

Montezuma County BOCC , plus week of 1/27/20

Pretty active week. These are “notes” from the BOCC meeting which may contain personal comments in italics. Remember, the BOCC meetings are all video taped live, which you can watch, just go into the County WebSite and click on the Arrow on the right side (Montezuma County You Tube). There you can also view previous meeting, to get the whole story from the horse’s mouth, not just mine!

This week in the BOCC, the new Museum director, Ann Brown was in to give update on progress, they have secured \$275,000 and are in progress of getting work done and hope to have a Museum operational by August.

Emergency management is busy with getting updated MOU with Dolores County for E-911 system, getting an updated emergency mgt mitigation plan and new Wildfire agreement with the State.

The 4 States Ag Expo is planned for March 19-21 and is making changes this year, more on Agriculture, more for kids and the vendor spots are reduced in price. So plan now. (*while in the County website, go to depts.. Fair, and check their calendar so you know what is coming up.*)

Veterans Office Rick Torres reported a good past year of helping veterans receive past benefits that they had never applied for. SO, if you are a Veteran, check with Rick on what you may be entitled to be receiving. (*he has an outstanding record of navigating through the VA system*). ALSO WOMEN VETERANS can now receive a special vehicle license plate for their vehicle.

Montezuma County Transportation (MOCO) wants to remind people that the transport bus is not only for Senior’s, but ALL residents, cost of \$2 / ride in town and out of town is on a mile basis. Just call them for pick up. They are looking into a bus run in town on a fixed route and schedule, for a fixed rate also.

M&M Truck “dump” is being looked into, contacting CDPHE for what can be done to get the eye sore cleaned up.

Lodgers Tax Board is in need of a new member, an advertisement for interest will be in the paper soon, so if YOU or know of a business person in that arena that might be interested get on the list.

The County BOCC had established a new position of County Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The position has now been filled with Ms. Joyce Williams. Been on board about 2 weeks.

The CCI meeting of Colorado Counties was attended by Commissioners Suckla and Candelaria. *(this is organization of all Counties BOCC's that act as a Lobby in regard to legislative actions in the State.)* The CCI is "One County=One Vote. The Counties are beginning to have considerably more impact with legislators. *(this is something we are going to need to discuss more, and use this to begin to reinstate our Representative Government at the State Level.)*

In the BOCC meeting public address time, a local business man, Justine Vasterling, manager of the Holiday Inn Express, announced that he will be running for one of the vacant positions on the Cortez City Council said that he will be interested in bringing the City and County into better working relationships.

SPECIAL NOTE! Commissioner Jim Candelaria announced that he wants to try to establish a "Public Availability" time one day a week. He will be in the Council Chamber Room Each Wednesday from Noon to 3 pm. This will be the day after the regular Council meetings. So if you have issues to discuss he will be there. This will be a trial for February to see if there is any interest. So Feb. 5th would be the first day.

OTHER interest. The City of Cortez held it last open hearing on the Proposed City Land Use Code. There was a record turnout and it filled the Council Chamber with standing room only PLUS two other rooms with video screens and they were full. The meeting started at 7:30 p.m. and the public input lasted until about 11:10, with a vote taken at 11:20 p.m. Councilman Noyes moved to reject the proposed Plan, it was 2nd, and roll call vote was unanimous to Reject. This action signaled the recognition of the people's Constitutional Right to Life, Liberty and Property, Trumps Efforts to establish a utopian community. Further, that the City and

County must work together for the greater benefit of ALL in the County. This was expressed clearly when Commissioner stated publicly that the County was 100% opposed to the City's proposed code. Earlier, Commissioner stated that the City and County need to get together to establish an Airport Advisory Board to consider improving air transportation opportunities in this area.