

**MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FÉ COUNTY
COUNTY OPEN LAND TRAILS AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(COLTPAC)**

February 3, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Santa Fé County Open Land, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee (COLTPAC) was called to order on the above date at approximately 6:00 p.m. by Chair Dave Dannenberg in the Projects, Facilities and Open Space Conference Room, 901 West Alameda St., Suite 20C, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Dave Dannenberg, Chair
Greg Betts
Ruben Cedeño
Patricia Conoway
John Parker

Members Absent

(Two vacancies)
Judy Kowalski [excused]
Ernesto Ortega [excused]

Staff Members Present

Maria Lohmann, Open Space and Trails Planner
Paul Olafson, Planning Projects Manger

Others Present

Carl Boaz, Stenographer
Bill Johnson, former member

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Dannenberg wanted to talk about goal setting for the meetings and requested it be added to the agenda.

Member Betts moved to approve the agenda as amended. Member Parker

seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 13, 2016

Member Parker said on page 5 at the bottom, he noted that all of the GUTS trails will be natural surface but major, multi-purpose trails need more than a natural surface.

Chair Dannenberg said on page 4, 3rd paragraph, the acronym for Grand Unified Trail System, should be added.

He noted a typo on page 2, last paragraph where it should say help, not elp.

Mr. Johnson - on page 5 just above Member Parker's comment - both model projects (what model projects) - the first apparently is between the Cerro Gordo parking lot and the Dale Ball trails and the other is the connector between the Spur Trail and the Santa Fe Community College Fitness Center.

Member Conway moved to approve the minutes of January 13 as amended. Member Cedeño seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Olafson looked at the GUTS initiative, noting that the County owns more than just soft surface trails and it should include all trail types in the agreement. Soft surfaces are easy.

Chair Dannenberg asked that GUTS be an agenda item.

5. MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

There were no matters of public concern.

6. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

A. Future Agenda Topics

Ms. Lohmann said in March the Committee will have management plans and interpretative plans. The consultant for Cerrillos Hills is also coming in March for what we are going to do.

The other is the discussion on agriculture plans. Erin will head that up.

Chair Dannenberg asked about the management plans on the contract just signed.

Ms. Lohmann said that is part of her project updates and it involves the same consultants for the current management plans.

Chair Dannenberg asked if the Committee could get a complete list for that. For the agenda next month, if we are successful for SGMP now, we should take up another next month.

Ms. Lohmann agreed.

Member Parker wanted to see the Committee talk about what and how will be done with Los Caminitos, at least a planning profile.

Member Parker explained how it came to be county property for the benefit of the new members.

Member Betts asked if it is easements and right of access or a need to have a buy in from residents.

Member Parker said it is all of the above.

Ms. Lohmann added that it was dedicated on the plat for open space and the County didn't have a plan until discovering it is County open space and Los Caminitos came up as a priority for COLTPAC. It is still on.

Chair Dannenberg asked, under staff updates, to have an update on Romero Park. There are issues on the budget that came up. If the playground doesn't get done, that is a serious issue.

Ms. Lohmann agreed to add that in March.

Mr. Johnson said the Committee should review the trail standards that were done in 2006.

Mr. Olafson asked the Committee to be cognizant of Ms. Lohmann's work load for the March meeting.

Member Betts didn't see those trail standards in the orientation manual and asked if the new members could get them.

Ms. Lohmann suggested the plans discussion take place maybe in August or September.

B. Goal setting

Chair Dannenberg was bothered by going through monthly meetings and walking out feeling nothing was accomplished. He suggested having a brief discussion about the outcomes we want to accomplish.

Member Cedeño agreed. We should reiterate afterward to give us some internal assessment. He was also under the impression the heavy lifting would be done in subcommittees.

Chair Dannenberg said at the last meeting they discussed subcommittees. Sometimes they are formed as ad hoc committees to get things done.

Member Parker said the Committee needs to focus on its own goals and on what the County is doing. At the same time, if COLTPAC has goals that are independent of what staff are doing it probably would not do a lot of good. Action planning is more an executive function.

Chair Dannenberg clarified that he felt goals that were on the agenda as set by staff. For the Committee the aim is to come up with a list on the 5-year plan items that we can drill down into and see if they wind up in the plan to get from ethereal discussions to concrete things being accomplished.

Member Betts said it would be best to have the materials - background, whatever, before the meeting. Then we could focus on the action.

Member Cedeño said there was a point last time about support and our relationship with the Commissioners and what was left up in the air is what we do about it. So give it more structure.

Member Betts requested that the agenda state if it is for information when no action is required.

Member Cedeño asked if the time line Ms. Lohmann put up is something that impacts us so that we have to set up the goals inside there.

Ms. Lohmann said it was for her to schedule for COLTPAC during the year and have a better understanding about accomplishing things.

7. MATTERS FROM COUNTY STAFF

A. Open Space Project Update

Ms. Lohmann reported a lot going on in planning right now with management plans; planning meetings for input on uses and analysis of those uses to determine what is best use for the open space and bring it back one more time in March. So the final plans will come to COLTPAC in May. The management plans for Lamy, Ortíz Mountains and Madrid are being fast-tracked because Ortíz starts in April so we want to have it opened by then. The contract includes tours with alternative access areas, etc. how to improve existing alignments, etc. It will be a capital investment for the future.

She talked to Member Conway about participation in the Ortíz focus groups. We have specific groups and a Galisteo Basin-wide focus group and then smaller property-specific meetings. Some on-site. This will happen first week of March if we get the contract signed.

Member Parker asked that COLTPAC be notified of the schedule. Then we could pick and choose on attending them.

