

**Town of Bayfield
Regular Town Board Meeting
November 1st, 2011
1199 Bayfield Parkway Bayfield, CO 81122**

Town Board Members Present: Rick Smith (Mayor), Tom Au (Mayor Pro-Tem), Ed Morlan, Debbi Renfro, Dan Ford

Town Board Members Absent: Gabe Candelaria, Justin Talbot

Staff Members Present: Chris La May (Town Manager), Dirk Nelson (Town Attorney), Marianne Jones (Town Clerk), Ron Saba (Director of Public Works), Chris Choate (Town Marshal), Elizabeth Jackson (Town Intern), Gary Maestas (1st Deputy)

Media Present: Carole McWilliams (Pine River Times)

The meeting was called to order @ 7:03 p.m.

Minutes: Debbi requested one change to the minutes. Dan made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 18th, 2011 Regular Town Board Meeting as amended. Debbi seconded the motion. All were in favor, except Tom, who abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None Offered.

Action Agenda Item #1: Approval of Bills

Tom made a motion to approve the bills dated October 28th, 2011 as submitted. Debbi seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Action Agenda Item #2: Town Updates

Debbi asked where the additional piping will be located to accommodate the run-off that will be discharged into the Shroeder Ditch when the County Road 501 Path is constructed.

Chris La May answered that the additional asphalt surface will increase the imperviousness of the site and will cause additional runoff into the ditch. The engineer is reviewing an option to pipe it from the north side of the Dove Ranch intersection under County Road 501. However, the actual work will be determined by the cost of the improvements.

Debbi asked if the Planning Commission has been able to give input on accessory dwelling units.

Chris answered that there hasn't been a Planning Commission Meeting since this item was brought forth. He asked if the Board would like to submit this matter to them for consideration.

Debbi responded that she thinks it would be a good idea.

Chris explained that the Land Use Code does not allow for accessory dwelling units currently. He stated that if the Board decides to allow this type of use, an ordinance will have to be drafted and passed to change the language in the code.

The Board directed staff to present this matter to the Planning Commission.

Ed asked for additional clarification regarding the budget changes to the sewer fund.

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Chris answered that the lagoon decommissioning is not going to qualify for a loan through the Water & Power Authority. Therefore, the sewer fund is going to have to get a loan from the general fund to cover that project. The infiltration repairs do qualify for a loan so the Town will go through the Authority for that money. He included an increase of \$2.00 per ERT (Equivalent Residential Tap) in the budgeted amounts and was able to avoid having to do a straight transfer of funds from the general fund. He decided on this because of the high amount loan that general fund will be loaning the sewer fund.

Ed asked why the decommissioning of the lagoons was moved up in the priority list of projects to be completed.

Chris answered that the project will have to be completed to meet the demands of the State. The State is aware that it hasn't been done and the staff feels it would be better to be proactive on the matter rather than reactive.

Rick mentioned the update regarding Town engineering services and suggested that Chris put this item on the next Board agenda for discussion.

Chris reminded the Board about the interviews for the Marshal position to be held on November 5th from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. He also mentioned that bids have been received for the equipment shed addition. He stated that the apparent low bid is \$32,000.00 and they item will be on the next agenda for Board approval.

Dan stated that he will be unable to attend the marshal interviews or the community reception.

Action Agenda Item #3: Discussion & Possible Action: Community Funding Requests

Chris stated that the Town has received requests from several community organizations for funding in 2012.

Rick said that he would go through each community funding request and allow public input on each one. The Board decided to make a motion regarding funding on each item.

4CORE:

Chris stated that 4CORE encourages the community to integrate resource conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy into their daily lives; bring resource conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy opportunities to consumers, businesses and institutions; help regional resource conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy businesses to succeed and thrive; work collaboratively with regional organizations and municipalities to maximize efficiencies and carry out the mission. 4CORE assisted the Town in bringing \$90,375 in grant funds to Town of Bayfield through the Department of Local Affairs New Energy Communities grant and the La Plata County EPA CSC grant. Town projects included LEED lighting at the Sports Park in the amount of \$30,000, \$12,500 for solar panels @ the Senior Center & \$47,875 for energy audits and possible upgrades to Town facilities based on the information from those energy audits.

