

Commissioners' Meeting May 2, 2017

Chairman Ray Garcia called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Gerald Cisneros, Ray Garcia and Max Vezzani were present.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cisneros and seconded by Commissioner Vezzani to approve the minutes of April 25, 2017. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vezzani and seconded by Commissioner Cisneros to correct the amount of the annual salary for Data Collector Maxson Wood III, noted incorrectly in the April 11th, 2017 minutes as \$22,644.00 per year. It is to be changed to the correct amount of \$22,464.00 per year. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vezzani and seconded by Commissioner Cisneros to approve an increase in annual salary, for Courtney Kelley, for completion of dispatch training, from \$27,216.00 per year to \$29,096.28 per year. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vezzani and seconded by Commissioner Cisneros to approve a transfer for Stephanie Clemons, from Emergency Dispatch Services to Detention Center, effective May 1, 2017 with salary change from \$27,216.00 per year to \$20,800.00 per year. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

10:05 A.M. Public Comment – Huerfano County resident and Pueblo County Water Resource Manager Kevin Niles, asked the Board to deny the Conditional Use Application #17-006, Commercial Marijuana Cultivation Facility at the end of Lascar Road which is on the Agenda today. Mr. Niles listed the following specific items as his concern:

- 1) There are no irrigation wells that he knows of, so the Facility will have to haul water causing more truck traffic and more dust.
- 2) A commercial green house has a very high electrical draw straining an already overloaded grid.
- 3) The local cannabis industry has over saturated the current market and he personally believes this one will not survive leaving abandoned buildings.
- 4) Any financial gain (for the county) will be negated by lowered property values; loss of aesthetic value; and loss of privacy.

Commissioner Vezzani noted to enter Kevin Niles statement into the record when Industries, Conditional Use Permit #17-006 is discussed later.

County Administrator John Galusha and the Board reviewed action items.

County Administrator John Galusha and the Board reviewed correspondence.

10:10 A.M. – Matthew Rhoads representing Black Blind Land Management Group, requested on behalf of Rochelle Venckus of Jojo’s Echo Ranch to be allowed to apply for a Colorado Marijuana Cultivation Medical License for a 25,000 square foot grow facility.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vezzani and seconded by Commissioner Cisneros to postpone the decision for Jojo’s Echo Ranch request to apply for a Marijuana Medical License until May 16, 2017. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

10:35 A.M. – Temporary Use Permit #17-014, Colorado Invitational Bong-A-Thon Property Manager Randi Jackson spoke on behalf of Sulphur Springs and stated that the location hosting the event has already spent \$30,000.00 clearing land and making improvements; and that the invitation only Bong-A-Thon will host between 500 and 700 attendees.

La Veta Fire Chief David DeTray, Wildfire Mitigation Program Manager Paul Branson, La Veta Town Marshall Harold Wilburn, La Veta Town Clerk Laurie Erwin and others spoke about safety concerns with an event involving a large number of attendees within the Indian Creek Wildland Urban Interface area of Huerfano County.

The safety issues being:

- 1) The sole ingress and egress to this area is a single two lane dirt road, would not be sufficient should a prompt and effective evacuation be required.
- 2) The area being rated at an Extreme Wildfire Hazard level in the La Veta Fire Protection District Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
- 3) The water resources for effectively fighting wildfire is limited in the area and even though the hosting location has made several contingency plans including a fire truck on site, it would not be sufficient for large fires considering the amount and condition of the forest vegetation, the existing topography and the prevailing winds influencing such wildfire behavior.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cisneros and seconded by Commissioner Vezzani to deny Temporary Use Permit #17-014 based on location and fire safety concerns. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

11:09 A.M – Sean Villard spoke on behalf of Sindustries, Inc., Conditional Use Permit #17-006. Mr. Villard stated items that will be addressed in complying with the application. He wants to build two (2) metal frame commercial buildings. Nikki Marion from Planning and Zoning stated that Sindustries, Inc., Conditional Use Permit #17-006 was voted down after the April 27, 2017 Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vezzani and seconded by Chairman Garcia to approve Conditional Use Permit #17-006 on behalf of Sindustries, Inc., subject to the following conditions:

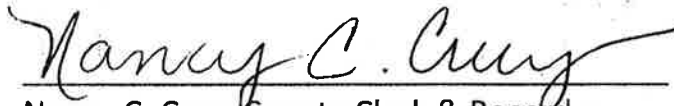
1. **Require Quit Claim Deed for the portion of County Road 110, as well as the property lying south and east of County Road 110, within the SW1/4 of the SW1/4.**
2. **Applicant shall install magnesium chloride treatment on County Road 110, from the proposed entrance of the property to the cattle guard 1.8 miles to the west.**

3. Applicant shall provide access for Sheriff and Huerfano County Code Enforcement.
4. Grasses shall be mowed, rather than tilled.
5. Applicant shall provide a Water Hauling Contract which not only promises to provide water, but states a specific amount of water to be provided.
6. There will be no use of well water for the grow facility.
7. A water meter will be installed and approved by Water Resources.
8. A 10% irrevocable letter of credit will be put in place for decommissioning the building should the business fail.
9. The business will be limited to Max Tier 2 level.
10. Business is to be reviewed after 1 year.

Motion passed with Commissioner Cisneros voting against.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cisneros and seconded by Commissioner Vezzani to adjourn. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 11:12 A.M.




Nancy C. Cruz, County Clerk & Recorder
Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners




Commissioners:



Edward R. Garcia, Chairman



Gerald A. Cisneros



Max Vezzani