NORTHEASTERN COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 19, 2024

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Northeastern Colorado Association of Local Governments was held virtually on June 19, 2024. Chairman Gordon Westhoff called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. with the following members and guests present:

Jerry Sonnenberg, Logan County Commissioner

Gordon Westhoff, Morgan County Commissioner

Tom Timm, Phillips County Commissioner

Kent Vance, Washington County Commissioner

Mike Leerar, Yuma County Commissioner

Kenneth Mooney, Executive Director

Janelle Machamer, Finance Officer

Meagan Priest, Human Resource Manager

Bev Dobner, AAA Director

Charles Bunnell, Transit Director

Shannon Trujillo, CMA Director

Shannon Monroe, Recording Secretary

Guests: Matt Ashby – Senior Housing; Nathan Randall - Ayers

Acceptance of Agenda: Mr. Leerar motioned to approve the agenda and Mr. Vance seconded; passed unanimously.

Minutes: Mr. Vance motioned to approve minutes from May 15, 2024 and Mr. Leerar seconded; passed unanimously.

Finance: Mrs. Machamer gave financial report for May 2024. Accounts payable were $291,459.65, payroll was $203,075.31 for a grand total of $494,534.96. Mr. Vance motioned to approve the finance report, Mr. Timm seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Samsara Additional Cameras: Mr. Bunnell presented that he found a comparable camera and service through Verizon for less money than Samsara. Verizon would install all 55 cameras so every vehicle would have one, NECALG would have a year-to-year contract, and their service has all the functionality that the existing Samsara’s have. Verizon would give NECALG a discount for our non-profit status. Mr. Leerar informed the group that Verizon service/reception is very poor in Yuma County and would be very hesitant to make the switch. Mr. Bunnell then stated each camera would have a signal booster to pull in the signal more than a cell phone and a 256 gig SD card that would record when out of cell service and then up-load once cell service was re-established. The Verizon contract would cost $29,282 the first year for 55 cameras and then be $34,782 per year after that due to a promotional discount the first year of $5,500.

Mr. Leerar motioned to rescind last months approval of the Samsara contract; Mr. Timm seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Mr. Vance motioned to approve the Verizon contract and have the transportation department vehicles changed from Samsara to Verizon; Mr. Leerar seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

New Items:

1. 2023 Audit: David Kauffman from Liittjohann, Kauffman and Pederson CPA presented audit findings for 2023. Found no issues or concerns in the process of the audit. Classified NECALG as a low-risk auditee. Mr. Leerar motioned to approve the audit; Mr. Vance seconded, passed unanimously.
2. Matt Ashby and Nathan Randall from Western Planning Leage at Ayres presented what they are working on Regional Housing Assessment. General insights are that the level of care across each of the counties is uneven and housing varies, not every county provides the same level of service. The existing units are about 85% occupancy but varies based on health needs. Over the next decade, expected to rise to 97% occupancy over the next decade. Some of our counties demand will exceed supply. They are anticipating a 20.9% increase in demand for senior housing over the next decade.
3. Sarah Arntt Administrator for New Vision a medical detox facility at St. Elizabeth hospital in Fort Morgan. Can accept most insurances including Medicaid and Medicare. Patients are in the main part of the hospital, not a separate lock down facility. Will medically help an individual withdraw from their substance without the stigma. Then will work with the patient on the next steps for care and it is all self-directed.
4. CEDS Project: Mr. Mooney reported that they received three comments from the public during the 30-day public comment period. Mr. Leerar motioned to move forward with the CEDS project, seconded by Mr. Vance, passed unanimously.

Director’s Report: Mr. Mooney reported the RFP is out for engineering and design for the Brush property. Mr. Bunnell will be picking up two of the refurbished buses tomorrow and will have one at next month’s board meeting.

Grant Navigator Update: July 17th will be Linda Merkle’s last day. Will start looking for a new Regional Grant Navigator.

Morgan County Update: Mr. Westhoff encouraged people to vote, Clerk & Recorder stated out of the 17,000 registered voters only 2,500 ballots have been turned in. Road repair is ongoing, and they are going through the audit process as well.

Closing Remarks: Mr. Leerar asked about other open positions. Mr. Westhoff suggested monthly updates from HR, it was agreed to have those at every board meeting.

Next meeting July 17, 2024 10:00 am In Person

Meeting adjourned 11:22 am.

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Gordon Westhoff, Chairman Mike Leerar, Secretary