

**Minutes
Consortium of Cities
April 1, 2009**

Representatives and Alternates Present: Carolyn Cutler, City of Lafayette; Angelique Espinoza, City of Boulder; Sheri Marsalla, City of Louisville; Ben Pearlman, Boulder County; Valeria Skitt, City of Longmont; Deborah Williams, Town of Superior; and Staff Michelle Krezek, Megan Davis and Garry Sanfacon.

1. Approval of Minutes

Sheri Marsella moved to approve the minutes of February 4, 2009. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. Update/Discussion of Consortium Volunteer Work Day

About 20 elected officials have said they could attend the work day scheduled for May 8 at Heil Valley Ranch, but others said their jurisdictions have conflicts with the date. It was suggested another date might work better and should be researched. Commissioner Pearlman will formally invite elected officials and each Consortium representative will follow up with their councils and boards. Press will also be invited and it was suggested that the Denver media be invited.

3. Revenue Stability – Discussion of Next Steps

The group agreed that the forum was an excellent exchange of ideas and information. Louisville and Superior are meeting later in April and revenue sharing will be a topic of discussion. There is also a need to look at statewide changes to statutes. They discussed next steps to move this project forward and to spend the DOLA grant money. The group is interested in new sources of revenue and taking the issue to a larger scale than Boulder County such as a statewide agreement on revenue sharing. They discussed what the Consortium can do to move the issue forward and identified:

- Contemplate what are the most fruitful ideas and ask Consortium members to take these ideas to their councils and boards
- Consortium resolution to help direct municipalities to move forward with discussions/ask councils and boards to direct staff to begin discussions
- Define where development might occur in the future and help cities and towns look at agreements on those developments
- Develop a resolution for consideration of this issue to move forward

There was further discussion on whether the Consortium could work on getting additional revenues passed on a local/state/federal level. Home rule cities can already tax services. Internet sales tax would have to come from a change at the federal level.

Staff will send information regarding the grant funds available and what they can be used for.

4. Discussion/Prioritization of Consortium of Cities Projects/Goals

Any issue the Consortium tackles needs to be important to members and also needs to be something appropriate for the Consortium. The group discussed the list of ideas and rankings. They discussed the following ideas in more detail: economic development ideas between cities – sharing information and exchanging ideas; shared services to gain efficiencies; promote Boulder County as a brand; environmental issues – more green building promotion, Fastrack station sites, public buildings Leed certified; and combining services which could be a good topic for the Consortium. The group agreed to take the top 6 ideas and better define the issues.

- Combining services
- Revenue
- Grants for sharing funds
- Environmental issues
- Human services
- Child welfare

The next step is to compile a list of essential services and/or services that could be shared and distribute.

5. New Business

The group discussed topics for the next agenda to include a services discussion, joint lobbying efforts, update on ESTF, and more specificity on top six issues. The next regular meeting of the Consortium will be June 3.