

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2007**

The December 5, 2007 Board of Commissioners meeting was held in the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Courthouse. Present were:

Hap Channell, Chairperson
Paula Swenson, Vice-Chairperson
Jim Starr, Commissioner
Matthew Birnie, County Manager

Finance Director Linda Nienhueser
Assistant Finance Director Ben Cowan
Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Channell called the meeting to order at 2:04 pm.

This Special Meeting was held for the sole purpose of designating \$150,000 in Community Based Organization (CBO) funding for 2008 by evaluating thirty-six applications requesting \$295,865 total. Of the \$150,000 available for dispersment, \$100,000 will be funded by the county's General Fund while the remaining \$50,000 will be funded by the Sales Tax Fund designated for capital improvements. The board also stated that evaluation of future requests will utilize close scrutiny of amounts requested and received from municipalities.

CATTELEMENS' DAYS: This organization requested \$32,300 and was awarded \$10,000. The board felt that \$18,800 of the request was relevant to fairgrounds property, which should be allocated directly from the fairgrounds' budget. Assistant Finance Director Cowan relayed Rodeo Grounds Manager Melody Roper's concerns that she was not consulted by the Cattlemens' Days organization about the requests related to the fairgrounds and the board agreed that Cattlemens' Days and Rodeo Grounds Manager Roper should work closely on identifying and managing their needs. Chairperson Channell was also concerned that this organization requested only \$7,500 from the City of Gunnison and that they will also receive funding from tax revenue.

PARADISE ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY: Per Assistant Finance Director Cowan, this organization withdrew their application and request for \$3,000.

ROTARY CLUB: This organization requested \$15,000 and was awarded \$7,500.

OFFICE FOR RESOURCE EFFICIENCY (ORE): This organization requested \$25,000 and was awarded \$12,500. The board also agreed to designate an additional \$10,000, using Economic Development funds, for other energy efficiency uses not necessarily related to this organization.

GUNNISON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: This organization requested \$15,000 and was awarded \$10,000.

SIX POINTS EVALUATION AND TRAINING: This organization requested \$12,000 and was awarded \$12,000.

MIDWESTERN COLORADO MENTAL HEALTH CENTER: This organization requested \$10,000 and was awarded \$10,000.

GUNNISON COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS: This organization requested \$11,288 and was awarded \$1,200 to be used expressly toward Gunnison Valley Journal expenses.

COLORADO LEGAL SERVICES: This organization requested \$4,500 and was awarded \$4,500. The board noted that the budget for the Gunnison office was \$56,000 for the year and agreed on a \$4,500 contribution largely due to this organization's increased assistance with Spanish-speaking and indigent populations. Gunnison County will continue to provide office space for this organization in 2008.

GUNNISON VALLEY ALLIANCE FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: This organization requested \$15,000 and was awarded \$10,000. The board noted an expectation of increased independence with this organization. Gunnison County will continue to provide office space for this organization in 2008.

COAL CREEK CLEANUP: This organization requested \$8,250 and was awarded \$5,000 to be used for the express purpose of stormwater sampling improvement. Chairperson Channell stated his disappointment that the Town of Crested Butte did not allocate a higher-level of funding for this organization.

CRESTED BUTTE WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL: This organization requested \$9,850 and was awarded \$1,450 to be used expressly for signage and logo development. Commissioner Swenson felt that the \$4,700 requested for website development was unnecessary and suggested that this organization coordinate website needs with the Tourism Association. Commissioner Swenson also did not want to fund the requested scholarships and expressed the opinion that CBO funding is not intended for that

purpose. Commissioner Starr stated his opinion that this organization serves an Economic Development function, which should warrant additional funding.

GUNNISON VALLEY OBSERVATORY (GVO): This organization requested \$7,677 and was awarded \$4,857 to be used toward capital improvements. The board also agreed that, prior to the release of funding, the telescope must be returned to Gunnison and that business and programming plans must be approved by County Manager Matthew Birnie for submission to the board. Chairperson Channell expressed concern that this organization requested 18.21% of their total revenue.

CRESTED BUTTE MUSIC FESTIVAL, INC.: This organization requested \$500 and was awarded \$500. The board agreed that this organization should consider increasing future ticket prices to cover the cost of providing the refreshments.

JUBILEE HOUSE: This organization requested \$12,000 and was awarded \$10,000. The board also stated hopes of additional funding from all of the other municipalities that benefit from this service.

