 41 - 44
[2020-25 Gunnison County Winter Road Maintenance](#)
- 10.2. Discussion and Possible Consideration of the Admissions Tax Committee and Appointing One Person to the Committee to Temporarily Replace Roman Kolodziej
- 11. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 11.1. Discussion of Attendance for October
- 12. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- 12.1. Hiring a New Town Manager - Personnel Matter – C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f)(1)
- 13. ADJOURNMENT**

If you require any special accommodations in order to attend this meeting, please call the Town Hall at 970-349-6632 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

GUNNISON COUNCIL AGENDA
MEETING IS HELD AT CITY HALL, 201 WEST VIRGINIA AVENUE
GUNNISON, COLORADO; IN THE 2nd FLOOR
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
REMOTE ACCESS MEETING

Approximate meeting time: 4 hours

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

REGULAR SESSION

5:30 P.M.

Due to the international outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the City of Gunnison is holding Gunnison City Council in person and online. The public may attend Public Hearings and Regular and Special Sessions remotely. The City is holding remote meetings to follow social distancing and event guidelines. [Click Gunnison City Council Regular Session](#) to register and access the meeting.

I. Presiding Officer Call Regular Session to Order: (silent roll call by City Clerk):

II. Citizen Input: (estimated time 3 minutes)

At this agenda time, non-agenda scheduled citizens may present issues of City concern to Council on topics that are not to be considered later in the meeting. Per Colorado Open Meetings Law, no Council discussion or action will take place until a later date; unless an emergency situation is deemed to exist by the City Attorney. Each speaker has a time limit of 3 minutes to facilitate efficiency in the conduct of the meeting and to allow an equal opportunity for everyone wishing to speak.

III. Council Action Items:

A. Consent Agenda: *The consent agenda allows City Council to approve, by a single motion, second and vote, matters that have already been discussed by the entire Council or matters that are considered routine or non-controversial. The agenda items will not be separately discussed unless a councilor, City staff, or a citizen requests and item be removed and discussed separately. Items removed from the consent agenda will then be considered after consideration of the consent agenda.*

-Approval of the August 25, 2020, Regular Session meeting minutes

Background: Per City Charter, the City Clerk produces minutes of the Council actions for all regular and special session meetings. Minutes are approved or amended at the following regular session meetings and become permanent city record. If a City Councilor was not present at the meeting, they must abstain in the vote and action on approval of the minutes.

-Authorization to execute the 2020 Water SCADA Fiber Project Contract

Background: The defined scope is to install underground and overhead fiber optics wire to the City's Water Wells, Community Center, and the Fire Department building. These upgrades are necessary improvements to upgrade the operations of the City's municipal water supply, and improve communications for the Community Center and Fire Department. This project is budgeted as a CIP for \$200,000 for FY 2020 for the Water Department. \$175,000.00 will be used from the Water Departments 2020 CIP project fund, \$7,500.00 from the Community Center fund, and \$5,723.25 from the Fire Department fund.

Action Requested of Council: A motion, second and vote to approve the Consent

Agenda as presented with the following items:

-Approval of the August 25, 2020, Regular Session meeting minutes; and

-Authorization to execute the 2020 Water SCADA Fiber Project contract

Staff contact: City Clerk Erica Boucher

Estimated time: 5 minutes

B. Ordinance No. 8, Series 2020, Second Reading: *An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Gunnison, Colorado, Approving a Major Change to an Existing Planned Unit Development for the Gunnison Rising PUD Development and Map Amendment to Rezone the Pioneer Museum from PUD IM To C*

Background: Gunnison Valley Properties, LLC, Western Colorado University Foundation, and the Gunnison Pioneer and Historical Society have filed an application seeking approval of a Major Change to an existing PUD and Map Amendment to the Official Zoning Map. The Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended approval of the PUD Major Change application.

Staff contact: Community Development Director Anton Sinkewich

Action Requested of Council: Introduce, read by title only by the City Attorney, motion, second, and vote to adopt to publish Ordinance No. 8, Series 2020, on second reading.

Estimated time: 15 minutes

C. Approval of Gunnison Rising Amended Annexation Agreement

Background: City staff has worked with the Gunnison Rising PUD applicants to modify the draft Annexation Agreement to be consistent with the updated PUD application content. Updates include name and reference updates, removal of inconsistencies or past actions, the addition of affordable housing, modification to land dedications and a new affordable housing eligible area map. The length of the document was simplified by referencing existing codes and taking out items that have already occurred.

Staff contact: Community Development Director Anton Sinkewich

Action Requested of Council: A motion to approve Gunnison Rising Amended Annexation Agreement, dated September 8, 2020.

