

Durango Hills Road District Number One Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
September 26, 2016

**APPROVED**

Formal notice was provided to La Plata County via Jan Mayer-Gawlik, and subsequently publically posted at the county administration building and in three locations within the road improvement district, regarding a meeting of the Durango Hills Road Improvement District Number One Advisory Committee. The meeting was announced by La Plata County to be conducted on September 26, 2016, and start at 6 PM. The meeting was to be conducted at the La Plata County Administrative Building at 1011 East 2nd Avenue, Durango, CO 81301 in the Training Room.

Said meeting was conducted as announced.

**Date:** September 26, 2016

**Location:** La Plata County Administrative Building at 1011 East 2nd Avenue, Durango, CO 81301 in the Training Room

**Start Time:** Meeting called to order by Advisory Board Chairman, Richard Woodbury, at 5:57 PM.

**End time:** Meeting closed at 7:45 PM.

**Committee Attendees:**

5 of 6 Committee members present. One committee vacancy.

- Russell Kimble
- Mark Pearson
- Dan Olson
- Alan Shupe
- Richard Woodbury

1 sitting committee member excused.

- Jim Rockelmann

**County Attendees:**

- Devon Schmidt, Contract Manager

**Members of the Public (who signed the sign-in sheet):**

- Charles Berglund
- Cheryl Berglund
- Dan Featheringill
- Russ Kimble
- Sora Pearson
- Howard Rachlin
- Mary Rogers
- Steve Rogers
- Genie Shupe

- Alan Shupe

### **Meeting Discussion and Directives:**

Committee Chair Richard Woodbury welcomed residents and Devon Schmidt, County Contracts Manager.

#### Approve Minutes From 09/01/2016 Meeting

- Minutes from the Committee's previous meeting on 9/1/2016 were approved as submitted by DHRID Secretary Dan Olson.

#### Old Business

- In response to concerns voiced at the September 1, 2016 Advisory Committee meeting regarding the amount of aggregate that Waldo Excavating used on the lower portion of district roads during summer maintenance, Richard Woodbury reported that Waldo Excavating has not changed his protocol for resurfacing those sections of road.

#### Response to Bob Pfeiffer Letter To The Editor

- Richard Woodbury informed meeting participants of Bob Pfeiffer's recent letter to the editor attacking the integrity of the DHRID Advisory Committee.
- The letter can be found here:  
<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20160924/OPINION03/160929735/0/Opinion/Unethical-acts-by-commissioners-can%E2%80%99t-continue>
- Dan Olson read the letter at the request of a district resident who had not yet read it.
- Advisory Committee members discussed at length whether or not it was better to respond to the letter or just view it as political/election year mud slinging that the Committee should avoid engaging.
- Mark Pearson pointed out that the accusations were made, and being part of the public record should be corrected.
- Russell Kimble felt that a letter should be submitted to the Herald, but a positive letter.
- Alan Shupe felt strongly that the committee should not respond or only respond to district residents.
- Members of the public spoke, mostly favoring a public response but one that took the high road and didn't get negative.
- Russell Kimble made a motion for the Committee to send a response letter to the Herald. Mark Pearson seconded the motion. After additional discussion, 4 members voted in favor of the motion (Russell Kimble, Dan Olson, Mark Pearson, Richard Woodbury) and one voted against (Alan Shupe).
- Dan Olson will draft a new version of a letter and Richard Woodbury will circulate with committee members to finalize.

### Advisory Committee Vacancy

- Richard Woodbury informed all present that La Plata County Commissioners are currently working to fill the committee's vacancy created by Bob Pfeiffer's resignation.
- The Commissioners are planning to fill the position even though the term for this position expires in January of 2017. Theoretically, Commissioners will need to reappoint either their new appointee or make a second new appointment shortly after the first appointment is made.
- Information on how to apply for the position is posted on the DHRID Advisory Committee website, and also posted on the County's website here: <http://co.laplata.co.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=1323753&pageId=5491380>
- In addition to filling this vacancy, three additional committee seats expire in January of 2017.
- Residents interested in serving on the committee are encouraged to apply.

