

**HIGHWAY ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 21, 2018**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tom Vierzba, Ed Dills, Michael James, Ed Houle, Larry Tobias, Richard Robertson, Brian Galpin, Jim Mesite, Cheryl Everitt

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Brian Wess, Jean Meinzer

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jim Reid (EPC DPW), Jennifer Irvine (EPC DPW), Troy Wiitala (EPC DPW), Jana Nemeckova (EPC DPW), Pete Vujcich (EPC DPW), Nina Ruiz (EPC PCD), Nikki Simmons (EPC PCD), Stan VanderWerf (Commissioner)

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chair Vierzba called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ABSENCES**

Mr. Brian Wess and Ms. Jean Meinzer were excused.

**4. MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION (Mr. Tobias/Mr. Galpin)** to approve minutes of the January 24, 2018 meeting.  
**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. COMMISSIONER/CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**Commissioner VanderWerf**

- Mr. VanderWerf met with CDOT director and other CDOT members last week in regards the I-25 GAP project, specifically in regards the Toll Lanes.
- Mr. VanderWerf stated that he is now assigned to the STAC (State Transportation Advisory Committee). STAC meets monthly and any messages that we would like him to convey, please advice.
- Mr. VanderWerf announced that on Saturday 02/24/2018 at 10am, there will be a County sponsored session with CDOT and all citizens are invited to raise their concerns and ask questions about the Toll Lanes for the I-25 GAP project. Mrs. Irvine passed out flyers about this meeting.
- Short discussion took place about the Toll lanes.

**Cathy Lane (Citizen)**

- Expressed her concern about maintaining her road and surrounding ones. She lives on Kurie Road in Black Forest.
- Speed sign is missing on Holmes Road.

**Steve Jacobs (Citizen)**

- Mr. Jacobs is a supporter of the 4 lanes on the I-25 GAP project.
- Mr. Jacobs asked for re-evaluation of County's current Fire Plan in case of emergency and more clean up and tree cutting in the Black Forest area.

**Tom Vierzba (Chair)**

- Mr. Vierzba announced that Mr. Tobias and Ms. Everitt have been extended for additional 3 years, till February 2021.

**6. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. ADMINISTRATION**

**Jim Reid (Director, Department of Public Works)**

- DPW has been re-organized. Parking, Facilities, Security and ADA is no longer under DPW. DPW still maintains Highway, Engineering, Safety and Maintenance.
- Mr. Reid reminded all the commissioners, that on the off –months from HAC meeting, public meetings need to be organized to keep citizens informed. Each HAC member shall organized these meetings in their district.
- Mr Reid and team are attending CAPA (Colorado Asphalt and Pavement Association) tonight in Denver. DPW won an award for the Marksheffel Road South Project. Mr. Reid thanked Mrs. Irvine's team, Dennis Barron the project manager.
- List of approved road project will go on the BoCC consent calendar for approval and work session will be set up to educate BoCC commissioners about the selection process for each road. Mr. Reid invited all HAC members. Details (date, time, location) about this work session will be shared when available.

**B. ENGINEERING/HIGHWAY DIVISION**

**Jennifer Irvine (County Engineer, Department of Public Works)**

**Nikki Simmons (County Controller, EPC)**

- Mrs. Irvine introduced Ms. Simmons as the speaker for the 2018 budget. Mrs. Irvine asked members for their feedback on the presentation, so we can provide additional information if needed.
- Mr. Vierzba stated that the HAC requests additional detail related to budgets. The data presented did not include any funding received from PPRTA, EPA, CDOT or other municipal, state or federal agencies. The rational for the request is that almost all of the construction and most of the maintenance projects performed by DPW are accomplished by using funding from these outside agencies.

## **2018 Road & Bridge Budget (MOE)**

- Ms. Simmons presented and explained the Historical Budgeted Revenue and Expenditures. The report includes Mill Levy, Major Revenue Sources and Budgeted Expenditures. Years presented were 2014 – 2018.

## **C. ENGINEERING/HIGHWAY DIVISION**

**Jennifer Irvine (County Engineer, Department of Public Works)**

**Nina Ruiz (County Planner/Project Manager, PCD)**

- Mrs. Irvine introduced Mrs. Ruiz, the presenter of the FH project.