Estimated time: 20 minutes

D. Ordinance No. 9, Series 2020, Second Reading: *An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Gunnison, Colorado, Adopting an Additional Appropriation for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2020*

Background: This ordinance obtains the legal authority to spend the amounts as approved by the Council that constitute a divergence from the original adopted budget.

Staff contact: Finance Director Ben Cowan

Action Requested of Council: Introduce, read by title only by the City Attorney, motion, second, and vote to adopt Ordinance No. 9, Series 2020, on second reading.

Estimated time: 10 minutes

E. Resolution No. 14, Series 2020: *A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Gunnison, Colorado, Adopting Strategic Plan, dated September 8, 2020*

Background: On February 4, 2020, the City Council met and identified a purpose statement for the City, priority issues to address based on public feedback, and developed

strategic results. Since then, staff has worked to weave in the reality of COVID-19 into Council's strategic plan. The Plan, once adopted, will provide alignment and focus to achieve the identified results for the community in the next 3 to 5 years. The plan will guide budgeting and resource management decisions for the City.

Staff contact: City Manager Russ Forrest

Action Requested of Council: Introduce, read by title only by the City Attorney, motion, second, and vote to adopt Resolution No. 14, Series 2020.

Estimated time: 30 minutes

- F. Resolution No. 15, Series 2020:** *A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Gunnison, Colorado, commending Adam Engleman for his semester of outstanding service as the Student Liaison on the Gunnison City Council, representing Western Colorado University from January 28, 2020 to May 12, 2020*

Background: This resolution to commend Western Liaison Adam Engleman for his service on City Council for the spring 2020 semester was mis-numbered as Resolution No. 13 and passed at the 8/25/20 regular session meeting of Council and needs to be repassed with a new number.

Action Requested of Council: Introduce, read by title only by the City Attorney, motion and vote to adopt Resolution No. 15, Series 2020.

Staff contact: City Clerk Erica Boucher

Estimated time: 2 minutes

- G. 2021 Grant Process**

Background: City staff is seeking the City Council's direction on the amount of funding and funding criteria to be used for a 2021 grant process.

Staff contact: Finance Director Ben Cowan

Action Requested of Council: To provide direction on how to proceed with 2020 grants.

Estimated Time: 45 minutes

- H. November 2020 Ballot Initiatives**

Background: A summary of the ballot issues that will be seen by Colorado voters this fall.

Staff contact: City Manager Russ Forrest

Action Requested of Council: To discuss the up-coming ballot issues and possibly provide direction to staff on the ballot initiatives.

Estimated Time: 30 minutes

- I. Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act (CORE) Act**

Background: Colorado U.S. Senator Michael Bennet and U.S. Congressman Joe Neguse's Colorado Outdoor Recreation & Economy (CORE) Act protects approximately 400,000 acres of public land in Colorado, establishing new wilderness areas and safeguarding existing outdoor recreation opportunities to boost the economy for future generations. The CORE Act unites and improves four previously introduced bills: the Continental Divide Recreation, Wilderness, and Camp Hale Legacy Act, the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act, the Thompson Divide Withdrawal and Protection Act, and the Curecanti National Recreation Area Boundary Establishment Act.

Staff contact: City Clerk Erica Boucher

Action Requested of Council: A motion for Gunnison City Council to sign the letter of support for the CORE Act addressed to Senator Cory Gardner.

Estimated time: 10 minutes

J. COVID 19 Update

Background: COVID-19 update and discussion.

Staff contact: City Manager Russ Forrest

Action Requested of Council: Receive update on response and recovery, give feedback and determine if additional appropriations should be made for COVID-19 recovery.

Estimated time: 10 minutes

IV. Reports:

City Attorney Report

Police Department Semi-Annual Report

Fireman's Pension Update

City Clerk Schedule Update

City Manager Strategic Projects Update and Report

City Councilors with City-related meeting reports; discussion items for future Council meetings

V. Meeting Adjournment:

The City Council Meetings agenda is subject to change. The City Manager and City Attorney reports may include administrative items not listed. Regular Meetings and Special Meetings are recorded and action can be taken. Minutes are posted at City Hall and on the City website at www.gunnisonco.gov. Discussion Sessions are recorded; however, minutes are not produced. For further information, contact the City Clerk's office at 970.641.8140. **TO COMPLY WITH ADA REGULATIONS, PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE CITY CLERK 24 HOURS BEFORE ALL MEETINGS AT 970.641.8140.**

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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DATE: Tuesday, September 15, 2020

Page 1 of 2

PLACE: Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Gunnison County Courthouse
(REMOTE)

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING:

