

MINUTES

PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

AUGUST 25, 2016

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, August 25, 2016, at the Pueblo City- County Health Department, 101 West 9th Street, Third Floor Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ed Brown, Chairman, at 12:16 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Ray Aguilera
Ed Brown
Nick Gradisar
Terry Hart
Terry Kraus
Frank Latino

Judy Leonard
Ted Lopez
Buffie McFadyen
Tony Montoya
Steve Nawrocki
Lori Winner

Those members absent were:

Larry Atencio
Chris Nicoll

Sal Pace
Bob Schilling

Also present were:

Michael Cuppy
Scott Hobson
Dan Kogovsek

Louella Salazar
Greg Styduhar

CONSENT ITEMS:

Ms. Louella Salazar, PACOG Recoding Secretary, reported there were three items listed on the agenda under the Consent Items. She summarized the Consent Items for PACOG.

Chairman Brown asked if there were any other 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 Buffie McFadyen, seconded by Tony Montoya, and passed unanimously to approve the Consent Items listed below:

- Minutes of July 28, 2016 Meeting;
- Treasurer's Report (Receive and file July 2016 Financial Report); and
- A Resolution Approving the Acceptance of the FY2017 Pueblo Area Council of Governments Rural Planning Grant in the Amount of \$7,400 from the Colorado Department of Transportation.

REGULAR ITEMS:

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

(A) Lunch Appreciation

Chairman Brown thanked Pueblo School District No. 70 for providing lunch for today's meeting.

(B) Invitation to Town of Boone to Become PACOG Member

Chairman Brown referred PACOG members to a letter in their packets sent to Mr. Robert Ferriter, Mayor of the Town of Boone, extending an invitation to submit a letter of application to PACOG requesting to become a member of PACOG.

Mr. Terry Hart stated he spoke with Mr. Ferriter, who is present, and they will be bringing it up at their next regularly scheduled meeting. He thanked staff for getting the letter done.

MANAGER'S REPORT

(A) EPAC Minutes/Statement/Report

Ms. Louella Salazar, PACOG Recording Secretary, reported a draft of the Environmental Policy Advisory Committee's (EPAC) August 4, 2016 minutes were sent in the members' packets. The next EPAC meeting is scheduled on October 6, 2016.

This being an informational item, no formal action was taken.

PRESENTATION REGARDING PLANNING GRANT FROM THE COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT FOR SOLID WASTE DIVERSION IN PUEBLO COUNTY

Ms. Doris Kester, Environmental Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) Chair, reported the PACOG members received an overview of the presentation. There is an opportunity to apply for a grant to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) for the Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity (RREO) Grant Program. She stated PACOG will be deciding on what they want to use the grant for or if they actually want to apply for the grant. EPAC is recommending that PACOG apply for the grant. The grant was recently announced on August 3, 2016 and EPAC discussed it at its August 4th meeting and decided to bring the information to PACOG. The application deadline is October 31st. The notification of the award is December 5th. The project has to start by January 7, 2017 and it has to be completed by October 31, 2017.

Ms. Kester stated EPAC developed an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan in 2002, noting it was out of date. In 2008, it was updated. Currently, they have the opportunity to generate a plan by a consultant. The consultant would do a survey or study of what is available in Pueblo and would make a recommendation about what can be done to solve our waste management problems. Local nonprofits, private entities, and governmental agencies would add content to and contribute to the study. EPAC

feels if PACOG should apply for this grant that we would get good value to the output. EPAC felt there is adequate time for this project to be completed. The plan can guide future efforts in the Pueblo area for waste management. EPAC is asking PACOG to determine the grant writer, what organization will be responsible for a person to write the grant, determine the fiscal sponsor who will handle the money, determine the staff time and oversight, send out the proposal to hire the consultant to do the study, and determine the involvement of EPAC in the project.

Ms. Kester referred PACOG to a document entitled, "Where is Waste Generated". The sources of waste are residential, industrial, commercial, institutional, construction and demolition, municipal services, process (manufacturing, etc.), and agriculture. A decision will have to be made about whether this person is going to study the whole gamut of where the waste comes from or just part of it. A great deal of the waste comes from residential waste. There is also a great deal of waste from industrial, commercial, and institutional.