### Fall Maintenance Options

- Richard Woodbury requested three bids for fall maintenance work from Waldo Excavating.
- The first bid was to address the washboard on Stagecoach continuing on to Silver Mesa Driveway until just below the intersection with N. Durango Road. This bid would use almost all of our \$8,300 fall maintenance budget.
- 67% of district traffic travels up Stagecoach, and 32% goes north on Silver Mesa Driveway.
- Lower Nusbaum and Sagebrush have held up pretty well according to Advisory Committee accounts..
- The application rate for the mag chloride on this section would be ~1/2 of the county's current rate, but would not include the entire section of resurfaced road.
- Alan Shupe asked if there was a 10% buffer in our remaining line item that might be able to cover the additional mag chloride. No definitive answer was given but Ms. Schmidt and Richard Woodbury were going to look into that option.
- Alan Shupe made a motion, seconded by Mark Pearson, to accept the \$8,200 proposal submitted by Waldo Excavating.
- The Committee then discussed a proposal for \$17,853 to add one culvert to Sagebrush. This proposal seemed excessively high to most committee members, though it was acknowledged that significant amounts of fill would need to be brought in to lift the road up as the area is sitting on significant bedrock.
- Dan Olson asked Ms. Schmidt if there were any options available to the committee to get alternative contractor opinions to have a second data point when evaluating Waldo's proposals.
- A vote was held on Alan Shupe's motion. All present were in favor of the motion. The motion passes.
- Contractor is scheduled to begin on October 17.
- The Committee also discussed a \$27,582 proposal to bring the first 0.2 miles of N. Durango road up to the standard of the rest of the district. Again, committee

members felt the cost was excessive and questioned what standard Waldo was using to create his proposal.

- Richard Woodbury agreed to speak with Waldo and ask for more detail on both the N. Durango and Sagebrush quotes.

#### Contract Bids - Devon Schmidt

- Contracts for the DHRID services will be rebid in early 2017.
- Devon Schmidt, the County's new Contracts Manager, will be working with the Advisory Committee in evaluation options for framing the goals and scope of work of the district.
- Ms. Schmidt anticipates doing preliminary research and beginning dialogue with the Advisory Committee in early November. She would like to have the RFP "hit the streets" in early January giving contractors and county staff enough time to work through the contracting process.
- Ms. Schmidt provided the Committee and residents her business card and a letter outlining the contracting process.
- Richard Woodbury asked if we had an opportunity to explore different contracting vehicles. Ms. Schmidt replied that the biggest place for the committee to weigh in would be the scope of services, but that she was open to exploring other types of contracts if something else is required to meet the District's unique needs.
- Ms. Schmidt will send the Committee a timeline for the contracting process and begin background research.

#### Coming Snow Season

- The Advisory Committee discussed how to best maximize use of our contracted snow plowing hours.
- One idea considered was the possibility of plowing Tier 2 roads, either in the event of a significant snowfall or based on a mid-snow-season determination that sufficient hours remained in the contract.
- Out of 184 contracted hours, we used 150.25 in the previous plowing season.
- The Committee will include a detailed discussion on potential options for more effective utilization of our plowing hours at our next Advisory Committee meeting.
- Dan Olson asked the County to ensure that Waldo's invoice include hours spent so that we can continue to develop a better baseline of average plowing hours.

#### Guiding Principles Document

- Dan Olson presented revised content to address Committee members' concerns with Guiding Principle content at our previous meeting.
- In general, the Committee agreed with the new language, with one exception.
- For the time being the Committee agreed to remove mention of the Forest Service parking lot, and to use our maintenance up to the parking lot as negotiating fodder for ongoing Forest Service discussions.
- Dan will create a new draft of the document and hold on to it until we have resolution on the Forest Service discussion.

### Additional Input from Residents

- Howard Rachlin mentioned that historically the Advisory Committee had created a list of long-term projects that it would prioritize as needed. Dan Olson responded that exactly such a long-range plan is included in the new guiding principles document.
- Howard asked if an impact fee would be possible on all new construction given the damage work trucks cause to the roads. No one knew the legality or logistics of such an idea. Ms. Schmidt agreed to help Richard Woodbury begin some research on this topic.
- Charles Berglund brought up the potential use of crushed asphalt on sections that quickly get washboarded. Richard Woodbury was going to look into the performance stats of crushed asphalt.

### Next Scheduled Meeting

- The next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016.

### Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn made by Russell Kimble. Seconded by Mark Pearson. Meeting adjourns at 7:45PM.

Minutes compiled by Dan Olson on September 26, 2016 after review of the meeting audio recording.