

**Wednesday, March 17, 2010
Highlands Ranch Metro District
Board Room
62 W. Plaza Drive
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129**

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBER ATTENDEES:

Castle Pines North: Doug Gilbert

Castle Rock: Randy Reed, Mark Stevens

Highlands Ranch Metro District: Terry Nolan, Vicky Starkey

Larkspur: Sherilyn West, Matt Krimmer

Lone Tree: Pat Braden, Jackie Millet, Michelle Kivela

Parker: Jeannene Bragg, Phyllis O'Reilly

Douglas County: Jill Repella, Wendy Holmes, Dru Campbell

Douglas County Libraries: Jamie LaRue, Demetria Heath

Douglas County School District: Steve Herzog

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS – Sherilyn West

Sherilyn West called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m. and welcomed the attendees. Attendees introduced themselves.

Mayor West introduced the host for this meeting, Highlands Ranch Metro District and Terry Nolan, District Manager, who welcomed the members.

JURISDICTIONAL UPDATES

Highlands Ranch Metro District – Vicky Starkey reported that the District election is May 4th; with one contested seat and 3 uncontested. Ryan Stewart has resigned so his seat will also be filled. The District has posted a Director of Parks position, vacated by Tom Hoby who will be in charge of Jefferson County open space. The transfer of the Mansion from Shea Homes to the District is in process.

Castle Pines North – Doug Gilbert reported that the City is looking for a City Manager that will be a direct hire. Kirby Chaney, through CH2MHill, is the acting City Manager in the interim. The City had a productive meeting with the Castle Pines North Metro District related to the dissolution. It is anticipated that the transition will take approximately 3-6 months. He further reported that Darwin Horan has resigned from the Council and that the City will continue to outsource the finance and accounting for the City and are in process of reviewing proposals. There is currently a focus on economic development and they have identified three efforts, those being (1) identify economic development gaps, (2) acquisition of property, and (3) tax reduction.

Castle Rock – Mayor Reed reported that the Town’s mail ballot election will be April 6 for four (4) council seats; Randy Reed and Doug Lehnen are term limited. There will also be a charter amendment to change the council terms from three 2-year terms to two 4-year terms. Redistricting will also change to every six (6) years if the council term change passes. He also reported that Sprouts is doing well. Mayor Reed stated that this will be his last meeting (*but he may be back for a free breakfast some time*) and the members took this opportunity to thank him for his service and wished him well. Good Luck, Randy - you will be missed!

Larkspur – Mayor West reported that Larkspur’s election is also April 6th; three seats are up and all are uncontested races. She announced also that she will be back as Mayor. The Town is working on the annexation and PD for the Bear View property and that they have submitted grant applications to GOCO and the Gates Foundation to continue work on the park.

Lone Tree – Pat Braden reported that she recently experienced signs that the economy may be improving (when she could not find a parking place at Park Meadows). They are excited to report that the Schweiger Ranch Foundation has received a \$250,000 grant for preservation of the ranch and buildings. The MOU has been approved for the extension of Ridgeway Parkway. The County is funding most of the project and this is a very positive transportation project for the area. The City has an election in May; there are four candidates for her seat and Jackie Millet will continue. The ground breaking for the Cultural Center is March 18th at 3:30 p.m. and she extended an invitation to the other members to attend.

Parker – Jeannene Bragg reported that the ground breaking for the Parker Cultural Center is April 8th at 4:00 p.m.; Mainstreet construction to begin in the next week and the roundabouts will be constructed in June; the search for the Town Administrator continues and interviews will be held in the next few weeks.

Douglas County – Jill Repella reported that she and Commissioner Hilbert will be traveling to Washington, D.C. in May with a group, Accelerate Colorado, to advocate for federal support beneficial to Colorado’s business community and the State’s economy. She also reported that the Commissioners just returned from a National Association of Counties conference that brings local governments across the country for national-level policy debates on local government issues. The Commissioners represent Douglas County on various national steering committees; including Environment, Energy, Land Use, Finance and Transportation. Other announcements: Forbes magazine recently ranked Douglas County among the wealthiest counties in the U.S.; Roxborough made Business Week’s top 10 list of the USA’s most affordable places to live; the County scored high in overall health in a report issued by the University of Wisconsin’s

Population Health Institute and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; the County has launched its economic development website that includes information for each of the municipalities; a 2010 citizen and business surveys will be done in mid April; and the Hess Road project groundbreaking is planned for the end of April.

Douglas County Libraries – Jamie LaRue reported that Librarians are getting training for more focus on economic development. The District is watching amendments 60 & 61 very closely. The Board has eight applicants for the seat vacated by Stevan Strain that they will be interviewing soon and Commissioner Jack Hilbert has agreed to participate in the interview process in April.

Douglas County School District – Steve Herzog reported that Ryan Stewart has resigned. The Superintendent search process continues with three finalists for the position being announced within the next week and the position will be filled by July 1. He further reported that budget cuts have dominated the Board's attention as they are looking at a shortfall of \$43-\$45 million and the plan being developed will include freezing salaries and furlough days. The last of the 2006 bond project allows two new schools (one in Parker and one in Castle Rock). A renovation of the Roxborough Elementary came in under budget. The District is also watching the ballot initiatives very closely.

GREEN PARTNERS SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

Elizabeth Kay-Marchetti presented the final draft of this collaborative effort that began in October 2009, as one of the Partnership initiatives for 2009. She announced that the Green Partners will continue to meet quarterly on common projects identified in the Framework. The members will review the goals identified in the report with their respective boards and councils and will report back to the Partnership at the April meeting.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA –PARTNERSHIP WORK GROUP REPORT

Mark Stevens gave an update on the progress of HB 1284. The amendments proposed by the Working Group were favorably received by the Bill sponsor. No action was taken at the House Judiciary Committee meeting of March 3rd. The next meeting is March 22nd. He further reported that CML and CCI have been very involved and are not interested in a prohibition by support regulation. Wendy Holmes reported that the regulations being proposed by the County will be heard by the Planning Commission on March 22nd and then by the County Commissioners on March 31st.

**NEXT MEETING:
Douglas County School District Hosts
April 21, 2010**

Minutes Prepared by Dru Campbell, Douglas County