Ms. Susan Finzel-Aldred stated she has a copy of the grant and it is posted online. This grant is a portion of the RREO grant monies. There is \$250,000 designated to review regional plans with project budgets capped at \$50,000 each. There should be five grants handed out Statewide. The point of the grant is to (1) identify existing waste diversion activities, (2) suggest ways to coordinate those activities and maximize efficiency, and (3) establish roles to guide future efforts to minimize the amount of waste going from the landfill. Waste is generated in many different areas. PACOG, as the applicant, can decide to do all of the areas, a portion of those areas, or a section of one area. There are four eligible entities, and councils of governments top the list that is eligible to apply. No. 2 is a city or county government. No. 3 is a regional community group, and No. 4 is a college or university.

Mr. Ted Lopez, Jr., EPAC Solid Waste Subcommittee Chair, stated EPAC has been in existence for decades. It is made up of private citizens, public officials, organizations with substantial economic interest, and public interest groups. He stated there is widespread representation on EPAC. PACOG provides EPAC with administrative support and meeting space.

Mr. Lopez, Jr. stated the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan was put together by EPAC based on a grant that was obtained in the late 1990s. He stated the grant established the Environmental Coordinator position and helped provide seed money to do the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (IWMP). It was adopted through PACOG in 2002. In the executive summary, it suggests doing a local waste stream study to implement an aggressive, education program, which has been done by the Environmental Coordinator, and to explore a reasonable cooperative agreement. He stated having attended presentations by other entities in the State regarding waste collection, he felt that Pueblo County is one region in the State which should fit within the guidelines of this grant. The IWMP involves short-term and long-term strategies to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill. The idea is to give the landfill a longer life because landfilling is not going to go away but will be a part of the waste management process. The other is to identify funding mechanisms. He stated EPAC was able to get a 25¢ landfill user fee adopted, noting the City Council a few years later upped it another 25¢. There are funding mechanisms available now to handle some of these solid waste problems.

Mr. Hart asked if there was a match required for this grant. Mr. Lopez, Jr. replied no. If there was a match it would be from PACOG, if they should be the entity to apply. PACOG would need to identify a grant writer and consultant and someone to oversee the work of the consultant. This could be a match, but it could also be part of the expenses. Mr. Hart stated one of the slides indicated there is a need to designate someone to write the grant and the staff who would follow through. EPAC made a recommendation that PACOG should go for the grant. He wondered if EPAC has thought through who PACOG would recommend to serve as the grant writer, consultant, and staff. Mr. Lopez, Jr. replied EPAC talked about it, but felt it was not their position to recommend any particular entity. Initially, the planning department in PACOG might have been one, but they're probably stretched. It could perhaps be the City or may be the County. In applying for this grant, you would probably have to identify where that support would come from. If it was the City, the City Council might identify the 25¢ user fee as the way to pay for the cost of the support staff. The support staff could also be rolled into the grant cost. Mr. Hart felt the grant was a good idea. He stated the fiscal sponsor could be PACOG because it does have money and manages it. The question is who would write the grant and who would provide the oversight.

Mr. Montoya felt the residential area was the most important from his point of view, noting the City and County are municipalities. He also felt agricultural waste is important. The City and County could look at combining the sorting and transportation of the waste. Additionally, the trash haulers need to be involved in the process. Mr. Lopez, Jr. responded this is "a larger bite of the apple". This is a smaller answer to this large problem. There are several sources of waste which go into a landfill. Given that residential has a larger number of individual waste sources, it seems that would be one area to address first. We need to know what the make-up of the waste stream is. There are businesses that have this information and could provide it to the consultant who would gather it in.

Ms. McFadyen asked if there was a way to look at this and address illegal dumping at the same time. She stated Colorado City has one particular area which has problems. She asked if there is enough flexibility in the grant to look at it from that perspective. Mr. Lopez, Jr. answered probably not specifically. He directed her to look at the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, noting it has all of these strategies. Part of the incentive is to update in this Plan. As far as illegal dumping, it has always been a problem. He felt it jumped when the tipping fee at the local landfill increased.

