

**Minutes  
Consortium of Cities  
April 4, 2007**

**Members Present:** Nick Angelo, Town of Lyons; David Callahan, Town of Erie; Carolyn Cutler, City of Lafayette; Bette Erickson, City and County of Broomfield; Ken Lenarcic, Town of Jamestown; Ben Pearlman, Boulder County; Mark Ruzzin, City of Boulder; Valeria Skitt, City of Longmont; Lisa Skumatz, Town of Superior; and Staff Dickey Lee Hullinghorst and Sheree Stroud

**1. Introductions and Brief Reports from Cities and Towns**

**Ken Lenarcic**, Town of Jamestown, said there is great interest among the citizens about energy savings and they will be meeting to discuss this at the end of April.

**Lisa Skumatz**, Town of Superior, reported they have hired a new Town Manager, Scott Randall. Superior is working with other jurisdictions on open space acquisitions. They are researching information for a recreation center bond/ballot issue. They also passed the Energy Code Resolution that was spearheaded by the Energy Strategy Task Force.

**Valeria Skitt**, City of Longmont, told the group that 600 people participated in their Education Summit. The Council approved a second Super Wal-Mart and a Sam's Club at Hwy 119 and C.R. 1. City-wide Wi-Fi system has been released.

**David Callahan**, Town of Erie, stated that an Oil and Gas Conservation Committee came to a meeting and discussed drilling. Erie now has some direct contacts if others encounter problems with drilling operations.

**Nick Angelo**, Town of Lyons, told the group they are working on a Downtown Improvement Plan. They are pursuing a grant from the STEPP Foundation with Boulder County in conjunction with the Cemex fine. The proposal includes energy sweeps in every home and RADON gas detection. The Board also approved a proposal to EPA regarding flushing of pharmaceuticals.

**Carolyn Cutler**, City of Lafayette, reported that the annexation vote passed and most likely a Lowe's will be built on that property. The council's goal setting session resulted in naming energy, sustainability and downtown redevelopment as top goals. They have a long-term, ongoing forecasting of revenues and expenditures. There is also an initiative to install some solar on some public buildings and they have approved a Wal-Mart Super Center.

**Ben Pearlman**, Boulder County, said that the county is installing a solar photovoltaic system on the west wing of the courthouse and it will part of the charging system for the hybrid fleet. It is a pilot program. The county won two DRCOG Awards –

one for Aging Services and another for the Highway 42 Revitalization Plan along with Louisville.

**Mark Ruzzin**, City of Boulder, told the group that they are looking at a 6-year carbon tax on electric bills to raise money to address greenhouse gases and meet Kyoto goals. In March, he and Carl Castillo went to Washington, D.C. and met with the congressional delegation. \$78 million from the 2007 fiscal budget will go to upgrading the NIST building, an important resource for Boulder. They are implementing sustainability efforts and integrating this policy into all areas of city decisions. The Lyons program could be really valuable to other communities.

**Erin Minks**, Senator Salazar's office, said that a lot of the entitlement programs came out with higher funding than previously believed so the impact is not as great as it could be. The budget cycle is on track. There will be a showdown on the Iraq supplemental. There is a coup for the City of Boulder and Boulder County as funding has been obtained for the Army Corps of Engineer projects in Goose Creek and Lower Boulder Creek. They had a good response to the Renewable Energy Summit. A new wind turbine facility will be built in Weld County. They are studying an S-chip program for low-income children.

**Don Sandoval**, Department of Local Affairs, reported that DOLA had a new executive director, Suzy Kirkpatrick. This is an exciting change and may impact how services are delivered to the local governments. DOLA is also talking about green building and adding language to contracts to strongly encourage the practice. For instance, DOLA is assisting Nederland with the construction of their new community center that will meet LEED standards. DOLA completed its Water and Wastewater Treatment Initiative and has given funds to impacted areas. Erie received a substantial grant. He reminded the group that the CBDG program is accepting grants. The Energy and Mineral Impact Program is seeing a downturn in revenues. The next application cycle is August 1.

Dickey Lee Hullinghorst introduced Ann Livingston, the county's new Sustainability Coordinator. Ben added that she is extremely qualified and energetic. Ms. Livingston told the group a little about her background and goals.

## **2. Approval of Minutes**

Lisa Skumatz moved to approve the February 7, 2007, minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

## **3. Update on Current Projects/Task Forces**

### Energy Strategy Task Force

Ben Pearlman told the group that Don Brown had recommended that Mark Monroe be appointed a member of the Energy Strategy Task Force. There was no objection and he was appointed by acclamation.

Lisa Skumatz discussed the Consortium's resolution endorsing the adoption of modified building energy code elements for jurisdictions within Boulder County. Superior has already passed a resolution and it has been provided as a model for other jurisdictions. She also prepared a document outlining talking points and other information. Ms. Skumatz told the Consortium that this information will be sent out to elected officials. The group concurred.

Ms. Skumatz outlined some of the work of the Energy Strategy Task Force's Early Action Committee. They are sending out talking points and a press release in conjunction with Earth Day regarding the various energy and sustainability activities. They are trying to raise awareness.

The Energy Codes Committee had a great briefing on the city's Greenspoint program. If enough cities pass the resolution endorsing adoption of modified building energy code elements, the ESTF will convene a meeting of building officials.

Mark Ruzzin added that the council will receive a memo on how the city can complete the Greenspoint program. They will also adopt the 2006 IUCC and a commercial construction program. They hope to have everything in place by the end of 2007.

#### Revenue Stability Working Group

Ben Pearlman said that a small group has been delegated to prepare a presentation to take to the various councils. They are also working on a video that features Tom Pippin of BBC to include in the presentation. They will be making a request to fund the BBC proposal. The proposal outlines a plan to work with the various county jurisdictions and the working group to devise several concrete plans for consideration.

Dickey Lee Hullinghorst told the group that it is possible that some funding could come from applying for an Energy Impact Assistant grant. Don Sandoval added that they always look for a strong local match. The deadline is August 1 and decisions on funding are made the first part of November. It then takes about a month to complete the contract.

#### **4. Study Session on Super IGA**

Dickey Lee Hullinghorst presented a background and outline of the Super IGA. (See attached.) The Super IGA supplements all the various underlying comprehensive development plan IGA's that were previously approved. She said it was also noteworthy that the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan was a very major principle that allowed the Super IGA to happen. In that document, the county agreed not to develop at urban density or compete with cities for commercial and industrial development. Ben Pearlman noted that the Super IGA was a remarkable accomplishment and received several awards. It's a peacekeeping agreement that ensures growth identities do not change. It stops defensive and pre-emptive annexations and creates orderly, concentric growth with preservation areas.

There was general discussion. Mr. Pearlman explained that the county does experience interest in amending the underlying IGA's on occasion. The county is always willing to review these and will have an open mind as long as the change is within the spirit of the agreement and consistent with other amendments.

Nick Angelo said that when the county approached them about purchasing some open space that affected their IGA, the county was very professional and aware of the boundaries.

Ben Pearlman stated that the Super IGA really stops the competition for land. Revenue sharing could further aid this smart development and give cities even more freedom from pressures and impacts.

## **5. Other Business**

Mark Ruzzin mentioned that in the past 6-8 weeks, there have been several crimes in Boulder that are being investigated as hate crimes. Longmont has also had issues. Perhaps the Consortium could look at how they could address these challenges. He suggested this be a future agenda topic.