Rick opened the item up for public comment. None was given so it was immediately closed.

Dan stated that he thinks this corporation has benefitted the Town of Bayfield and the Town has received value from their organization. He also feels that their request of \$4000 is reasonable and would like to see it included in the budget.

Ed concurred.

Dan made a motion to include the 4CORE request of \$4,000 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board meeting. Ed seconded the motion. Rick, Ed & Dan were in favor of the motion. Tom & Debbi were opposed. Motion carried.

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Road Runner Transit:

Chris stated that Road Runner Transit is requesting \$23,893 to continue to provide transit service to and from Durango. The Town of Bayfield executed an intergovernmental agreement in 2004, but the document hasn't been updated recently. Service is proposed to be cut from 4 trips per day to 3 trips per day and Saturday service has already been cut. Road Runner Transit employs three Bayfield residents.

Rick opened the item up for public comment.

Mike Larson (5843 County Road 502) spoke in support of the Road Runner Transit service. He said that it has made a tremendous difference for those that use the service and he hopes to see Bayfield continue to support it. He said that he wished that the Town could support it even more than it does currently so the cost would not be quite so expensive for the riders.

Eileen Wasserbach (20 Cassidy Drive, Durango) stated that she is the Director of Southern Ute Community Action Programs (SUCAP). She explained that Road Runner Transit is one of the programs SUCAP offers and Bayfield has been supporting it since 2007. She explained that SUCAP is requesting funding at the same amount that it was funded at in 2011 and the amount makes up a total of about 20% of the total service costs. She said that this program brings a big service to the community and provides transit services for a lot of people in the area. SUCAP will be unable to continue to offer the service if Bayfield decides to withdraw their funding because the other funds that they receive require a local match from communities being serviced. She explained that they could possibly reduce their budget if required but they need Bayfield to contribute something towards the program in order to leverage the additional dollars coming into the program.

No other public comment was offered so it was closed.

Dan asked if these requests for funds have already been included in the budget that has been presented to the Board for consideration.

Chris answered that the ones that requested a specific dollar amount are included in the budget currently.

Dan expressed concern that ridership of the Road Runner system being down. He asked Eileen what the plans are for increasing the ridership and how the Bayfield dollars will help to increase those numbers.

Eileen answered that a big contributing factor to ridership being down was the elimination of the Forest Lake trip. However, the program has acquired some marketing dollars that were available specifically for transit services and they will be using those funds to run a campaign to increase ridership in 2012.

Debbi said that she has looked at the numbers of riders and feels that the program is saving about 6 vehicles per trip from driving on the roads. She wishes that it was higher than that but she knows that transit service rarely pays for itself. She feels that the service does keep cars off of the road and does offer value for the Town.

Ed made a motion to allocate a reduced amount of \$20,000 to the Road Runner Transit program. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Dan stated that he would like to see the Town fund the program at the full amount. He asked Ed why he motioned to fund at a lower amount.

Ed answered that he has spoken to Peter Tregillus, the director of the program and Peter has said that he could run the program with a little less money if required and still keep a fair amount of trips back and forth to Durango.

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Ed made a motion to include the Road Runner Transit request of \$23,893.00 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board meeting. Debbi seconded the motion. All were in favor except Tom, who was opposed. Motion carried.

Community Connections:

Chris stated that Community Connections (CC) is requesting \$1,000 to assist in funding for developmentally delayed and disabled individuals. Literature provided by Community Connections cites an average of 20 individuals and families in Bayfield receiving support and that they are the only agency in Southwest Colorado serving people with developmental disabilities in the region.

Rick opened the item up for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Dan made a motion to include the Community Connections request of \$1,000.00 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board meeting. Ed seconded the motion.

All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Bayfield Family Center:

Chris stated that the Bayfield Family Center is a community based non-profit organization that offers a licensed after-school enrichment program, year-round childcare, summer fun day camp, parent education classes, family advocacy, community outreach, special events, girls circle, free childcare for needy families and food bank. They are requesting \$1,000 to offset the expenses of low tuition for programs. They include in their narrative, the provision of one full-time and three part-time jobs in Bayfield.