Mr. Aguilera stated he would like to see the City take the lead on this because it has the largest number of issues in terms of the trash haulers and incidents of people dumping their trash illegally. He noted at City Council meetings, this is a constant issue that is brought up. He felt if the City staff would be willing to take it on, he would like to see the City take the lead on it. Mr. Lopez, Jr. felt this is an excellent suggestion. City staff could take over the management of the application after it is done, especially since the City controls the user fee funds which go into the general fund. Mr. Hobson clarified this is a planning grant. It is not funds that are used for implementation of recycling, but funding that is through the State that allows for plans to be updated and new plans to be completed and strategies developed. PACOG, as an entity, has EPAC as its subcommittee. He suggested that if an application is filed for the planning grant that it be filed through PACOG. It would then need to be worked out on whom from the City,

whom from the County, and whom from the City-County Health Department could do it. He suggested asking direction from PACOG and the member agencies that a grant be prepared and at the next PACOG meeting we submit what would be included, the scope of the work, and PACOG give authorization for the grant to be submitted at its September meeting. He stated other grants have been submitted by PACOG to the State and have been awarded. He felt since this is a planning grant and it fits within PACOG's role.

Ms. McFadyen asked which attorney reviews the grant before it is submitted. Mr. Hart replied the PACOG attorney, who is Mr. Kogovsek. She stated if the City reviews it, possibly Mr. Chris Markuson, the Director of the County's Economic Development Department, could write the proposal.

It was moved by Terry Hart that staff (City, County, and health department) sort it out and come back with a proposal at the next PACOG meeting. Buffie McFadyen seconded the motion. Discussion continued.

Mr. Montoya stated the planning grant is basically a study to apply for another grant. Ms. Winner asked why we aren't already doing this. She stated \$50,000 isn't a lot of money. Ms. Finzel-Aldred stated there is no cash match. Infrastructure needs identified in the study would be eligible for future funding, and would take top priority. She stated more money could become available. Mr. Montoya stated based on the fact that there would be future funding if any research has been done on these grants that would suggest that it would be better to apply as a city, county, or a larger group. Mr. Lee Merkel, DOLA, replied it would be better to apply as a larger group. Mr. Montoya felt that bringing all the groups together, as PACOG does, would make applying for the application much stronger. Mr. Lopez, Jr. stated EPAC has heard from people who are frustrated that recycling does not happen in the community, as it should. The Plan bears a lot of tools that are already in place. This grant could help pull all of that together. He felt this is the first step. We need to know the constituents of the waste stream. He felt we could probably move forward a little faster if we work together.

Mr. Nawrocki stated there is a lot of moving parts in cleaning up our community. He stated on his time on City Council he hasn't been able to figure out a way to do that. He stated it is not a public utility so you can't control it and there has to be other entities that are willing to be a part of this. The planning grant should be about how we bring all of these entities together to be able to clean up this community. He stated if this grant could do this he is 100% behind it, but if it doesn't do that he felt it was a waste of money and time. Mr. Lopez, Jr. stated there was that intent to have the players in the region find out what is going on and work out an agreement to move things forward.

Mr. Styduhar stated the last EPAC minutes note there was discussion of possibly having Ms. Finzel-Aldred take care of the grant or having the City-County Health Department playing a bigger role. He stated Mr. Lopez mentioned this is how the Environmental Coordinator position started. Mr. Lopez, Jr. replied this was one of the purposes of having the Environmental Coordinator because there was no one in the community to do this. The whole idea was to have one person who was the specialist. He stated EPAC had thought about having Ms. Finzel-Aldred taking over this, but there is no funding. However, there is funding available in the user fee, and it was intended to be used for solid waste management plans and programs. He stated it would have to be Ms. Finzel-

Aldred's supervisor who would have to decide if she has the time to do this. Ms. Katie Davis, who is Ms. Finzel-Aldred's supervisor, felt there is a way to work on some of these issues. She stated Ms. Finzel-Aldred's scope of work is decided at the beginning of the calendar year. She stated it would be difficult to change all of that right now. She stated as far as writing the grant, she didn't think it would be appropriate for her to do it on her own. The initial discussion of bringing people together would be better. This type of work is better if everyone buys into it and it doesn't just become a health department plan. If there is some thought that this is something she could do and the grant money should be received and there needs to be oversight, then they would come together with the City and County to determine what parts of her current scope of work that she has been doing for many years (i.e., cleanups, education in the community, household hazardous waste and recycle waste days) are not going to happen in 2017, or are they going to get extra funding to be able to hire someone else to help. Mr. Lopez, Jr. added at one point in time, when there was more funding, there were two people in this office.