CRESTED BUTTE NORDIC COUNCIL: This organization requested \$11,500 and was awarded \$5,700 to be used expressly for capital improvements on the yurt and the bridge crossing. Commissioner Starr felt that this organization warranted funding of up to \$9,000 because of the tourism benefit. Commissioner Swenson felt that this organization is capable of funding many of their projects independently as, even though it carries the 501(c)(3) designation, it still funds paid employees.

CRESTED BUTTE HERITAGE MUSEUM: This organization requested \$10,000 and was awarded \$3,000 to be used toward capital improvements. Chairperson Channell was concerned about the relatively-low contributions from other municipalities. Commissioner Swenson felt that sufficient funding was not available for museums in this CBO cycle while Commissioner Starr requested that museums be awarded \$5,000 each.

CASA D.B.A. VOICES FOR CHILDREN: This organization requested \$4,150 and was awarded \$1,000. Commissioner Swenson expressed concern for the appearance that Gunnison County was the only county that received a request for funding from this organization.

PITKIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY: This organization requested \$8,400 and was awarded \$4,200 to be used toward capital improvements.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR AVALANCHE RESEARCH: This organization requested \$4,000 and was awarded \$2,000.

SAFE RIDE: This organization requested \$4,000 and was awarded \$2,500.

CRESTED BUTTE / MT. CRESTED BUTTE BARTENDERS & SERVERS ASSOCIATION: This organization requested \$3,850 and was awarded \$2,500.

STEPPING STONES CHILDREN'S CENTER: This organization requested \$7,500 and was awarded \$5,000 to be used expressly for window and door replacement.

COLORADO WATER WORKSHOP: This organization requested \$1,100 and was awarded \$1,000.

GUNNISON VALLEY ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE (GVAWL): This organization requested \$2,500 and was awarded \$1,500 to be used for the Spay/Neuter Program.

GUNNISON CONSERVATION DISTRICT: This organization requested \$2,500 and was awarded \$2,500.

PUBLIC POLICY FORUM OF CRESTED BUTTE: This organization requested \$4,500 and was awarded \$1,500.

LIVING JOURNEYS: This organization requested \$500 and was awarded \$250. Commissioner Swenson expressed concerns that the stated intent for the funds requested was to re-grant to other parties, which she felt was not the board's intent with the CBO program.

GUNNISON COWBOYS RODEO TEAM: This organization requested continued rent-free use of the rodeo grounds facilities. Assistant Finance Director Cowan noted that rental fees of \$1,615, collected from other entities, will be recorded as fairgrounds rent to offset this in-kind expense.

ADAPTIVE SPORTS CENTER OF CRESTED BUTTE: This organization requested \$3,500 and was awarded \$2,000.

CENTER FOR THE ARTS (CB): This organization requested \$6,000 and was awarded \$3,000 to be used toward capital improvements.

WEST ELK SOO BAHK DO MOO DUK KWAN: This organization requested \$10,000, but was not awarded funding. Chairperson Channell and Commissioner Swenson felt that this program should not be funded by the county since it is currently an element of the school curriculum, as taught by Mark High during normal business hours. Commissioner Starr felt that this organization shows intervention program qualities and felt that it deserved funding. Commissioner Swenson and Chairperson Channell felt that this program will continue to be successful, as funded by the school district, and that funding past expenses should be the responsibility of the school district.

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE & EMS SQUAD: This organization requested \$5,000 and was awarded \$1,000.

GUNNISON COUNTRY PARTNERS: This organization requested \$12,000 and was awarded \$8,000. Commissioner Swenson felt that this contribution would assist with program independence after recently relocating their offices out of the Family Services Center.

CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN THEATRE: This organization requested \$3,500 and was awarded \$800 to be used for shelving needs. Chairperson Channell expressed his concern that the application was not complete.

SUMMARY: The board awarded a total of \$149,957 in 2008 CBO funding with specific conditions outlined for many of the organizations. County Manager Birnie and Finance Director Nienhueser will confirm that capital and general funding is appropriated properly. Increased interest earnings may be utilized to offset any excess General Fund awards that translate to a decreased transfer from the Sales Tax Fund for capital improvements.

ADJOURN: Moved by Commissioner Swenson, seconded by Commissioner Starr to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Hap Channell, Chairperson

Paula Swenson, Vice-Chairperson

Jim Starr, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Stella Dominguez, County Clerk