Rick opened the item up for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Dan made a motion to include the Bayfield Family Center request of \$1,000.00 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board meeting. Tom seconded the motion.

All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Axis Health – Acute Treatment Unit:

Chris stated that Axis Health is requesting \$1,500. They provide an Acute Treatment Unit (ATU) for psychiatric inpatient resources. They cite 61 emergency assessments for Bayfield residents in the past year. Bayfield Marshal Office uses their services for mental health holds, protective custody, suicidal subjects, etc... and they are involved in crisis intervention training.

The item was opened up for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Ed asked if any of the Town funding would be going towards capital expenses versus operating expenses.

Chris answered that he believes the funds will be used strictly for operating expenses.

Dan asked Marshal Choate for his input.

Chris Choate answered that the Bayfield Marshals Office utilizes this program a lot. He explained that BMO responds to a number of calls for people that cannot care for themselves and don't have family members to assist them. When this happens, the officers take the person to Mercy Medical Center for a medical clearance

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and then they are transported directly to Axis for determination of what needs to happen next. He thinks it's very beneficial and Bayfield receives more value than the \$1500.00 being requested.

Ed made a motion to include the Axis Heath – Acute Treatment Unit request of \$1500.00 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board meeting. Dan seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging (AAA):

Chris stated that the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging provides services for Senior Citizens including assisted transportation, congregate meals and home-delivered meals, legal services, an Ombudsman program and in-home services. He stated that they did not specify a certain dollar amount in their request for funding.

The item was opened for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Dan commented that he finds it difficult to include them if they didn't specify a certain dollar amount. He is also unsure exactly what the program does for the community. He asked if they work in conjunction with the Senior Center.

Eileen Wasserbach clarified that SUCAP operates the Senior Center in Ignacio and the AAA is the regional recipient of state funds through Title 3 of the Older Americans Act. They distribute these funds to providers in the region. However, these funds also require a local match in order to receive those funds. She stated that Ignacio has been pledging \$1000 – 1500 for several years but they make a request of AAA to make sure that the money comes back to the Ignacio Senior Center programs. She explained that if the Board decided to fund this program, they could make a similar request to ensure that the funds come back to the Bayfield Senior Center.

Ed commented that he doesn't think it is very professional that they didn't specify a dollar amount. He asked if the Town could speak to the Seniors to get some direction from them.

Dan suggested having the staff research this matter further to get additional details from the AAA.

Debbi added that she would also like to find out what benefit Bayfield will get from the amounts spent.

Ed stated that he would also like to see financial statements and more detail on their organization.

Tom, Ed & Debbi decided that they didn't feel the Town should fund this item in the 2012 budget. They requested that they provide additional information if they request funds for inclusion in the 2013 budget.

La Plata Youth Services (LPYS):

Chris stated that LPYS operates juvenile diversion and diversionary programs to prevent youth from entering or further penetrating the juvenile justice system. The program operates under the philosophy that intervention is less expensive than treatment. 15 youth were served in 2011 that live in Bayfield and they are requesting \$7,800 from Bayfield.

Marianne added that she serves on this Board and explained that the diversion program is similar to probation. However, it is focused on helping troubled children and keeping them from falling into the judiciary system over and over again. She stated that Marshal Choate feels that the program is extremely effective and he very seldom has to intervene again with a child that has been through this LPYS system. She also mentioned that the new director of the program is working towards getting an employee that would be based directly in the

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Bayfield/Ignacio area so that the program can help more of the residents in these areas rather than just Durango.

Chris explained that it would be difficult to put a dollar amount per child helped in the Bayfield area but he feels that it is extremely beneficial. He explained that a first-time offender juvenile is able to get together with all of the parties affected by the offense and discuss the next step. The offender has to admit to what they have done and go through a "probationary" period as a type of punishment for their crime. The probation requirements are specifically tailored towards the crime that was committed and it is a very in-depth program. Once they successfully complete the program, the charges are washed from their record and the incident doesn't follow them. Chris stated that they have an extremely high success rate with troubled kids (90%) and BMO has been very fortunate that only 1 child has ended up back in their system after being sentenced to diversion because the child did not complete the program.

