

EL PASO COUNTY

COLORADO

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&
DAVE ROSE, CHIEF PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Citizen Outreach Group – February 5, 2018

Members Present: Stephanie Adams, Jeff Aldrich, Theresa Carter, David Couch, Kelvin Dean, Ed Dills, Roland Rainey, Creed Spillane

Members Absent: Lacey Fugleberg

County Staff Present: Sherri Cassidy, Dave Rose, Nicola Sapp, Nikki Simmons, Henry Yankowski, Joel Quevillon, Deanna Ruschioni

Guests: Josh Handley

Commissioners Present:

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m.

Sherri Cassidy, El Paso County Chief Financial Officer and Dave Rose, Chief Public Information Officer welcomed each of the 2018 Citizen Outreach Group members and the members were asked to introduce themselves.

Election of COG Officers

A motion was made to nominate Kelvin Dean as Chairman of the COG. The motion was seconded and all present were in favor (8-0) with one member absent and 2 openings to be filled. Kelvin Dean accepted.

A motion was made to nominate David Couch as Vice Chairman of the COG. The motion was seconded and all present were in favor (8-0) with one member absent and 2 openings to be filled. David Couch accepted.

Administrative Items

- 1) A motion was made to approve the October 16, 2017 meeting minutes; it was seconded and the minutes were approved as written.
- 2) Amy Folsom, El Paso County Attorney provided a brief overview of the policies and procedures of the Colorado Open Meetings Law which is statutory. El Paso County is a statutory county and follows the Colorado statutes. Requirements for openness and transparency that inure to the Board of County Commissioners extend to the Citizen Outreach Group as a local public body.





- The Colorado Open Meetings Law applies to any meeting of a local public body wherein public business is discussed.
 - COG is a local public body with 11 voting members. Whenever 6 or more of this public body is present and there is any conversation considered to be public business, the open meeting laws apply.
 - Correspondence through e-mail pertaining to public business must abide by the open meeting laws as well.
 - Public notices will be posted 24 hours in advance of each meeting and will be posted on the lobby board inside the County Administration Building, Centennial Hall, 200 S. Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO.
 - Regular meetings are scheduled from 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Pikes Peak Conference Room of the County Administration Building, Centennial Hall, 200 South Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO. A 2018 proposed meeting schedule and agenda was handed out and will be posted on the website.
 - Minutes and audio recordings will be subject to the open meeting laws and become public record. The custodian of minutes is the Budget Division of El Paso County Financial Services. Written minutes will be kept on file in the Budget office and on the present Public Information Office website.
- 3) Approval of the Resolution of the Citizen Outreach Group concerning the Policies and Procedures in furtherance of The Colorado Open Meetings Law (Sunshine Notice Requirements)
- The motion was made to accept the resolution as written (with the comments Deanna Ruschioni made to update the website address where the meeting minutes will be posted once the County's new public website goes live) to be amended at a later date. This was approved unanimously by all present (8-0) with one member absent and 2 openings to be filled.
- 4) Sherri Cassidy spoke to the Formulation of the Bylaws, the Term Matrix and Appointments (as approved by the Board of County Commissioners), and the 2018 Proposed Meeting Schedule and Location.

Citizens College

Dave Rose spoke to the El Paso County Citizens College for 2018. Citizens College is a learning opportunity available to the citizens of El Paso County and it is designed to provide an overview of the El Paso County government including its history, statutory duties, and the programs and services offered to its citizens. The County is looking at hosting this at a County facility using the 2-Saturday format, and once the dates have been confirmed COG will be informed and are encouraged to share this information with the public.

In order to provide more time for discussions with County elected officials and County leadership to Citizens College, the attendees will be asked to watch several videos in advance to the Citizens College dates to learn about County offices and departments, and prepare their questions and topics ahead of time to be discussed with the presenters. This will allow more time to schedule tours to some of the County buildings and offices.



Updates

Sherry Cassidy provided an update to the El Paso County structure, highlighting a few of the organizational changes.

- Public Works presently consists of Road & Bridge, Fleet, and the Office of Emergency Management

Sherry also provided an overview of the El Paso County 2018 Adopted Budget Book, which received the 2018 Distinguished Budget Award and can be viewed on line at:

<https://admin.elpasoco.com/wp-content/uploads/Budget/BudgetHearings/2018BudgetHearings/2018OriginalAdoptedBudget/2018-Adopted-Budget-Book.pdf>

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.