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

PACOG ORGANIZATIONAL RESTRUCTURE STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Scott Hobson, MPO Administrator, reported Matrix Consulting Group is finishing up on the first three tasks of the scope of work, which are the review of the operation and services of PACOG, completion of interviews of the staff, and interviews with the PACOG board members and potential board members. He stated there are two more board members that need to be interviewed. They are conducting best practices assessments with other MPOs and COGs. It is anticipated that the reports that are required as the deliverables will be available for next month's meeting. There will be a representative from Matrix at the September PACOG meeting.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER/CDOT REGION 2 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chairman Brown read into the record the following comments regarding the State Transportation Commission, which were received from Mr. Bill Thiebaut, State Transportation Commissioner:

- Considered budget setting for the Asset Management program. Of importance is the fact that it is likely that surface treatment program monies will steadily decline between FY 2015-16 to FY 2018-19 from \$236 million to \$225 million. These surface treatment programs, usually constructed by private companies, are critical to out-state Colorado. Notably, select surface treatment programs done by CDOT maintenance staff is projected to be at a steady level over this same period of time.
- Considered budget setting for Senate Bill 228 funds:
 1. There is approximately \$300 million of general fund revenue expected from this fund between FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18. These monies will be utilized for projects as opposed to maintenance programs.
 2. Considered and approved the FY 2016-17 Senate Bill 228 transit projects in the amount of \$20 million. Notably, a Pueblo park and ride for Bustang service extension are being considered during FY 2017-18.

Mr. Dan Dahlke, CDOT, reported the overlay project on 4th Street from the Arkansas River to Highway 50 will begin after Labor Day. The Bonforte Bridge is open for CSU-Pueblo usage. The Pueblo Boulevard project is finishing up in the next couple of weeks. The Ilex project is wrapping up. Highway 50 from Pueblo to Pueblo West is wrapping up as well.

Mr. Aguilera stated he intends to bring up at every PACOG meeting the issue about putting up a sound barrier in between the two bridges (Northern Avenue and Mesa Avenue Bridges) along the east side. It is aesthetically unpleasing. Another sound barrier should be put up on the area coming off the Abriendo exit. He stated he couldn't believe that in all the planning which was done for I-25 that this wasn't included. He stated this is an eyesore for the City of Pueblo, noting people who are driving on I-25 see this eyesore and judge Pueblo by it. He stated he would like CDOT to do this, noting he didn't think it would be that expensive. He felt this is needed to clean up our City. He stated Mr. Sam Azad, the City Manager, was asked to send a letter to CDOT asking for them to consider looking into this.

Ms. Winner reported there is a homeless camp going south on I-25 and taking the Abriendo exit. The homeless camp is up in the trees and is generating trash in the area. She wondered if the people could be relocated. Mr. Dahlke replied he would look into it, noting in Colorado Springs there were a few homeless camps and it wasn't easy to get rid of them. Ms. Winner asked if CDOT could provide a dumpster. Mr. Dahlke replied he would check into this.

Ms. McFadyen stated one of the things that Mr. Thiebaut brought up in his report was the Asset Management Program. The concrete box culverts in the area are being recognized in that program. Mr. Dahlke replied any box culvert that is less than 30' wide falls under that. Ms. McFadyen was excited that the culverts would be done.

STATE TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STAC) UPDATE

Ms. Buffie McFadyen reported STAC spoke about overnight parking for commercial driving and alternate fuels corridors. CDOT is trying to get parts of Highway 50 through Pueblo County and City as a freight corridor. They are trying to get FHWA to recognize that. The August 26th STAC meeting will include a meet and greet with Congresswoman Diana DeGette, who will attend CDOT's electric vehicle Ride and Drive event.