Marianne clarified that the Town has funded the program at the current amount for the past 3 years (they aren't requesting additional funds).

Rick opened the item up for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Debbi answered if the children in the program are doing any community service.

Marianne answered that they do a lot of community service and it is tailored towards their crime or offense.

Dan made a motion to include the La Plata Youth Services request of \$7800.00 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board meeting. Debbi seconded the motion. All were in favor so the motion passed unanimously.

Axis Health – Detox:

Chris explained that there are two sections of Axis Health: ATU and Detox. The Town has an Intergovernmental Agreement for detox services that requests \$4,000 each year toward the cost of running this regional Detox facility and program. Chris stated that this requested amount is about 1.09% of the total costs associated with running the facility.

Ed asked if Axis is seeking restitution from the patrons of this service.

Marshal Choate answered that they do try to get restitution but they are not successful all of the time. He explained that it is very difficult to recoup the costs of the services rendered from those that utilize the services.

The item was opened up for public comment.

James Sanders (P.O. Box 1935) stated that he is concerned the people who use the detox service will continue to come back over and over. He said that he hopes it will help but he warned that the facility will continue to serve a very select group of people.

Ed stated that he was involved in a detailed study regarding detox and it was discovered that 5 people represented 5% of the cost of operations. He feels that this service is costing the Town a lot of money and he would like to see additional effort made to recoup those costs from the patrons of the facility.

Ed made a motion to include the request for Axis Health Detoxification Facility's request of \$4000.00 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board; however, he requested that Axis double their efforts to seek restitution from the patrons. Debbi seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

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La Plata County Mounted Patrol:

Chris explained that the Town did not receive a formal request on this item. However, the Town typically provides a \$500.00 donation in recognition of the assistance the La Plata County Mounted Patrol provides for the 4th of July event.

The item was opened for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Dan made a motion to include \$500 to the La Plata County Mounted Patrol in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board Meeting. Tom seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Four Corners Film Office:

Chris stated that the Four Corner's Film Office (FCFO) is requesting a contribution of \$2,500 or an amount appropriate to Town budget. FCFO has a budget of \$35,000 and have not formed a separate nonprofit yet. The budget includes travel, part-time coordinator and marketing. This is a relatively new venture or a resurgence of an existing organization. Film production does generate additional economic activity, and could easily pay for itself; however, recent productions have not been in the Bayfield area. Additionally, without a hotel, the economic impact is reduced. Chris explained that without Bayfield contributing the likelihood of productions in the area is likely diminished.

The item was opened for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Debbi stated that the Town doesn't have any guarantees that there will be any filming done in Bayfield and she feels this is something that should not be included in the 2012 budget.

Dan concurred and expressed concern that they have not formed a non-profit business for the venture.

Ed clarified that they are working under Region 9 Economic Development auspices and it was a conscious decision not to create a non-profit organization. He suggested that it might be a good idea to have a meeting with the business people of Bayfield to get their input on this item.

Ed made a motion to approve \$500.00 to the Four Corners Film Office. Motion died due to lack of a second.

The Board decided not to fund this item in the 2012 budget.

La Plata County Economic Alliance:

Chris stated that the La Plata Economic Development Alliance serves as a central point for information, connections, and resources related to the development and growth of businesses (recruitment & retention) in La Plata County. The executive committee provides for alternating two year terms for Ignacio and Bayfield representative. Chris currently serves as the small community representative and attends the meetings regularly. The Alliance is requesting a \$4,000 contribution (which is the same amount that they requested in 2011). They receive both public and private contributions and are a growing organization.

Rick opened the item up for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Dan made a motion to include the Alliance request for \$4,000.00 in the 2012 budget contingent upon final adoption of the budget at the December 6th Town Board Meeting. Ed seconded the motion.

Debbi asked what benefit the Town receives from this organization.

