



MINUTES
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Town of Red Cliff Chambers, 400 Pine Street, Red Cliff
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER at 7:01pm

ROLL CALL

Mayor Duke Gerber	Trustee Mary Walker	Trustee Ben Kleimer
Mayor Pro Tem Art Fox	Trustee Ondrej Mertlik	Trustee Cassi MacUmbert
Deputy Clerk Chris Brown	Admin/Clerk Melissa Matthews	Trustee Dana Veljacic (arrived at 7:49)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - *Items to be added or pulled from the agenda*

Motion by Art Fox to approve the agenda, seconded by Cassi MacUmbert, unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. September 5, 2023

Motion by Art Fox to approve the minutes, seconded by Duke Gerber, unanimously approved with Trustee Cassi MacUmbert abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - *For items not on the agenda, please keep comments to five minutes or less.*

Ramone Montoya – 177 Eagle Street, former Mayor: Montoya provided a summary of his time serving as Mayor of Cliff in regards to key events and actions taken over the years (starting about 20 years ago) to address compliance issues with the town’s water and waste water systems, securing funding for improvements, and the state of the town’s financials at the time. Montoya explained the valuable role that Barb Smith played in the town’s success throughout this stressful time.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Proposition 123

Staff explained the basics of Proposition 123 and the commitment required by the town should we decide to participate. The commitment for Red Cliff would be to add 1 unit per year or 2 units total by 2026. Our DOLA representatives have strongly encouraged us to participate, as the potential awarded money is significant. After discussion, the Board directed staff to make the commitment and begin efforts to comply with Proposition 123.

Motion by Cassi MacUmbert to approve participation and file a commitment for Proposition 123, seconded by Ben Kleimer, unanimously approved.

2. NWCCOG 2024 Membership

The membership dues for 2024 will be increasing for next year from \$216 to \$241. After discussion, the Board agreed to continue being a member of NWCCOG as the value provided to the Town is worth this investment.

Motion by Duke Gerber to approve continuing membership with NWCCOG, seconded by Art Fox, unanimously approved.

3. Discuss Employee Benefits

As part of budget discussions, we have been looking at a new program (retirement savings accounts) that the Town is now required to offer to employees and the options that come along with it. We will be using the State program: Colorado Secure Savings. The town may offer a match for employees who choose to

participate in this program. This could be a benefit to full and/or part time employees, and if approved, will be included in next year's budget. Based on staff's research, it seems that for those employers who do offer a retirement savings match, it is usually around 4% to 6%. Discussion by the Board resulted in an agreement that this would be a suitable and advantageous benefit to offer and directed staff to include this in the upcoming budget, making it available to all employees.

4. Discuss the responsibility of maintenance/repair of south end of Eagle St.

The road that extends South of Eagle Street, passed the circle is owned by Union Pacific Railroad. A homeowner who lives down there has requested that road base be added to the dirt road in the section from the Eagle River bridge to past the Gallegos' residence. There is one section specifically where the dirt has worn away from the drain pipe (which is acting as a culvert) from the spring. The Town does have the right to use this road to access the river and a fire hydrant/bleeder. Although, use of this road by Town staff is very minimal. After speaking with the maintenance team, the drain pipe (culvert) is potentially a problem if it were to break. Maintenance/repair of this section of road is not in our budget, as it is private property. However, it seems that it would be beneficial to the Town to repair the culvert situation. The other repairs to the road would be the responsibility of the landowner. John Volk currently has his equipment in Town doing other repairs and he believes it would take about ½ of a day to do this repair/replacement. After discussion, the Board directed staff to do the repairs to the culvert using materials that we have on hand.

STAFF/TRUSTEE UPDATES

Mayor, Duke Gerber:

- Community Unity Day was well attended and a good community event with delicious food – Thanks to Julie & Shane.