- 8:30 am
- Call to Order
 - Agenda Review
 - Consent Agenda: These items will not be discussed unless requested by a Commissioner or citizen. Items removed from consent agenda for discussion may be rescheduled later in this meeting, or at a future meeting.
 1. Memorandum of Agreement; Gunnison Valley Animal Welfare League
 2. Acknowledgment of Updated Exhibit; City of Gunnison Large Solar Contract
 3. First Amendment; Voting Systems & Managed Services Agreement; Dominion Voting Systems, Inc.
 4. Memorandum of Agreement; West Region Wildfire Council; Title III Awards
 5. Region 10 Agreement; Gunnison County Senior Resource Office; \$45,833
 6. Tax Sale Internet Auction Services Agreement; SRI, Inc.
 7. Grant Agreement; Federal Aviation Administration; Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport; Project No. 3-08-0030-056-2020
 8. Express Grant of Avigation Easement & Right of Way; Gunnison Valley Properties, LLC
 9. Core Services Plan; Gunnison & Hinsdale Counties
 10. LEAP Outreach Incentive Program Agreement; Colorado Office of Economic Security – Division of Food & Energy Assistance; \$26,000
 - Scheduling
 - Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) Legislative Committee Appointment
- 8:40
- County Manager's Report
 1. Broadband Project Funding Match
 2. Resolution; A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County, Colorado Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Ground and Improvement Lease Agreement, a Lease Purchase Agreement, an Escrow Agreement, a Continuing Disclosure Certificate, an Official Statement, and Certain Related Documents by the County; Approving the Forms of Related Documents; and Providing for Other Matters Relating Thereto
- 8:50
- Deputy County Manager's Report
 1. Extension of Pitkin Plow Agreement
 2. Mt. Crested Butte Plow Agreement
- 9:00
- Continued Public Hearing; Petition for Abatement or Refund of Taxes; Property Tax Year 2019; R071215, Lot 3 Re Subdivision Lot 80 Vantuyl Village Subd #624097
- 9:15
- 2021-2025 Draft Capital Improvement Plan
- 9:35
- Contract Agreement; Spallone Construction, Inc. - Shady Island River Park Project
 - Commissioner Items: Commissioners will discuss among themselves activities that they have recently participated in that they believe other Commissioners and/or members of the public may be interested in hearing about.
 - Unscheduled Citizens: Limit to 5 minutes per item. No formal action can be taken at this meeting.
 - Adjourn

*NOTE: This agenda is subject to change, including the addition of items up to 24 hours in advance or the deletion of items at any time. All times are approximate. The County Manager and Deputy County Manager's reports may include administrative items not listed. Regular Meetings, Public Hearings, and Special Meetings are recorded and **ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM.** Work Sessions are not recorded and formal action cannot be taken. For further information, contact the County Administration office at 641-0248. If special accommodations are necessary per ADA, contact 641-0248 or TTY 641-3061 prior to the meeting.*

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

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DATE: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 **Page 2 of 2**
PLACE: Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Gunnison County Courthouse
(REMOTE)

Zoom Meeting:
Time: Sep 15, 2020 08:30 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86908469308?pwd=NTBVRIYXc0K1pYVHpZMUFRMGRyZz09>

Meeting ID: 869 0846 9308
Passcode: 438969
One tap mobile
+12532158782,,86908469308#,,,,,0#,,438969# US (Tacoma)
+13462487799,,86908469308#,,,,,0#,,438969# US (Houston)

Please Note: Packet materials for the above discussions will be available on the Gunnison County website at <http://www.gunnisoncounty.org/meetings> no later than 6:00 pm on the Friday prior to the meeting.

Monday, October 5, 2020**Work Session**

Update from the EPA on the Standard Mine Project, Including Questions and Answers. 30 Minutes
2021 Budget Review

Old Business

Check-in on Elk Avenue One-Way
Discussion on Changes to Marshal's Uniforms

New Business

Snow Plan
Ordinance - REMP
Ordinance - Lease
Presentation and Discussion on InDEED

Monday, October 19, 2020**Work Session**

2021 Budget Review

Presentation - Annual Update from CB Nordic

Old Business

Updated Financial Forecast and Discussion

New Business

Award of Fall Grant Cycle - Community Health and Wellness

Monday, November 2, 2020**Work Session**

Update on Weed Management

Consent Agenda

Tree City USA

Future Items

- SOAR Affordable Housing Project
- Formation of Committee(s) to Review Options for Affordable Housing and Climate Action
- Quarterly Financial Reports
- Briefing of the Legal Implications of Vested Rights
- Cemetery Committee Presentation
- Utility Extension Policy

- Ordinance - Station One Lease
- BOZAR Appointment