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Chris answered that the Alliance serves as a center-point for new businesses that are looking to start up in La Plata County. They do a lot of analysis programs & really try to figure the market in La Plata County. They then put potential business owners in contact with the right people for their business.

Debbi asked if this is a worthwhile investment for the Town.

Chris answered that he does think it is valuable and he will continue to push to get more representation for the Bayfield area while he serves on their board.

Ed suggested having Roger Z (the director) come and meet with the Bayfield Town Board.

Chris stated that he would mention it to Roger.

All were in favor except Tom, who was opposed. Motion carried.

Leadership La Plata:

Chris stated that the Town did not receive a formal request for funds. A budget amount of \$100 was included in 2011.

The item was opened for public comment. None was offered so it was immediately closed.

Ed stated that he doesn't think the Town should pay towards this because the alumni all have to pay dues towards the organization. He suggested skipping this item in the 2012 budget.

The remainder of the Board concurred and decided not to include funding.

Chris detailed the dues & IGA requests to regional bodies within the community:

Regional Housing Alliance (RHA):

Chris explained that the RHA Received a \$1.25 million donation from BP America, and gets support from the Division of Local Affairs (DOLA), the Colorado Division of Housing, the La Plata Homes Fund, the Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Fund and community partners, to offer mortgage assistance to La Plata County residents to help reduce the cost of purchasing a home. RHA is requesting \$12,983 from the Town of Bayfield. Bayfield is a member of the RHA through an intergovernmental agreement and has two seats on the RHA Board of Directors. Trustee Renfro serves on their executive committee as well. In 2010 RHA assisted non-profit developers with client outreach and pipeline development at Fox Farm, provided loans with CHI families in Fox Farm, and developed 502 USDA Direct Construction Loan model for Bayfield developer.

Southwest Regional Transportation Planning Commission:

Chris stated that the Town's annual membership dues are \$341 to the Transportation Planning Commission. These dues go toward staffing the meetings and sending a local representative of the committee to Denver for the monthly State Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC). The Commission represents the region on statewide appropriations and public meetings.

Region 9 Economic Development:

Chris explained that the Town's membership dues from Region 9 are proposed at \$866. The primary use of the dues is to match the Planning and Technical Assistance Grant from the Economic Development Administration

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and to leverage other programs and data documents. Region 9 helped fund the Bayfield Grocery Store/Leakage study in 2011 and currently holds one Bayfield business loan of \$40,000.

Southwest Colorado Council of Governments (SWCCOG):

Chris said that the SWCCOG's purpose is to serve as a forum for local governments to identify regional issues and opportunities, develop strategies, and make recommendations to local governments on activities that will have substantial area-wide benefits; identify and prioritize regional issues to explore; reduce duplication of services and gain new organizational efficiencies; have the ability to apply for funding, not otherwise available to individual governments; seek unified voice on regional issues; provide a more consolidated system to provide oversight of various regional programs that are essentially government funded (or partially) for regional public services that are delivered by non-profit organizations; incorporate the needs and recommendations of the SWCCOG, suggesting updates and amendments as necessary.

He stated that the SWCCOG's major initiatives include telecommunications, transportation, Housing & environment. Their annual membership dues are \$544.

San Juan Resource, Conservation & Development (RC&D):

San Juan RC&D is a regional effort in southwestern Colorado. They cover five (5) counties and the two (2) reservations. Basically, they function as a nonprofit incubator. This means that they are a fiscal sponsor to groups that want the benefits of being organized as a nonprofit but might not have the financial resources to obtain that status with the IRS.

They provide project administration, grant administration and other technical assistance so that the projects can focus on their mission. They sponsor many groups over the long term and sometimes sponsor projects just until they complete their mission.

Groups that they have sponsored include the Animas River Stakeholders who provide Silverton mine remediation efforts, Four Corners Film Office, Vallecito Service League (established an ADA compliant recreation area and trail on Vallecito as well as other projects), Pine River Watershed Group (water quality monitoring on Vallecito), San Juan Public Lands Noxious Weeds Project (in partnership with USFS) and San Juan Basin Recycling Association.

Their annual membership dues are \$50.

