

**Minutes
Consortium of Cities
April 2, 2008**

Representatives and Alternates Present: Carolyn Cutler, City of Lafayette; Sherri Marsella, City of Louisville; Ben Pearlman, Boulder County; Valeria Skitt, City of Longmont; Lisa Skumatz, Town of Superior; Ken Wilson, City of Boulder and Staff Michelle Krezek, Megan Davis, and Sheree Stroud

1. Introductions and Reports from Cities and Towns

Ken Wilson, City of Boulder, reported that they are looking at housing size and this has created furor. He attended the Aspen Environmental Forum with Suzy Ageton and they participated in exciting conversations with notable people on climate change and solutions. The council will hold a study session next week on Boulder's Climate Action Plan and will explore many exciting ideas.

Lisa Skumatz, Town of Superior, told members about their recent election. Two Trustees were elected. Their Sustainability Plan passed and they have put a trash contract out to bid.

Sherri Marsella, City of Louisville, said that the mystery buyer of StorageTek was revealed as Conoco-Phillips. Council met with this group and it appears they will use the property for a high-tech training and alternative fuel center. Louisville approved the special review so the Bridge School can move into an old office building. Louisville ranked #26 on Fortune 500's "Live and Launch" list.

Carolyn Cutler, City of Lafayette, reported that they have hosted the Oatmeal and Peach festivals, Celebrate Lafayette, and Annual Wine Festival in the past decade. Jo Judd organized these successful events and now she plans to retire, thus there will be no wine festival this year. She also reported that the Energy Sustainability Action Committee is lively and working on a Master Plan. Council approved the development plans for a new hotel. Constituents continue to attend council meetings regarding the FasTracks project and quiet zones. There is some interest among the council in doing some type of presentation to RTD on this issue. She wondered what the other communities are doing.

Ken Wilson responded that a quiet zone study was supposed to be completed in the first quarter, and after that, costs can be discussed. He agreed that it is a big concern. Heather Balser added that RTD is performing a corridor wide quiet zone study. This is a coordinated process with diagnostic reviews. RTD would pay for improvements to meet safety standards and local municipalities would pay the rest. Municipalities have to apply for a quiet zone, but RTD is facilitating that process. Carl Castillo also said that the MCC is addressing this issue, too.

Ben Pearlman suggested that the issue should be addressed collectively. This is an opportunity for the municipalities to exert pressure to ensure that RTD fully understands how important this is. The group suggested that RTD speak at the next meeting regarding quiet zones and possibly the Consortium will take a position and adopt a resolution.

Valeria Skitt, City of Longmont, said they are working on annexing land on the eastern border of the city in order to protect Longmont as a free-standing community. The council meetings can now be viewed online. They are exploring the possibility of public forums on Saturdays as an opportunity for citizens to talk to council members.

Ben Pearlman, Boulder County, reported that the county adopted Green Building Standards and are now working on house size requirements.

2. Approval of Minutes

Lisa Skumatz moved to approve the minutes of February 6, 2008, as corrected by Lisa Skumatz. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. Update on Boulder County Sustainable Energy Plan

Ann Livingston, Boulder County Sustainability Coordinator, told the group that staff have presented or are scheduled to present on the plan to the cities and towns in the county. They are accepting comments and will amend the final plan accordingly. The formal release of the plan is scheduled for April 24. Then it will go to the cities and towns regarding actions and programs for implementation for the 2009 budget. Those meetings will be scheduled for May and June.

4. Presentation on Human Services Strategic Plan

Robin Bohannon, Director of Boulder County Human Services, told the group that the steering committee is looking for support of the Strategic Plan ([attached](#)). She presented a Powerpoint presentation ([attached](#)) outlining the inclusive, collaborative process. She explained that the plan is a blueprint and the action steps are suggestions. Ben Pearlman remarked that the plan knits the non-profits together and helps them do what they do ever and leverage services. Lisa Skumatz felt that a presentation focused on action rather than process would be more meaningful to her board. Robin Bohannon took note of the suggestion and mentioned that it is frustrating that she doesn't have models or financial maps to work with. Valeria Skitt asked about the shared database. Ms. Bohannon said that several non-profits are working together on that project but it is a difficult conversation. It is going out for RFP so they may soon come back with a funding request for this pilot. Ken Wilson suggested adding a piece to engage the unemployed and train them in green technology. Ms. Bohannon responded that there is a youth pilot and they are watching for green funding that should be available soon. They will work through Workforce Boulder County and it could lead to some exciting potential

projects. There was discussion on supporting the plan. Ken Wilson would like more time to review it. Valeria Skitt suggested endorsing the work that has been done thus far. She emphasized that this is a regional effort and anything that can be done to reduce duplication is important. Ms. Bohannan asked if the Consortium would give a statement of support of the regional cooperation behind the plan. She will come back with the final version and request support of the plan at that time. Valeria Skitt moved that the Consortium support the regional cooperation concept of the plan. Lisa Skumatz seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Update on Revenue Stability Working Group

Megan Davis, Policy Analyst for Boulder County, told the members that a meeting is scheduled next week to look at a final model for revenue stability. They will look at the land bank model by looking at the land bank data, undeveloped land, and determining values with help from the Assessor's Office. The group will then see if they can come up with recommendations to take to councils and boards. The working group should have more information to bring to the Consortium at the June meeting.

Ben Pearlman added the group has received a DOLA grant of \$20,000 to spend on the Phase II implementation phase. They are starting to wrap up their work and can think about IGA's or other methods to make this work. Many outsiders are watching the process and are very interested because so many others face the same problems. Lisa Skumatz mentioned that CML is looking forward to seeing the results. Commissioner Pearlman hopes this will create some good discussions and lead to some consensus.

The next meeting will be June 4, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Boulder County Courthouse.