

EMERGENCY SPECIAL MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Fremont, State of Colorado, met in an Emergency Special Session on March 19, 2020, 615 Macon Avenue, Room LL3, Fremont County Administration Building, Cañon City, Colorado. Chair Debbie Bell called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Debbie Bell	Commissioner	Present
Dwayne McFall	Commissioner	Present
Tim Payne	Commissioner	Present
Justin Grantham	Clerk & Recorder	Present
Brenda Jackson	County Attorney	Present
Sunny Bryant	County Manager	Absent
Sean Garrett	Planning & Zoning Director	Absent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present cited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner McFall moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Payne, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Commissioner Bell acknowledged the fact that this has been a difficult time for everyone. She said that Fremont County is still conducting business and that if anyone needs assistance please contact the departments individually. She specifically mentioned Building Department, Planning and Zoning and the Clerk and Recorder's Office as some of the offices amongst other that are conducting business.

Clerk & Recorder Grantham said he delivered a request to the Sheriff's office and other law enforcement to give leniency to drivers that have expired tags and temporary permits. He also said there were limits to the types of transaction available due to being closed to the public. He stated that he consulted with DMV and FCDPHE about how to complete transactions while not having prolonged exposure. He said his office is answering phones and verifying paperwork via fax and e-mail. After verifying paperwork, his staff is then directing customers to drop off the paperwork in the drop box and his staff will mail back the tags or plates.

Commissioner McFall said that there are many services that can be completed by phone, fax or e-mail. He named many departments that have the ability to complete transactions remotely.

Clerk Grantham stated that there are many services in his office that are online.

Commissioner Payne stated that these are trying times for everyone. He continued and told those listening to hang in there with us.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Ratification of Resolution No. 21, Series of 2020, Disaster Declaration COVID-19 (coronavirus) Resolution Declaring Local Disaster Emergency

County Attorney Jackson explained that because there was no time for adequate notice given for the emergency meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020, that the ratification was needed. She continued to say that there are statutes that allow for emergency meetings of commissioner without notice, however if those provisions are used then it is up to the board to ratify any decisions made by the board in the next public meeting.

Commissioner Payne moved the ratification of resolution No. 21, Disaster Declaration COVID-19 (coronavirus) Resolution Declaring Local Disaster Emergency and Closing County Buildings. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Payne aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Future measures to prevent and mitigate threat of COVID-19 virus for Fremont County for the foreseeable future

Commissioner Bell said she believes that everyone is aware of what is happening in our county and just yesterday she noted that school districts state wide were closed until April 5th and has been changed by the state to April 17th. Everyone is trying to deal with everything that is going on.

Commissioner Bell said that the commissioners have a resolution before them to keep the county buildings closed to the public until April 5th at midnight. The commissioners talked about deciding on a week to week basis on closures hoping that business across the state would return to normal; however, she also said that things change day to day and hour to hour. However, the commissioners have a resolution before them to close to the public, except the jail and court house and will continue and amend resolution 21.

Commissioner McFall stated that the resolution before them calls out the Board of County Commissioner meetings being remote and they will be held on channel 191, live and posted on YouTube, and live on Facebook. He also mentioned that the commissioners are not trying to exclude members of the public from the meetings.

Commissioner Bell also mentioned that the meetings are available via teleconferencing. She also reminded citizens that there are upcoming public hearings on March 24th during the regularly scheduled meeting and will continue to have meetings on all available avenues mentioned in this meeting.

Commissioner McFall moved to approve resolution #22 Ratification of Resolution No. 21, Series of 2020, Declaring Local Disaster Emergency and Amending/Extension of the Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency. Commissioner Payne seconded the motion.

Commissioner Bell noted that this resolution effectively closes the county buildings to the general public until midnight on April 5th and citizens should check the county website and Facebook page for any changes and updates that happen with county business.

Upon Vote: Commissioner Payne, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Commissioner Bell adjourned the meeting at 2:47p.m.