

MINUTES

PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MARCH 23, 2017

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, March 23, 2017, at the Pueblo County Department of Emergency Management, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Tony Montoya, Chairman, at 12:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Ray Aguilera
Larry Atencio
Ed Brown
Robert Ferriter
Nick Gradisar
Terry Hart
Terry Kraus

Frank Latino
Ted Lopez
Tony Montoya
Steve Nawrocki
Garrison Ortiz
Sal Pace
Bob Schilling

Those members absent were:

Judy Leonard
Chris Nicoll

Lori Winner

Also present were:

John Adams
Joan Armstrong
Dan Kogovsek

Louella Salazar
Greg Styduhar

Chairman Montoya requested the agenda be amended to include an item, "Transportation and the Land Use Connection". The item would be placed on the Regular Items agenda as Item 3A. It was moved by Ray Aguilera, seconded by Terry Hart, and passed unanimously to amend the agenda to include the above item on the Regular Items agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Joan Armstrong, PACOG Manager, reported there were four items listed on the agenda under the Consent Items. She summarized the Consent Items for PACOG.

Chairman Montoya asked if there were any additions or amendments to the Consent Items or if any of the members or audience would like an item removed or discussed that was on the Consent agenda. There were no additions or amendments.

It was moved by Bob Schilling, seconded by Ed Brown, and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Items listed below:

- Minutes of February 23, 2017 Meeting;
- Treasurer's Report (Receive and file December 2016 Financial Report);
- A Resolution Approving the FY 2017 Pueblo Area Council of Governments' Delegation Agreement for Regional Land Use Planning and Administration, and Authorizing the Chairperson of PACOG to Execute Same; and
- A Resolution Approving an Exemption from Audit for Fiscal Year 2016 for the Pueblo Area Council of Governments, State of Colorado.

REGULAR ITEMS:

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

(A) Lunch Appreciation

Chairman Montoya thanked the Pueblo Board of Water Works for providing lunch for today's meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

(A) Pueblo and PACOG ADA Advisory Committee

Ms. Joan Armstrong, PACOG Manager, reported PACOG will continue receiving in their packets the minutes of the ADA Advisory Committee. The minutes of the February 2, 2017 meeting were included in the PACOG members' packets.

This being an information item only, no formal action was taken.

(B) PACOG Training

Ms. Armstrong reminded the PACOG members of the training, which will be held on April 13th, in this conference room at 12:15 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

(C) Interviews for Water/Wastewater Quality Consultant

Ms. Armstrong reported phone interviews were conducted yesterday with three firms for the RFP for a new water/wastewater quality consultant. Ms. Nancy Keller, City of Pueblo's Wastewater Division Director, Mr. Jeff Woeber, Planner II, Pueblo County Planning and Development Department, and she conducted the interviews. She stated she will be bringing their recommendation to PACOG at its April 27, 2017 meeting. Once chosen, the consultant will begin work immediately on finalizing the Colorado City, Rye, and Pueblo West wastewater utility plans. She noted 604(b) funding will be used, and the deadline date is September 30, 2017.

PACOG BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT ON MATRIX CONSULTING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Nick Gradisar, PACOG Treasurer, reported the PACOG budget committee met Monday, March 20th, and continued the discussions they have been having about the reorganization of PACOG. Staff was asked to come back at the next budget committee meeting with the schedule of what it would look like if we implemented this program of having most of the heavy lifting of the hard work being done by the transportation and

