

Montezuma County BOCC 10/16/17

Notes and comments on the recent meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. These are not minutes.

ROADS dept. reported that preparations for winter is involving grading, gravelling some drive approaches , culverts. Also looked at the Road 35.6 being now a “limited maintenance” green road to the BLM access location. The BLM really needs to give a time line and plan for what they are going to do for parking access to prevent confusion with the public thinking they can now access from road 35.6. Same problem exists with Sand Canyon parking area where the BLM has no apparent time line for construction. BOCC asked for James to set up on site meetings with locals and BLM to resolve this issue.

HISTORICAL FLUME project is now receiving bids for completion of the project, which will be the wood restoration portion. Bids have been received from 3 parties, two local and one from Vermont. Award of bid will be made this coming Wednesday. To remind you, the restoration is with funding from the State Historical office. The concrete supports were restored last year, now the wooden flume restoration will complete the project which is viewed from a new historical view site on hwy 160 just west of the Fair Grounds. Here are a couple of pictures taken last winter after concrete work and view site were completed.



You can see from the picture on the right, the wooden flume restoration is going to be a lot of work. Goal is to use as much of the original wood as possible.

FOREST SERVICE mentioned that they are no longer managing the Ferris Cabin campground due to low use and high costs. On November 3rd the record of decision will be made on the Rico-Dolores West TMP. They will meet with The BOCC of both counties prior to public release. They anticipate about a 6% reduction in their budget for the new year. Question was raised about funding for extending the breakwater on McPhee, which was to have an additional 800' put on. They said there is no money for it even though the closed Ferris Cabin and Sage Hen, saving those cost. Said they have 4 personnel to cover the other 10 areas and clean up from hunters. The Norwood road RS2477 issue was raised and the answer is the same as before, they are STILL researching the history of the 3 mile section that was re-aligned from the original road bed. This is simply the feds dragging it out long enough for it to "go away". The BOCC told them the fixing up of that road is necessary for public

safety, as that has become a very high traffic road. The Boggy Draw mountain bike trail expansion proposal will be out soon. The forest is experiencing increasing insect damage in the pine from the mountain pine beetle as well as the western pine beetle. Fortunately , there is a good marked for paneling made from the pine that has the blue stain fungus carried in by the beetles.

SOCIAL SERVICES Dept. will be sharing the old courthouse area with the DA's staff. The Social Services is now doing necessary remodeling to allow them to move in and consolidate their services.