Clerk, Melissa Matthews:

- With the new retirement savings accounts being established, we will automatically be able to offer direct deposit to employees should the Board wish to. After brief discussion, the Board agreed that this would be useful and directed staff to do so.
- Barb Smith will be in a different role next year. For the budget, we are proposing 12 hours/week for special projects/consulting. If she were to work as a sub-contractor, the proposed rate (\$52/hour with no benefits) would be higher than if she were to work as an employee (\$38/hour with sick pay and vacation), as there are tax and insurance considerations. The Board agreed that either option is agreeable and Smith may choose what will work best for her.
- Regarding the budget, we have not previously had funding in for grant matches in the advertising section. As we continue to move forward with programs to promote responsible visitation and recreation such as the ensuing process to get the completed visitor's guide printed and signage purchased, other grants will be necessary which require matches. Staff is recommending an allotment in our 2024 budget for grant matching opportunities which will be focused on these issues. Discussion by the Board concurred that this is an important matter that not only benefits residents but also our business and therefore directed staff to include \$2,500 for grant matches in the 2024 budget.
- We need to renew our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State establishing the appointee for the sales tax revenue report access which has been Melissa Matthews in the past. Motion by Cassi MacUmbert to appoint Melissa Matthews for the revenue report access for the Town of Red Cliff, seconded by Dana Veljacic, unanimously approved.
- Planner Scot Hunn has been talking with TJ from Community Planning Strategies regarding the reviewing and possibly updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan and/or its land use code. They have looked into grant opportunities and are recommending an administrative planning grant at this time. This would allow focus on a public process to perform outreach, meetings with

P&Z/Board, and to perform a land use analysis (evaluating the current mix for residential vs. commercial) to frame discussions around the Town's future form a land use and economic standpoint. It would establish a roadmap, which we could then use to apply for additional grants to put the plan into action. The Board agreed that they would like to get another joint work session scheduled for the first meeting in November or the first meeting in December and would like to have specific goals in mind for this discussion.

- The roof replacement and chimney repair have been completed. We will now begin the work of getting the Museum reassembled and reopened.
- John Volk and his team are working on repairs in Town this week. They have completed the repair at the end of Eagle Street, and today they did the repair at the top of the Monument Street Bridge. Tomorrow they will be working on Monument Street. The homeowner near the bridge repair was upset that she was not notified that her driveway was going to be dug up. I have talked to Volk about this and we will be sure to notify residents better in the future.
- Proposition HH would lower property taxes owed for homes and businesses for at least ten years, and allow the state to retain money that would otherwise be refunded to taxpayers under TABOR through at least 2032, temporarily changes how taxpayer TABOR refunds are distributed, and creates a new property tax limit for most local governments, among other things. Since we will not know the outcome of the election before our budget for 2024 is due, we will be calculating it based on the assumption that Prop HH passes, which would be a lower property tax receipt for the Town next year. If Prop HH does not pass, we will make that adjustment to the budget when we amended it next year.
- Last year, we received complaints about four snowmobiles which were behind/next to the Water Street Condo's on the east side. Staff was informed that these were owned by a homeowner there, and confirmed that they were not on Town property (the unmaintained alleyway on the east side of the buildings). This past week, the property management company for the Condo's asked our staff to remove the remaining two snowmobiles, which have been moved on the property line. We informed them of the history of these, and that therefore removal would be the responsibility of the Condo Association.
- Community Unity Day was a success. Huge thank you to all the County services and other vendors who came, the local musicians led by Ron Mitchel, and to Julie and Shane (and Tim Parks) for doing the planning, shopping, smoking, and cooking of the delicious food.
- On October 14th at 2pm, we will have a pumpkin carving and hot chocolate event for kids of all ages at the old baseball field (inside the auditorium if weather requires). The Community Fund will provide a pumpkin and carving materials.

Trustee Ondrej:

- Inquired about the unimproved alleyway that is on the east side of the Water Street townhouses and is used for them to access their parking area and whose responsibility is it to maintain this. Staff explained that it is the responsibility of the homeowners, as it is not maintained by the Town.