water quality subcommittees. Staff was requested to advise the budget committee on what the schedule would look like, understanding there may be serious matters that require more time. He stated the subcommittee recommendations would be brought back to PACOG for its approval, noting it would take a super-majority (60%) to reject the recommendations of those subcommittees. He stated the make-up of the transportation subcommittee was discussed. It was concluded that the City should have two votes, the County one vote, and Pueblo West one vote. These are the entities where transportation is a big issue. This subcommittee would require three votes to decide the matter. The members of this subcommittee would also be sharing the costs of the transportation planning. At this point, there is a \$60,000 Consolidated Planning Grant for transportation planning. Currently, the City and County share in the cost of this funding. Discussion has not occurred on how this cost would be equitably shared. Additional discussion occurred on PACOG getting its fair share of transportation funding and the possibility of hiring a lobbyist working on PACOG's behalf. If this were to be done, the question is how much would it cost and how should that expense be borne. The budget committee felt the lion's share of expense should be borne by the City, County, and Pueblo West, with perhaps the other members of PACOG sharing in the cost to a lesser and more limited extent. He stated he did not know when the budget committee will continue to discuss the issues, noting he was unsure when they would be able to provide PACOG final recommendations.

Mr. Schilling asked regarding the four votes on the transportation subcommittee--two City and two County. He felt this could cause paralysis and wondered why a non-member couldn't be on the subcommittee. Mr. Gradisar replied the budget committee is operating under the assumption that in 99% of the cases the subcommittee will be able to make a recommendation to PACOG. If that cannot be done, then the issue would be brought before PACOG for a final decision, noting it would require a super-majority (60%) vote. The subcommittee would be doing the hard work on those transportation issues and be able to come up with a consensus that they bring back to the entire PACOG board. Mr. Hart stated the budget committee discussed that it is very rare when there has been a disagreement on matters. He stated if this should happen, then it would go back to PACOG to straighten out if there is a problem.

Chairman Montoya reported he attended the meeting. He stated the budget committee meetings are open and if there is an issue that any PACOG member would like to discuss, they can do it at that time. They can also bring that discussion back to PACOG. He stated he was concerned about not having an odd vote. He stated if it is that critical of an issue and it can't be decided by this subcommittee, then the PACOG body should make that decision.

TRANSPORTATION AND THE LAND USE CONNECTION

Mr. Bill Zwick, City Planning Department, distributed copies of a proposal from Urban3 on making analytic presentations and trainings to PACOG on transportation and its land use connection. The amount being requested for funding from PACOG is \$16,672. Urban3 was a consultant that was hired by Downtown Colorado, Inc. at a conference that was held in Pueblo in September 2016. The County, City, Urban Renewal Authority, Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), and the National Real Estate Association donated approximately \$50,000 to bring several different groups in to talk about planning. Urban3 goes through the City and County's property tax revenues and shows where it is collected and its peaks. This presentation will show where revenue is gained

by not necessarily having a lot of urban sprawl, but to also concentrate on downtowns and their density to create a better and higher revenue for taxes. They also compare city sales tax in these same areas. He stated this includes six different presentations. It also includes Urban3 to train City and County staff on how to do this. The group also concentrates on downtowns and how to turn over vacant buildings, infill, parking issues, and planning issues. He stated staff would be coming back at the next PACOG meeting and make an official request for funding. Chairman Montoya stated since this is information only at this time, it will be placed on next month's agenda for formal action.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER/CDOT REGION 2 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairman Montoya stated there was no report from Mr. Bill Thiebaut, State Transportation Commissioner.

Ms. Karen Rowe, CDOT Region 2 Director, stated the S.H. 45 surface treatment from Thatcher Avenue to Highway 50 will go to advertisement at the end of March. There will be a U.S. 50 widening project that ends at the railroad and goes past Pueblo Boulevard. It will be advertised next week. U.S. 50 will have a new alignment or a road will be built next to the eastbound lanes, noting the westbound lanes will go next to them. There will be water quality funding associated with this project. She stated the Transportation Funding Bill passed the Transportation Committee last night and is in the House.

Mr. Schilling stated Pueblo Boulevard was resurfaced by CDOT, and wondered why there is a bump every 50'. Mr. Aguilera replied at last month's meeting, CDOT announced it was going to be repaired in April. Mr. Schilling questioned why the highway is this way. Ms. Rowe replied it is usually subgrade issues, which is stuff that happens underneath the road. On this particular project, CDOT is going to concrete pave it and it should be fixed by this time next year.

