

John Galusha, Chairman  
Arica Andreatta, Commissioner  
Karl Sporleder, Commissioner



## HUERFANO COUNTY GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

**Date:** April 9, 2024  
**To:** Huerfano County Board of County Commissioners  
**From:** Carl Young, County Administrator  
**Re:** Report for the April 9 Regular BOCC Meeting

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Commissioners please accept the following report of accomplishments, updates, and upcoming activities.

### **Solano v Board of County Commissioners**

On Thursday April 4, we received word from our attorneys at Garnett Powell Maximon and Barlow that District Attorney Solano has filed a Petition for Writ of Certiorari asking the Colorado Supreme Court to hear his appeal of the BOCC case. For a case to be heard, 3 of the 7 Colorado Supreme Court justices must agree to hear the case. Our attorneys have to file a brief on or before April 18, 2024 and Mr. Solano then gets 7 days to file a reply brief. They expect a response in anywhere from 4 to 8 months.

### **Spanish Peaks Inn**

The Land Use and Building Department received an update from Adept Building Solutions on the Spanish Peaks Inn. They are working with the State and their air monitoring specialist on engineering controls and work practices. They have informed us that depending on the approach the asbestos abatement could take up to 6 months before completion. County Staff and I will continue to monitor the progress of this project.

### **2023 Audit**

We are in high gear for the 2023 audit with a number of County departments working to get things to the Auditor in preparation for the early May site visit.

### **Energy Performance Contracting**

Our Energy Performance Contracting project is continuing this month. The project to replace the underground drain pipes, which take water from the Courthouse gutters to the street, began yesterday. Expect to see the Courthouse lawn dug up during this work. The contractors will restore the lawn once the work is complete.

### **Industrial Park – Truck Driving School**

The County is working with Huerfano County Economic Development Inc. to develop an Industrial Park on land donated by San Isabel Electric. Road and Bridge has received the correct coordinates for the road onto that property and looks to have that complete in next month, weather permitting. We have also received the specifications for the fence required for the Truck Driving School and will work to bring revised estimates to once we have them.

### **611 Main Gym**

The Gym at 611 Main Street is now open. Two Peaks Fitness held a ribbon cutting on Monday April 1. This project was led by Lester Berry Parks and Recreation Director and Interim Public Works Director, with support from the Facilities Maintenance Team, County Building Office, and the County Finance Team. The Contractors working on the project were: Strickler Services, Six

Point Excavation, Avalanche Plumbing, JAR Electric, and AshcaTek. Thanks to the Huerfano Parks and Recreation Board as well as Kerrie Meyler, Mike Lacey, and the Two Peaks Fitness Board of Directors for making this project possible.

### **Safe Streets and Roads for All Planning Grant**

On Thursday April 4, I met with staff from the local Federal Highway Administration office to discuss the SS4A planning grant. We discussed and they gave their tentative approval to submitting the contract in late 2024 with the goal of being ready to start work in 2025.

### **Cuchara Multi-Use Path and Gardner Loop Trail Planning**

KLJ is putting the finishing touches on their draft reports and alignments for these projects and we expect to receive those drafts for review later this week. Depending on when we complete our review, KLJ will aim to get any requested revisions back to us by the end of April with the goal of starting public engagement in May. We have a touchbase scheduled with KLJ for April 22 at which we will discuss plans for public engagement.

### **Technology Accessibility**

#### **Emergency Operations Center Project**

Last week, we received the contract from DOLA for the Emergency Operations Center project. We have a review of the plans for permitting scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup>. We will bring a request to proceed to you once we have final bids and the contract from the Colorado Energy Office.

#### **Fox Theatre Phase 2 Rehabilitation**

Last week, we also received the contract from DOLA for the Fox Theatre Phase 2 project. This project is not ready to proceed as the capital stack is still being formed. On March 31<sup>st</sup> the Fox Theatre Walsenburg submitted a State Historical Fund grant for this project, we expect to hear back around June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Fox has also submitted and continues to submit several private foundation grants. It may be advisable to begin the design and engineering for the HVAC sooner rather than later to help contractors dial in pricing. We are still waiting for the contract from the Colorado Energy Office before asking for your approval to proceed with design and engineering. As a reminder, at the direction of the Engineer, the auditorium at Fox is closed to the public until the structural work on the fly loft is complete.

#### **Permitting System Review**

Last month, when reviewing the cost to renew our SmartGov Permitting software, the Board asked that I review other alternatives. Just an update that I have a demo with Tyler Technologies scheduled for Wednesday morning and a preliminary call with CivicPlus later that afternoon. Land Use and Building Department staff recently attended a webinar hosted by the Colorado Energy Office to learn about grant funding to cover the cost of a solar permitting app. I have asked them to check in with Pueblo Regional Building Authority and the major contractors that install solar in Huerfano County to see what their plans might be. I feel that it is not worth the time investment to add another program, unless Pueblo adopts one of these systems and the solar contractors have a preference to utilize them. At that point it may become worth it for customer convenience and keeping the cost of building low in Huerfano County.