MPO STAFF REPORT

Mr. Scott Hobson, MPO Administrator, reported there is one administrative amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program, which adds \$999,999 to the I-25 New Pueblo Freeway Project. It is a combination of Federal and State funds and will be used for a variety of work and design work and construction work at I-25, both related to the Ilex project and other sections of I-25 and north of City Center Drive.

PLAN OF ACTION FOR SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Mr. Frank Latino complimented the police department on the Safe Streets Program. We need more programs in that kind of spirit. He stated there needs to be enforcement of

rules and regulations. He stated people need to take care of their own personal property. He stated community safety is important. It is all of our responsibilities and everyone needs to work together with a sense of understanding and open and honest communication, with a spirit of cooperation. He stated he would like to extend an invitation to Officer Brandon Beauvais to attend the next PACOG meeting and make a presentation on the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Mr. Joe Latino stated The Pillars was formed to help the community. He stated Mr. Lopez, Jr. and he left the community many years ago and returned because they love the community. He stated when you drive around Pueblo you see plywood on the buildings, for sale signs, weeds, cars parked on lawns, etc. He stated he gets remarks that Pueblo is a beautiful place with the rolling hills to the west, but when they drive around and see the infrastructure they say something else. There are issues and The Pillars group tries to take them on one at a time, such as gangs, infrastructure, and they are trying to help everybody. He stated Pueblo is a good place, he was raised here, and he would like to get it back to what it was.

Mr. Frank Latino stated at the last Pillars' meeting a quadrant process was brought up to clean up the neighborhoods. Each quadrant would identify the worst area of need. There are programs, such as student groups, who could help with this type of program. He stated another thing which could be done is for trash bins being placed at strategic locations. He stated each quadrant could identify their areas of need.

Mr. Frank Latino added Mr. Frank DeAngelis, the principal at Columbine High School, made a presentation. He gave an excellent presentation on the school and community safety plan.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items provided.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ted Lopez, Sr. stated the Salt Creek Sanitation District was established in 1956. The sewer system was connected in 1980. Prior to 1980, the City of Pueblo got a large grant to modernize their treatment plant, and one of those conditions of the grant was that the City serve the outlying districts. He stated they have maintained their system ever since it was built. The bureaucrats in Denver 4-5 years ago decided every system had to have a certified, licensed person, who was adept with sewer systems' conditions and testing. He stated Salt Creek Sanitation District has to pay for this. Four years ago they had to pay \$75/hour for someone to come out and talk to them. He stated they have three districts. Today, they paid \$183.33 to an outfit in Fort Collins. He stated this person comes down every two months. He stated the person checks the lift stations and checks their logs. The District maintains their system and checks every two days on it. He stated Pueblo West has three certified, licensed persons. He spoke with Pueblo West a couple of years ago and said they would be glad to pay them to do this. He received an answer from them that they couldn't do this. Two years ago, a retiring licensed person from the City's wastewater department indicated he could do this after he retired, but when he retired he changed his mind. He stated he knows the City probably has more than one person and he doesn't like sending Pueblo's money north,

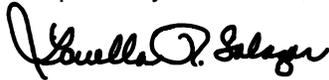
noting he would rather pay someone local. He stated if the City has someone who could do this, they would rather pay them. This would allow them to comply with the State regulations. He asked if the City would consider doing this.

Mr. Aguilera stated if Mr. Azad, the City Manager, was in attendance today that he could probably give him a better answer. He stated possibly the City Council could discuss it and approve one of their local staff members to do that for the District. He stated he would check into it and have Mr. Azad call him. Ms. Winner felt an intergovernmental agreement could possibly be done. Mr. Kogovsek stated the issue he sees is with the City's insurance company, CIRSA. He stated he doesn't see a legal problem.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further regular business before PACOG, the meeting was adjourned at 1:19 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Thursday, September 22, 2016, 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

JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Following the regular PACOG meeting, there was a joint meeting held between the Pueblo City Council and Board of County Commissioners to appoint a member to the Pueblo Human Relations Commission. Ms. Elizabeth Ann Newman was selected by the City Council and Board of County Commissioners. The City Council and Board of County Commissioners will need to ratify this appointment at their respective meetings.