Trustee Dana Veljacic:

- Provided an update on the Eagle Valley Transportation Authority. They are trying to increase available busses during 'hot moments' on the bus routes by getting a supplemental bus service to increase the routes during these peak times. They do not have enough drivers to operate this way on their own, so they will need to outsource this. This concept is already in place for the Beaver Creek bus system and works well.

Trustee Art Fox:

- Inquired about the Old Town Hall building in regards to the visually failing concrete foundation and the gas meter on the side that does not look stable. Staff explained that we hope to hear by the

end of the month regarding grant opportunities to shore up the building, and we will inspect the gas meter situation.

- Noted that there is frequent traffic at high speeds on the South end of Eagle Street and wondered if more speed bumps could be put in place down there. Staff noted this for next summer season.

BILL PAY

1. General Account

Breitzman Masonry	5100 · Building/Grounds - Chimney Roof Repairs	\$ (2,400.00)
Eagle County Animal Services	5050 · Animal Control	\$ (213.00)
Karp Neu Hanlon, PC	5013 · Attorney	\$ (141.00)
Linda Overcash-By the Numbers	5014 · Accounting/Bookkeeping/Finance	\$ (2,050.50)
Mitchell & Company, LLC	5046 · Computer & Internet	\$ (123.00)
Waste Management	5086 · Trash Collection	\$ (145.87)
Water Quality Control Professionals	5021/5031 · WTP/WWTP Operators 5022/5032 · Repairs	\$ (2,231.18)
Xcel Energy x7923-0	5084 · Xcel Street Lights	\$ (15.50)
Xcel Energy x7080-4	5082 · Xcel TV Tower	\$ (71.10)
Xerox Financial Services - Copier	5041 · Postage, Print, Telephone, Supplies	\$ (209.62)
Smith, Barbara J	Payroll	\$ (1,842.11)
Smith, Barbara J	Reimbursement - Health Insurance	\$ (349.15)
Beyer, David	Payroll	\$ (1,313.69)
Brown, Chris	Payroll	\$ (414.66)
Sandoval, Lorenzo	Payroll	\$ (1,066.63)
Matthews, Melissa	Payroll	\$ (1,794.84)
Matthews, Melissa	Reimbursement - Health Insurance	\$ (349.15)
Matthews, Melissa	Reimbursement - Mileage	\$ (93.01)
Gallegos, Nick	Payroll	\$ (1,245.58)
Martinez, William	Payroll	\$ (1,538.01)
Martinez, William	Reimbursement - Health Insurance	\$ (349.15)

Motion by Cassi MacUmbert to approve the General Account bill pay, seconded by Ben Kleimer, unanimously approved.

2. Enterprise Account

American Conservation & Billing Solutions	5028 · Meter Reads/Billing	\$ (699.75)
Ferguson Waterworks	5022 · Repairs, Testing & Maintenance - WTP	\$ (684.90)
USDA/Rural Development	2075 · Refunding Bonds - Series A	\$ (777.00)
USDA/Rural Development	2085 · Refunding Bonds - Series B	\$ (829.00)
Water Quality Control Professionals	5021/5031 · WTP/WWTP Operators 5022/5032 · Repairs	\$ (5,161.21)
Xcel Energy -x1529-6	5023 · Utilities - WTP	\$ (443.57)
Xcel Energy -x8434-7	5033 · Utilities - WWTP	\$ (1,375.96)

Motion by Art Fox to approve the Enterprise Account bill pay, seconded by Cassi MacUmbert, unanimously approved.

3. Community Fund Account

City Market	5051 · Marketing & Town Events - Kids Summer Lunch Program	\$ (31.15)
Costco	5051 · Marketing & Town Events - Community Unity Day	\$ (377.65)
Kristina Finamore	5051 · Marketing & Town Events	\$ (537.60)

Walmart	5051 · Marketing & Town Events - Community Unity Day	\$ (213.51)
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Motion by Ben Kleimer to approve the Community Fund Account bill pay, seconded by Duke Gerber, unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Art Fox to adjourn, seconded by Cassie MacUmber, unanimously approved at 8:47pm.