Mr. Aguilera asked if it was possible to meet with Ms. Rowe regarding the Abriendo exit to Stauder Field. He felt some type of wall should be erected. He asked if there was money available to do this such as "special project" funding. Ms. Rowe replied she could meet with Mr. Aguilera, but noted PACOG is the body who approves the funds. PACOG would have to decide if they want to spend transportation money to do this. At the current time, she doesn't see it as a transportation need. She noted that sound walls are expensive or \$1 million per mile. Generally, this is a federal requirement that we fund for that use. CDOT does not have special money to do that. Any money would have to be taken from other funding and projects.

Mr. Atencio asked if there were any additions, subtractions, or amendments to the Transportation Funding Bill, which was approved by the Transportation Committee. Ms. Rowe answered CDOT was originally getting \$300 million per year, noting this is a .62% sales tax increase. Previously, CDOT was going to get \$300 million and it was reset to \$375 million. It is still proposed in the bill to reduce the FASTER safety registration fee. Mr. Atencio asked what the multi-modal part of the bill entails. Ms. Rowe replied she thought it was flexible. It had \$120 million from the last option she saw. Of that \$120 million, it showed some would be pedestrian and active transit/transportation options. Chairman Montoya asked regarding the issue of funds going to pedestrian and wondered if it was walkways, etc. He asked if it was a particular location or could it be anywhere in the County. Ms. Rowe responded she didn't know a lot about the multi-modal transportation options. She thought it was meant to be flexible so that groups

could use it as needed. The only one she knows that has a list of projects is CDOT. If it makes it past the House and makes it to the Senate, CDOT would have 30 days to come up with a list of significant transportation projects.

MPO STAFF REPORT

(A) CDOT Region II TIP/STIP Policy Agenda Item(s)

Mr. John Adams, MPO Program Manager, reported there are five MPO/TIP highway projects before PACOG. They are: (1) S.H. 96 from Arkansas River to U.S. 50/S.H. 47 interchange, which is a surface treatment project; (2) Dillion Drive East Frontage Road, which is to start the design on the frontage road; (3) U.S. 50 Westbound Widening, which is design funding for a permanent water quality pond; (4) S.H. 45 Surface Treatment between Mile Post 4.9 and 8.7, which is a resurfacing project; and (5) U.S. 50 from Mile Post 301 to 314, which is to design a water basin. He stated formal action needs to be taken on these projects.

It was moved by Terry Hart, seconded by Ray Aguilera, and passed unanimously to approve the funding for the five projects listed above.

(B) Transit TIP/STIP Administration Modifications Agenda Item(s)

Mr. Adams reported last month some transit funds were rolled forward. The two projects include: (1) Cutaway Bus Replacement, and (2) Transit Bus Replacement. The cutaway bus is for the Senior Resource Development Agency. The second project is for a full-size transit bus for Pueblo Transit. No formal action is required by PACOG.

(C) Draft FY 2018 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Projects

Mr. Adams reported the draft FY 2018 TIP table will be posted tomorrow for a 30-day review and public comment. On April 27, 2017, the projects will be brought before PACOG for approval.

(D) Establish Membership for the Public Participation Plan Subcommittee

Mr. Adams reported at last month's meeting, there was discussion about establishing a Public Participation Plan Subcommittee. He asked if there were any volunteers to serve on this subcommittee. Mr. Hart volunteered. He stated anyone who is interested in serving on this subcommittee to let him know. He stated staff would like to schedule a meeting.