Dan made a motion to include \$12,983.00 to the Regional Housing Alliance, \$341.00 to the Southwest Regional Transportation Planning Commission, \$866 to Region 9 Economic Development, \$544.00 to the Southwest Colorado Council Of Government, & \$50 to the San Juan Resource, Conservation & Development. Debbi seconded the motion.

Debbi mentioned that the RHA provides classes for first-time home-buyers. They have provided education classes for a hundred residents (23 of which were Bayfield residents) through the program and only one of them has ended in a foreclosure. She feels that the education programs that RHA provides greatly reduces foreclosure rates because it helps the homebuyer know for sure that they are ready to buy and can do it feasibly. She also mentioned that Bayfield loans make up a total of 28% of their total loan portfolio but the Town is substantially less than 28% in their contribution for operation expenses. She stated that she really thinks this program helps the community and provides value for the Town.

Ed stated that he was going to abstain because he is involved with three of the entities.

All were in favor except Ed, who abstained from the vote.

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Action Agenda Item #4: Discussion & Possible Action: West Side Traffic Study

Chris La May gave his staff report. He stated that he wanted to discuss the next steps with the Board on the West Side Traffic Study. Chris also received some feedback from one of the developers partnering in the study and he has some concerns about the end product. Chris asked him to share his concerns so that the Board is aware of those items. Chris also mentioned that the engineer on the project, Ann Bowers has now left Drexel Barrell.

The floor was given to Grant Richards with the Homestead Subdivision.

Grant Richards stated that he was severely disappointed with the traffic study that was received from Drexel Barrell. He expressed that in order for the Homestead Subdivision and other property owners in that area to move forward with development, they need CDOT to agree to keep the Highway 160/Highway 160B intersection in its current location (rather than moving it to the proposed location listed in the Environmental Impact Study). The Town has also agreed that Westside growth is good for the Town. He doesn't feel that the traffic study received will be a good tool to convince CDOT of their proposal.

He outlined the following areas that he felt were lacking in the report:

Grant expressed that CDOT doesn't care about negative impacts to development potential for landowners. This is the reason that the Town also got involved in this process. The fact that the preferred alignment is consistent with the Town's comprehensive plan and the intended growth of Bayfield needs to be addressed in the report.

He stated that the question is not only whether or not the preferred alignment can meet the purpose and need; it is whether it can do so as well or better than the proposed EIS alignment. Grant proposed that this needs to be explicitly stated and then analyzed in the report.

Grant mentioned that the CDOT Access Code contains information regarding the criteria used by CDOT to decide when one-half mile spacing is allowed. He feels that the preferred alignment meets that criteria and that information should be included in the report.

He also stated that the current intersection of Highway 160/Highway 160B is dangerous and deficient; however, there are people willing to make major improvements to that intersection in the immediate future that will fix those dangers. The proposed intersection won't be completed by CDOT for several decades which mean that the current location will continue to be a safety hazard. He feels that it needs to be more satisfactorily outlined that the location will be fixed right away and make things safer for the community and the residents.

Grant also feels that the study needs to impress that the wetlands to be impacted by the preferred alignment are less than that of the EIS alignment. He doesn't feel this was addressed very thoroughly in the first draft of the report.

Grant noted that he would really like to see the report focus more on the negative impacts to the Town of Bayfield rather than focusing on the impacts to the landowners & development. He suggested submitting the document back to Drexel Barrell outlining that it is an extremely weak document and request that they outline some of the major items in more detail and put in a lot more effort in order to give CDOT something that they will be willing to review and consider.

Bob Martin, another vested property owner asked the Board to request that Drexel Barrell revise the document and try to produce a better finished product.

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Chris clarified that the original professional services contract with Drexel Barrell is for a total of \$24,000. The Town has received invoices for \$10,000 so far. The intent is that there is still work to be done but there is a question of who is going to pick up the study now that Ann has left the company.

Chris mentioned that he thinks the study should probably focus more on the benefit to the transportation system (rather than the benefit to the Town). Because he doesn't feel that CDOT is going to be swayed by Town benefit any more than they would be swayed by landowner benefit. He feels that the report really needs to demonstrate some net benefit to their transportation system in order to help build the case to re-open the EIS.

