

## MINUTES

### PUEBLO AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

MARCH 22, 2012

A meeting of the Pueblo Area Council of Governments was held on Thursday, March 22, 2012, in the Pueblo County Conference Room, 1001 North Santa Fe Avenue. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Steve Nawrocki, Chairman, at 12:15 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

Those members present were:

Michael Connolly  
Michael Colucci  
Sandy Daff  
Leroy Garcia  
Nick Gradisar  
Chris Kaufman

Ted Lopez  
Roger Lowe  
Jerry Martin  
Eva Montoya  
Steve Nawrocki  
Judy Weaver

Those members absent were:

Jeff Chostner  
John Cordova

Chris Nicoll  
Anthony Nuñez

Also present were:

Tom Florczak  
Scott Hobson  
Dan Kogovsek

Louella Salazar  
Julie Ann Woods

#### **CONSENT ITEMS:**

Ms. Julie Ann Woods, PACOG Manager, reported there were three items listed on the agenda under the Consent Items. She summarized the three Consent Items for PACOG.

Chairman Nawrocki asked if there were any other additions or amendments to the Consent Items or if any of the members or audience would like any of the items removed from the Consent agenda. There was no opposition to the Consent agenda as presented.

It was moved by Nick Gradisar, seconded by Chris Kaufman, and passed unanimously to approve the three Consent Items listed below:

- Minutes of February 23, 2012 meeting;
- Treasurer's Report (Receive and file January 2012 Financial Report); and
- A Resolution Approving an Exemption from Audit for Fiscal Year 2011 for the Pueblo Area Council of Governments, State of Colorado.

**REGULAR ITEMS:**

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

(A) Introduction of New Colorado City Metropolitan District Representative

Chairman Nawrocki introduced and welcomed Roger Lowe, the new representative from the Colorado City Metropolitan District.

(B) Lunch Appreciation

Chairman Nawrocki thanked Salt Creek Sanitation District for providing lunch for today's meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Julie Ann Woods, PACOG Manager, reported staff has been meeting with representatives from the Pueblo West Metropolitan District, as directed by PACOG, regarding the Update to the 208 Water Quality Management Plan. There have also been discussions with the Colorado City Metropolitan District. All entities are looking for common ground on language for modification of the Plan. It is their hope to come back to PACOG at its April meeting asking for final action.

Ms. Woods stated both the City and County have met regarding the update to the Regional Development Plan in FY 2013. A report should be presented at PACOG's April meeting. Mr. Martin asked if the Regional Development Plan was a transportation plan or a full blown plan. Ms. Woods replied this would be a full blown update to the Regional Development Plan, which is the land use component.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Ms. Pepper Whittlef from the City Transportation Department reported in mid-January the Federal government released another notice of available funding for the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the TIGER grant. The City approached the State again about being an applicant. Originally, the State Transportation Advisory Committee recommended two projects--a project in Denver and a project in Colorado Springs. The City of Pueblo's project was an alternate project. She stated Mr. Gilbert Ortiz, Pueblo's Transportation Commissioner, was instrumental in getting the City's application for the Dillon flyover on I-25 as a third project. The grant has been submitted at a cost of \$11.3 million to complete the whole interchange. The application was submitted on Monday, and felt the City has a fairly good chance of receiving funding. She said if you look at the U.S. map on the divvying of TIGER funding, Colorado is second to last. She stated she would like to thank all the entities who provided letters of support. Additionally, she thanked Transportation Commissioner Gilbert Ortiz for his efforts.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Nawrocki reported five of the seven City Council members were in Washington, D.C. two weeks ago. They met with our local delegation chiefs of staff from Congressman Scott Tipton and Senators Mark Udall and Michael Bennett's offices. They were not able to

see any of the local delegation in person because they were in session. He felt they had constructive visits with all three chiefs of staff. They had lunch with two of the chiefs of staff, and met in the office of the third. The City Council was well received by all three. The biggest issue which was discussed was Doss Aviation and the National Guard. Doss Aviation has prevented the National Guard from training from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The amount of touch downs for the National Guard has been cut in half during the last year. The impact to the City is \$500,000. Inclusion of the five-year contract will come up this September for renewal. It is the City's understanding that the National Guard is questioning why they should renew their contract with the City when they don't have access to the airport. All of the delegation members were supportive. The key person was Senator Udall because he sits on the Armed Forces Committee and was instrumental in getting that contract. His staffers had a total understanding of the issue. In 2008, there was an accident at the airport with one of the training flights. He stated Doss Aviation is a private company and they have a contract with the government to do screening for potential pilots, especially with the Air Force Academy. There was a training flight which got close to a C-130 during the landing and got caught in the turbulence behind it. The plane flipped over on the ground and there were a couple of serious injuries, but no fatalities. They were able to pull some strings to have the National Guard excluded from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday unless they saw there was a window for the National Guard to come in for an hour or two. He stated before the end of the day when they met, the City got a report back from Christine, who works for the Congressman, that they had lifted the clause that prevented the National Guard from flying during this time period. He stated the City Council still needs to see how this contract is going to go, but they are optimistic because they have the support of our local delegation. He stated what is important is the funding because it helps pay for the fire service at the airport, not only for the training flights but for any commercial flights or private planes used at the airport. He stated this is a significant amount of money, which would have to be replaced by the City's general fund.

Chairman Nawrocki stated the local delegation was also informed of the needs on I-25 and the Dillon flyover. Mr. Kaufman added that Chairman Nawrocki and he met with Congressman Tipton approximately two weeks before their trip to Washington, D.C., noting his staff informed them that they had been working on the Dillon flyover. Messrs. Nawrocki and he informed the delegation if we wait any longer that the \$11 million need would become a \$30 million need. Congressman Tipton informed them that a lot of this depends upon CDOT. He stated they understood this, but also informed them that if you are sending CDOT the money, then you should probably encourage them to take a hard look at this project.

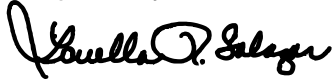
Chairman Nawrocki stated when they met with Congressman Tipton and his chief of staff, Nick Zupancic, they talked about the energy bill, especially with respect to renewable energy for Vestas. He stated it is hoped the bill would prevail with bipartisan support because it is important to our community as well as other communities within our State. Congressman Tipton was very assertive in terms of how supportive he was of the bill.

Ms. Daff stated we should be assured that these young men and women who are working for our legislators are bright, brilliant, and energetic and are willing to help. They recognize with the wind tax credits we are losing jobs potentially every day. They realize there is a lot of urgency to get this bill passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before PACOG, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louella R. Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

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Louella R. Salazar  
PACOG Recording Secretary

LRS