PLAN OF ACTION FOR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mr. Frank Latino reported plans are progressing on the Pillars of Unity Community and School Safety Summit, which will be held at Central High School on Saturday, June 10th. The points of concern are how can we make this community safer. Law enforcement is doing everything they can to make Pueblo safe. Officer Brandon Beauvais from the Pueblo Police Department continues to work on the Neighborhood Watch Program. There are online concepts, which are being looked at with respect to communication. He stated everyone understands the severity of drugs being in the community. He stated this problem is not only unique to Pueblo, but it is all over. The concern is what

can we do to make sure that safety doesn't take a backseat and it is a priority to all of us. For example, we are competing for jobs to come to Pueblo. Hopefully, with this summit in June, we can build upon that and get everybody involved who has a stake in terms of pointing out the safety component, as well as the Pueblo image. There are a lot of positives in Pueblo, such as the Transportation Test Center. He stated the summit should not only focus on the negatives, but also the positives. He stated there will be breakout sessions held at the summit, which deal with mental health, suicide prevention, etc. It is hoped the general public will attend. He stated a lot of marketing will have to be done on the summit.

Mr. Latino stated last week they had a meeting with the League of Women Voters, who wanted to know the "State of District 60". One of the questions which was asked was why people who work here do not want to send their sons and daughters to our schools. He felt we need to work on this together. He stated he would invite anyone to visit any School District No. 60 school. He stated there are a lot of positives things at our schools. He stated he has asked the School District No. 60 superintendent to generate a template on what is going on in their schools and accentuate the positives. He stated it would take \$435 million to update School District No. 60 schools. He questioned what they can do more strategically to create more of a positive environment with regard to the schools. They are trying to maintain their schools with their current funds. He wondered what can we do as a community. We need to work together in a spirit of cooperation, understanding, and communication.

Mr. Latino stated if anyone had any ideas to let him know. He stated Mr. Frank DeAngelis, who is on the National Speakers Board, has a great message and will be making a presentation at the summit. Mr. DeAngelis, who was principal at Columbine High School when the tragedy happened, indicated at a previous seminar that 88% of their students go on to college and he never thought anything like this would happen at their school.

Mr. Latino asked that we eliminate the blame game and work on this together in the spirit of cooperation.

Chairman Montoya stated a card was distributed prior to the meeting to the PACOG members. The card provided phone numbers of different community groups to contact for community safety. He has been working with the My Life Committee, which is a multi-cultural leadership program for excellence. It is an 8th grade leadership group, noting they are in their 10th year. They plan on going to the community and try to raise funds to put a couple of billboards up that provide the information on the card.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Armstrong introduced Ms. Kristen Castor, who is the secretary for the ADA advisory committee. Ms. Castor reported the ADA advisory committee is bound to serve the City of Pueblo and their bylaws to be a resource to the County and any entity within the County that wants information about ADA. They have members who live in the County. She stated during the last year there has been very little that the County has been able to do to make its buildings more accessible or to change policies that need to be changed. She stated the room in the County Courthouse, which is for the handicapped to be able to get their license plates/registrations, was supposed to be enlarged so that someone who couldn't walk far enough to get to the elevator or go up the stairs, could

go in this room and ask for assistance. County personnel in this room would patch the individual with someone, noting this has not been working. She stated there needs to be more office space and it needs to be enlarged. She stated she was unsure if the Commissioners' Chambers are really accessible because of how close the benches are to the doorways. She stated they work well with Weston Burrer, who works for the County Facilities Department.

Ms. Castor expressed concern on the Health Care Reform Bill before Congress today. She stated if the Medicaid changes go through as written in this Bill, it will decimate Social Services, Blue Sky, Health Solutions, and anybody who works with Medicaid and hospitals. At that time, you will have to figure out how to provide for those individuals who are shut out. It undoes 50 years of disabilities right activism.

Ms. Castor asked PACOG to take a better look at the ADA minutes and let them know what they want them to do.

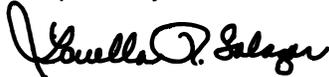
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items provided.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further regular business before PACOG, the meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, April 27, 2017, at 12:15 p.m., at the Pueblo County Department of Emergency Management, 101 West 10th Street, 1st Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,



Louella R. Salazar
PACOG Recording Secretary

LRS