### **Flying Horse North Development Application**

- Mrs. Irvine reminded all that this project is still in process and in review. Mrs. Ruiz will give updates on the review process. Mr. Vierzba reminded all Commissioners that the HAC is not part of the official development review process and that the information presented during the meeting was for information purposes only.
- Mrs. Ruiz went over what has been approved to date, the applications that are currently under review and explained the general process of what to anticipate moving forward.
- For detailed and updated information go to:  
<https://epcdevplanreview.com/Public/ProjectDetails/102871>
- To voice your opinion about this project email: [ninaruiz@elpasoco.com](mailto:ninaruiz@elpasoco.com) or via post mail: EPC Planning and Community Development, 2880 International Circle, Suite 110, Colorado Springs, CO 80910

**Judy von Ahlefeldt (Citizen), Karen Hilborn (Citizen)**

- Mrs. Von Ahlefeldt and Mrs. Hilborn presented their concerns about this development. Their main focus was on the safety and the access roads, specifically safety on Holmes Road.

## **D. ENGINEERING/ HIGHWAY DIVISION**

**Jennifer Irvine (County Engineer, Department of Public Works)**

**Victoria Chavez (Principal Transportation Planner, Department of Public Works)**

**El Paso County Road Impact Fee**

- Mrs. Chavez explains what a Road Impact Fee (RIF) is and how it works.
- RIF are fees that are required to be paid by all new developments and do not provide funding for the County to operate or maintain existing roads.

## **E. ENGINEERING/ HIGHWAY DIVISION**

**Troy Wiitala (Highway Division Manager, Department of Public Works)**

- DPW received three (3) new tractors and two (2) grader's attachments. Getting them ready for the mowing season.
- Graveling program – working on Mid Jones, weather permitting.
- Stock piling for Bagget Road and prepping Buckboard Drive and Forest Edge Road.
- Dust abatement program should start the first week of May.
- Chip sealing program is planned to start the first week of June.
- Customer service requests have been keeping DPW busy, especially with drainage and some snow plowing.
- DPW is working an IGA with the town of Ramah. If the IGA is accepted, DPW will chip seal approximately 2 miles of the roads in Ramah.
- DPW is assisting Parks Division with Willow Springs project, helping mainly with an erosion control.
- Staffing – DPW has seven (7) vacant positions that are posted for another month.

## **F. ENGINEERING / HIGHWAY DIVISION**

### **Jennifer Irvine (County Engineer, Department of Public Works)**

- Mrs. Irvine gave updates on projects that are currently under construction or under construction in a near future.
- These projects are: Galley Road pedestrian improvements, Golden Lane bridge replacement, Judge Orr CBC – flood recovery project, Colorado Centre ADA improvements, Las Vegas bridge drop structure and South Academy overlay.
- Mrs. Irvine shared contact information for the I-25 GAP project. Website/survey: [i25gap.codot.gov](http://i25gap.codot.gov) / project email [i25gap@codot.us](mailto:i25gap@codot.us) / project hotline 719-297-5143.

## **7. VOTING ON NOMINATED HAC OFFICERS**

### **Tom Vierzba (Chair), Cheryl Everitt**

- Voting on nominated members: Tom Vierzba for Chair, Cheryl Everitt for Vice Chair and Lawrence Tobias for Second Vice Chair.

**MOTION (Mr. Galpin/Mr. Tobias)** to approve Mr. Vierzba for Chair.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION (Mr. Galpin/Mr. Tobias)** to approve Mrs. Everitt for Vice Chair.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION (Mr. Galpin/Mrs. Everitt)** to approve Mr. Tobias for Second Vice Chair.

**MOTION TO APPROVE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **8. AGENDA TOPICS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**

- Budget - broken down by the funding source and the project that it will be used for.

- Updated road counts on Hodgen Road.

**ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was adjourned at 11:38 AM.

**Next HAC meeting will be April 18, 2018**

Respectfully submitted,

Jana Nemeckova  
Admin Tech for Engineering/Board Liaison – Department of Public Works