

**Minutes of the Proceedings of
The Board of County Commissioners of Teller County, Colorado
January 23, 2025**

In attendance:

Dan Williams, County Commissioner/Chair
Erik Stone, County Commissioner/Vice-Chair
Bob Campbell, County Commissioner
Ross Herzog, County Administrator
Paul Hurcomb, County Attorney
Stephanie Kees, Clerk & Recorder

1. 9:16 a.m. Convene in Regular Session:

The Board of County Commissioners of Teller County convened in regular session in the Teller County Centennial Building in Cripple Creek, CO.
Mr. Williams presided.
Mr. Stone gave the invocation.
Mr. Tim Kroening, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded, to **approve** the minutes of the meeting of the Teller County Board of County Commissioners on December 5, 2024, as presented. All Commissioners voted yes.

Accounts Payable:

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded, to **approve** the accounts payable run date of January 21, 2025, in the amount of \$302,079.78. All Commissioners voted yes.

Board Reports:

Mr. Cambell:

- The Colorado Legislature currently has 179 proposed bills for this session.
- Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) will provide an update tomorrow on bills of interest for counties.
- He remains busy with Pikes Peak Workforce (PPWF) and Colorado Technical Services, Inc. (CTSI) audit.

Mr. Stone:

- He was elected as 1st Chair for the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG) for a 2 year term.
- He was re-elected as Vice Chair of the Region 16 Opioid Abatement Council. The Chair is District Attorney Michael Allen.
 - The Council recently has a presentation about the high potency of THC with

most products having more than 60% THC levels. Prior to legalization, the typical potency was 5% THC levels. Higher potency leads to higher addiction and highlights the need to set limits on the THC potency.

- Attended a Board of Social Services (BOSS) meeting. Director of Department of Human Services (DHS) reported the department is doing well but concerned with future funding with this legislation.
- Modular Housing Bill coming through legislature. The Board will continue to fight for local control.
- He is interested in becoming the Chair of CCI Transportation Committee.

Mr. Williams:

- Commented on the efforts of the Teller County Commissioners to lead important committees for CCI and state-wide boards. Commissioner Campbell focuses on taxes, Commissioner Stone on transportation, and Commissioner Williams on land issues.
- Commented on pending bills on agricultural land, cultivated meat, regional approach to jails, nuclear energy, cost of ground ambulances, buffalo as a game animal, and the modular housing bill.
- A decision was made on shooting ranges in the federal forest. The Forest Service is moving to implementation of the decision, actual ranges will be constructed, and there will be a process for the public's input
- Announced a meeting on Monday at 5:00 pm at the Heritage Center in Cripple Creek to discuss the proposed gun bills.
- A public statement was issued concerning the Ring the Peak trails and the cooperation between stakeholders and land managers.
- Noted that three bills will be introduced concerning fire insurance. Commissioners have no control over the situation but they encourage the community to testify at legislation.
- Sheriff to hold press conference tomorrow concerning recent arrests of illegal immigrants in Teller County for criminal activities.
- Encouraged the public to testify on Senate Bill 25-003 regarding prohibitions on semi-automatic firearms.

Elected Officials Report:

Steve Tomskey, Coroner

- Presented the Coroner's 2024 annual report.

Board comments and discussion regarding working with the El Paso County Coroner for perform autopsies, toxicology, finger printing, etc.

Stephanie Kees, Clerk and Recorder

- Announced that her office has seen an increase of property fraud and reminded property owners of the free Fraud Guard program offered by her office.



Commissioner Stone commented on the use of Fraud Guard. It is a great service and encouraged people to sign up.

Administrator's Report:

Ross Herzog, County Administrator

- Encouraged property owners to utilize the Fraud Guard service.
- Gave a reminder of winter driving and cold weather tips.

2. Presentation: Colorado Parks and Wildlife: Area Wildlife Manager Update

Presenting: Tim Kroening, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Area Wildlife Manager

- Provided an update on the wolves in Colorado and the one wolf near Teller County.
- There are 2 CPW officers in Teller County.
- CPW has forms on their website to report any wolf sightings.

Board comments and questions.

3. Time Reserved for Department Heads: None

4. Time Reserved for the Public without an Appointment:

Darlene Kobobel, Founder of Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center

- Thanked CPW for being transparent of the wolf reintroduction and tracking information.
- Noted the wolf in Park County is healthy and it is likely looking for a mate.
- Noted that there have not been any depredations.

Commissioners thanked Ms. Kobobel for her comments and for everything she does for the community.

5. COMMISSIONERS EXECUTIVE MATTERS

ITEM MOVED TO FEBRUARY 6 MEETING: Consider a Resolution approving an amended final plat to adjust the interior lot line between Lot 21 and Lot 22, Ranch Resorts of Colorado, Subdivision No.2.

Treasurer: Consider acceptance and authorize publishing of Teller County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report for the period July 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

Presenting: Krystal Brown, Treasurer

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Campbell moved, and Mr. Stone seconded, that the Board **accept and authorize the publication** of Teller County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report for the period July 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024. All Commissioners voted yes.

Public Trustee: Consider the acceptance of Teller County Public Trustee's Fourth Quarter Report for 2024.

Presenting: Krystal Brown, Public Trustee

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded to **accept** the Teller County Public Trustee's Fourth Quarter Report for 2024 as presented. All Commissioners voted yes.

Public Trustee: Consider acceptance of Teller County Public Trustee's Annual Report for 2024.

Presenting: Krystal Brown, Treasurer

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Campbell moved, and Mr. Stone seconded to **accept** and the Teller County Public Trustee's Annual Report for 2024. All Commissioners voted yes.

Recessed 10:57

Reconvened 11:07

Clerk and Recorder: Consider a Resolution authorizing the Clerk and Recorder to establish Election Precincts with no more than 2,000 active eligible electors.

Presenting: Stephanie Kees, Clerk and Recorder

Public Comment: None.

Action: Mr. Stone moved, and Mr. Campbell seconded, to **approve Resolution No. 01-23-2025(06)**, a Resolution authorizing the Clerk and Recorder to establish Election Precincts with no more than 2000 active eligible electors. All Commissioners voted yes.

COMMISSIONER'S BUSINESS ITEMS: Ross Herzog, County Administrator

The Board duly approved the following business agenda items:

1. Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Vivid Engineering Group, Inc. as presented with any modifications requested by the Contractor and approved by the County Attorney.
2. Appointments of Deputy County Attorneys Matt Niznik and Robert Bucknam.
3. Other administrative matters received after agenda deadlines. None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

APPROVED:



Dan Williams, Chair, Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:



Stephanie Kees, Clerk & Recorder

