



December 8, 2023

Board of County Commissioners
Huerfano County
401 Main St, Ste 201
Walsenburg, CO 81089

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Colorado Counties, Inc., an invoice is enclosed for your county's assessment as a member of CCI for 2024. As you may already know, the 2024 dues schedule was approved by the membership on May 31 of this year and the official CCI budget on November 28, 2023.

Additionally, there is a separate invoice for your public lands membership dues which were approved by public lands membership on December 7, 2023. A copy of both invoices has also been sent to your county manager/administrator or administration team.

Both CCI and Public Lands dues are payable by February 15, 2024, and your attention and timely payment of the amounts due is appreciated.

Over the course of 2023, CCI engaged in a wide range of activities, advocacy, assistance, presentations, education, and research on behalf of counties. CCI proactively championed four membership approved priority bills as well as secured amendments on a good portion of the almost one hundred bills tracked. These amendments clarified intent, created local implementation flexibility, mitigated unfunded and underfunded mandates, protected local tax bases, secured resources, and ensured the voice of local elected officials were at the table. CCI hosted a variety of educational webinars, facilitated meetings with state department heads and hosted both the summer and winter conferences.

Your involvement is essential to our success, and I encourage you to be involved in CCI in the coming year. If you have any questions about your county's membership or your participation, please don't hesitate to call me at 303.861.4076.

Sincerely,

Kelly Flenniken
Executive Director,
Colorado Counties, Inc.

Enclosure



COLORADO COUNTIES, INC.
Educate · Advocate · Empower

800 Grant Street #500
Denver, CO 80203-2987

303-861-4076

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/1/2024	2024-612

Bill To
HUERFANO COUNTY 401 Main Street, Suite 201 WALSENBURG, CO 81089-2045

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

COLORADO COUNTIES, INC.

Due Date

1/1/2024

Description	Amount
2024 Annual Dues	12,760.00
Total	\$12,760.00



800 Grant St., #500
Denver, CO 80203
Phone #
303-861-4076

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/1/2024	2024-338

Bill To
HUERFANO COUNTY 401 Main Street, Suite 201 WALSENBURG, CO 81089-2045

Make checks to: PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE

Due Date
1/1/2024

Description	Amount
2024 Public Lands Dues	598.00
Total	\$598.00

CCI 2023: A Year in Review

In 2023, CCI and staff engaged in a wide variety of activities for the benefit of Colorado counties. CCI led by a Board of Directors from each of the five districts as well as two additional representatives from counties with a population of 50,000+ as well as a past president.

Educate

- Conducted New Commissioner Orientation which brings together newly elected commissioners to socialize with one another and learn the role and responsibilities of a county commissioner.
- Published the County Commissioner Handbook containing vital information on and legal requirements of county commissioner responsibilities.
- Hosted a variety of informational webinars on issues ranging from Behavioral Health Secure Transport, ADA Website Compliance, Proposition 123, and the best practices in opioid response. A full library of recordings and resources is available on CCI's webpage.
- Compiled resources, best practices, and examples relevant to counties online. (ex: Proposition HH; Renewable Energy/Decommissioning; Youth Behavioral Health; and Land Use & Housing)
- Facilitated productive educational opportunities for collective learning and experience sharing among commissioners, county staff and other related groups.
- Published weekly *eCountyLines* providing information on educational opportunities, service opportunities, and resources for county governing.
- Published the County Officials Directory with elected official contact information.

Advocate

- Advocated for and passed all four CCI priority bills for 2023!
- Successfully advocated against and prevented the passage of a bill that would have preempted local government land use authority.
- Emphasized the need for small, rural counties to have access to significant financial assistance in the face of new code requirements, to help overcome staff capacity constraints and other challenges.
- Successfully amended harmful legislation into task forces/commissions/studies to learn about the issue and potential impacts on counties, especially county budgets. (ex: Inclusive Language Emergency Situations)
- Continued supporting and promoting federal advocacy work to reform the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy, which resulted in sponsorship by Rep. DeGette.
- Advocated for the importance of maintaining local authority over renewable energy siting.
- Engaged with the Child Welfare Interim Committee through presentations, developing white papers, and educating legislators on Child Welfare practice at the county level.
- Monitored and secured county panelists to present to various Legislative Interim Committees.



Empower

- Bid farewell to longtime county advocates and welcomed the first female Executive Director.
- Hosted the summer and winter annual conferences providing training & networking opportunities for commissioners, administrators, human services directors, road & bridge supervisors, engineers, and other county staff.
- Hosted educational & feedback opportunities with leadership from: Department of Agriculture, Department of Early Childhood, Behavioral Health Administration, Department of Human Services, Health Care Policy and Financing, and Child Protection Ombudsman.
- Encouraged grant programs accessibility for all counties. (ex: spreading to rural areas, reducing barriers to applying by encouraging the state to provide technical support)
- Requested and secured geographically diverse members on state task forces & commissions.
- Scheduled and provided members opportunities to provide feedback/input on rulemaking & regulatory processes, on deep geothermal regulations, fire suppression ponds, and collective bargaining.
- Ensured CCI fosters a respectful, welcoming, and empowering environment by going through an extensive administrative process to change the Bylaws & create a code of conduct.