# AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

**Agenda Item:** Ratification of Correspondence; APWA

**Action Requested:** Motion

**Parties to the Agreement:**

**Term Begins:** **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

**Summary:**

The attached correspondence was signed and distributed on 2/27/2020.

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A

**Submitted by:** Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

**Finance Review:** ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

**County Attorney Review:** ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

**County Manager Review:**

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 2/28/2020

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 3/3/2020

*Revised April 2015*

Gunnison County
COLORADO

**Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners**
Phone: (970) 641–0248 • Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

February 27, 2020

APWA Top Ten Leaders Selection Committee
American Public Works Association
1200 Main Street #1400
Kansas City, MO 64105

Re: Marlene Crosby's Nomination for APWA Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year Award

Dear Committee Members,

Through 35 years of growth, change and evolution at Gunnison County, Marlene Crosby has been a constant in the leadership of the County. She has served in many capacities for Gunnison County, taking on more responsibilities every few years as the need arose. It is a testament to her talent and dedication that as the County's functions and needs expanded, Marlene's portfolio of responsibilities grew as well. As Public Works Director, she oversees a staff of 42 year-round employees and several seasonal employees, and she manages a budget of $11,531,197 (CY 2020).

Armed with her teaching degree from Western State College, Marlene was hired in 1985 as an Administrative Assistant in the Road and Bridge Department at a time when there were no women in the department. Long-time County Commissioner, Fred Field remarked at the time that he "wasn't sure if the Road Department was ready for a woman". Well, thank goodness that old prejudice was overcome and the County had the good sense to hire Marlene! From there, a rapid succession of new responsibilities were given to Marlene as she demonstrated her value. In 2012, the Gunnison Business Women named Marlene the Woman of the Year in recognition of rising through the ranks in a man's world.

Over the years, Marlene has become a leader in her state and national professional associations and local organizations, and she is widely recognized as one of the go-to experts in managing rural Public Works Departments and projects. When she attended her first Colorado Counties, Inc. conference, she was the only woman to show up for the Colorado Association of Road Supervisors and Engineers (CARSE) meeting; and it's our belief that she is CARSE's longest-term member. Locally, she takes an active role in Region 10 Transportation Planning Region meetings and efforts, she coordinates and hosts the annual Western Slope Regional Snow and Ice Conference to provide a valuable resource for rural communities, and she serves as the BOCC-appointed member of the Gunnison River Festival Board of Directors.

As further testament to the esteem with which Marlene is held, we also appointed her to serve as Interim County Manager on two occasions while the County searched for new Managers. Afterward, she was made Deputy County Manager to enable, during any County Manager absences, all authorities normally reserved for the County Manager.

*APWA Top Ten Leaders Selection Committee*
*RE: Marlene Crosby's Nomination for APWA Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year Award*
*2/27/2020*

Perhaps just as impressive as the lengthy list of capabilities that Marlene displays on local, State and Federal levels, is the dynamic leadership that she demonstrates within our organization and her own department. Marlene is a mainstay on many organizational Boards and Committees, she takes the lead on coordinating employee-appreciation events, and she consistently demonstrates a "no job is too small" attitude. She aptly balances advocacy for employees and the organization, she effectively moderates grievances between employees, and she even takes it upon herself to bake cakes for birthday celebrations within her department. Her successful approach to the last 35 years of management and leadership is especially evident in the longevity of her employees - - nearly a quarter of them have been with our organization for more than 20 years, three of them have been with us for more than 30 years, and one celebrate an incredibly rare 45-year milestone last March!

In summary, Marlene is a hardworking, dedicated, and skilled leader whose contributions to the County have been tremendous. She is an exemplary public servant, and she is always willing to step up and take on challenges when needed. We are very fortunate to have such a capable Deputy County Manager and Public Works Director, and the organization and the community are fortunate to have benefitted from her work over many years. We cannot think of anyone more deserving that Marlene for this recognition!

Best Regards,

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson | John Messner, Commissioner | Roland Mason, Commissioner