He said that the original contract did not include a wetlands study. There is a note in the contract outlining that it would cost additional to do a wetland environmental study. It was decided to take this process step-by-step and not spend the additional money on the study until it was determined to be necessary.

Rick stated that it is very obvious that the current location has less wetlands impact than the CDOT proposed location. He feels that the study should definitely address that in their report because it's going to be a big determining factor with CDOT.

Debbi said that the Town & the property owners hired Drexel Barrell to advocate on their behalf and she doesn't feel that they are advocating at all with the document that they are presenting. She thinks that they really need to outline the benefits more specifically. The County isn't mentioned at all in the report and she feels that there are some pretty hefty County impacts that are not addressed. She suggested requesting that Drexel Barrell get someone that can do a better job communicating with the Town and that can get a more helpful document to the Town. Debbi was extremely disappointed with the East Side Traffic Study that was received and is concerned that this report is very similar in its lack of content.

Dan asked if Drexel Barrell considers this a preliminary report and recognize that they have more work to be done.

Chris responded that he doesn't think it's going to be a huge fight to get additional work done on the report. However, he does feel that they should have done a better job on the first draft before it was submitted to the Town.

Rick suggested having a meeting with the representative from Drexel Barrell, the Town Board and the landowners. He feels that it would be helpful to have a face-to-face conversation about what the expectation of the report really is and what is needed. He explained that this is going to be an uphill battle with CDOT and the Town needs a very concrete case in order to get the EIS re-opened. He wants this report to be that vehicle to get it done and it needs to be improved in order to do that.

Chris mentioned that the agreement outlines having a second meeting once the document is submitted in order to take comments/revisions. However, he would like to send in comments first, get a revised document and then have a meeting with them after the document is closer to a finished product.

Debbi recommended having a County representative at the meeting as well because the County has expressed that they would like to be involved in the process.

The Board concurred and directed staff to pass this information on to Drexel Barrell and request a revised document. After that document is reviewed, the staff should set up a meeting to discuss it further with the Board members, the landowners, and the County.

Grant Richards and Bob Martin thanked the Board for their support on this matter.

Action Agenda Item #5: New/Unfinished

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Chris mentioned an invitation that the Board received to an event for the Regional Housing Alliance & La Plata Homes Fund on November 10th from 4 – 6 p.m. at the Sorrel Sky Gallery in Durango. He also mentioned a meeting to discuss their plans for the Grandview Intersection on November 2nd at 6:00 p.m.

Dan asked if the Forest Service & Bureau of Land Management have made the determination to dissolve their combine services operation and close the Bayfield office.

Chris answered that they are going to move forward with dissolving the “Service First” program but that doesn’t necessarily mean that they are going to close the Bayfield office. However, they will probably transfer some employees around as they make the changes between the two entities.

Debbi asked who is going to make the determination of what improvements are going to be made to the Town facilities based on the energy assessments that were received.

Chris answered there is grant money available through the 4CORE grant but the improvements haven’t been determined yet on what is going to be done. He stated that he will present a report to the Board at a future meeting to discuss that item.

Ed asked if there would be a way to have a meeting with the business owners in Bayfield soliciting their input on possible way to increase economic development in Bayfield.

Dan & Rick concurred that it would be a good idea.

Chris said that he will look into it and see if he can set something up.

Rick mentioned that he will be resigning his seat on the Southwest Council of Government Board on Friday due to a conflict of interest and he asked if any of the Board members would be interested in serving on that Board for the final 2 months of his term. He stated that it meets on the first Friday of each month in the Anasazi Room at the County Courthouse.

Dan agreed to serve on the Board in Rick place.

**Action Agenda Item #6: Executive Session {C.R.S. Section 24-6-402-4(e)}
La Plata Archuleta Water District Intergovernmental Agreement**

Tom made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402-(4)(e) and he requested that Chris La May & Dirk Nelson be included. Debbi seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed unanimously.

The Board came out of executive session and the meeting was adjourned.