Ms. Lohmann agreed to include members on the invite list. Members can be participants. She selected experts in the field and grouped them by topic to get the best feedback. She has specific outcomes in mind for them.

Chair Dannenberg thought there would be value to attach a member to each of the management plans.

Ms. Lohmann agreed and that is why she reached out to Member Conway, who has invaluable knowledge about the Ortíz Mountains. She provided names of neighbors who should be invited.

Chair Dannenberg summarized that they would move forward with these three focus groups and see if we can pair members with them, like Ernesto with Thornton Ranch.

Ms. Lohmann announced the work started on the signage plan for 30 days and see what folks propose. It is an assessment to figure out what signs are needed and where and also a branding initiative on trails. She has advertised for consultant services.

In response to Member Betts, Mr. Olafson said they don't have a standard sign for the county now. So for this is for interpretive signs and directions.

Member Betts shared a signage plan for Oakland that would be very valuable and very comprehensive.

Ms. Lohmann explained they have a very limited budget. It is pretty small but we hope people who bid will show us what they can do for a small budget.

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. Election of Vice-Chair

Chair Dannenberg suggested postponing this to March. Member Betts agreed.

B. Discussion and Action on Grand Unified Trail System (GUTS) Resolution of Support

Mr. Olafson has been assigned to draft up this resolution for the BCC. After thinking about it, he said he wanted to reduce it quite a bit to say it is a good idea and COLTPAC supports it. He agreed to email it out before the next meeting and see if the Committee will support it.

Member Betts wondered if the group needed the support for their grant writing.

Member Parker was unsure this was the proper approach. "When talking about Spur Trail to SFCC - that is great, but GUTS is so conceptual. What are we saying yes to?" When you are out there with volunteers, it is a lot of work and daunting.

Member Conway said that was why she asked the presenters for the top five priorities. She asked what the next step is for this item. She felt that everything we do here ought to be focused on a next step.

Member Parker suggested considering that support when we get the draft.

Chair Dannenberg said it was obvious their people are very committed to trail building. We need to give support for the work groups that go out and get things done. There will be a lot of great work that comes out of it.

Member Parker agreed. Mr. Olafson just needs to hear from us. His concern is that we become enamored with the concept - about who are we serving and what should it accomplish - commuters, families with kids, equestrians. We are talking about trail standards and that depends on the usage. It is great to have the mountain bikers building those trails. It is their thing. There are also other intents.

Member Betts suggested that COLTPAC's interest is that "we have all these great lands - if we could use a trail to get outside and play or explore, it helps to achieve our goal. We see it as a way of getting people to utilize our natural resources. At least they will get into some of these interconnected properties."

Chair Dannenberg added that GUTS has a huge set of goals and only some of it has

to do with the County.

Mr. Olafson envisioned it as an overview of a collaborative planning group and the County has resources and can support the concept and want to participate. So just boil it down that we are interested and want to support it.

Ms. Lohmann suggested using some of the whereas statements to highlight what the County is already doing, including the goal in the SGMP to create an interconnected trail system. So GUTS has a lot that is already in our policy framework.

Mr. Olafson and Ms. Lohmann agreed to come up with the specifics and get COLTPAC to review it.

Mr. Olafson summarized the effort to include: describe the planning, County interest in policy, commitment to participate for community and regional benefits - that would be the purpose.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion on CIP Planning Process

Mr. Olafson described the process. The bonding will be part of the 5-year capital plan which he handed it out last time. By March/April Staff will have a list of projects with costs and by June/July to have action at the BCC and from there to the bond election in November.

Mr. Olafson showed the spreadsheet on the monitor. The green column showed high priority projects that are shovel ready or a management plan and engineering and building on existing resource or next phase of a project. - and building things that are easier to care for.

1. Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) is part of the new code. It is just buying the conservation easement and extinguishing the development of the property. And people could buy the rights for use at another location.

Mr. Olafson clarified it is a 4-year project.

2. River greenway is \$1.1 million to finish acquisition to build the greenway from Siler Road to San Isidro. It is the next pearl in a string of pearls from downtown. We will need more money for construction.
3. Arroyo Hondo Trail from 599 to NM 14 at \$1.4 million. It is a lynch pin - you get to the rail station at 599 across Highway 14 and get into the college District and

Rancho Viejo and those trails. This is engineering and underpass to get across Highway 14. Once built, they would have to make the connections to it.

4. Thornton Ranch Master Plan for design and planning construction at \$780,000. The timing is not sure but the question on the ballot is generic.
5. Romero Park, Phase II is for \$2.6 million.
6. Romero Park, Phase III is also for \$2.9 million.

Mr. Olafson said those were the high priority projects.

Also on the list were the Green way at \$4.6 million, Mt. Chal Cultural Resource Plan at \$460,000 and the last is Pojoaque Valley, Phase 3 at \$1.8 million and a low priority.

The Committee briefly discussed the Thornton Ranch projects and clarified the bond amount is about one quarter of the anticipated costs for the next few years.

B. Open Space, Trails and Parks Plan Update

Chair Dannenberg pointed out this is related with C.

C. Discussion and Brainstorm SGMP Strategy 6.1.2.7 “Develop a Community-based Stewardship and Management Program for Public Lands”

Ms. Lohmann showed the SGMP spreadsheet she made for her to put all the policies in the same place. Part of COLTPAC’s direction from the resolution is community stewardship in some manner. She thought stewardship would be a good discussion, especially with creating our open space plan. It is broad but also COLTPAC related, and a good starting point.

The SGMP was written in 2010 and updated in 2015. She read parts of the spreadsheet which on the monitor was small print.

In implementing the stewardship program, there are other community groups we could work with. So she wanted a brainstorm with the Committee about what stewardship could look like. We will be looking at the County strategically regarding lands we already own and some strategic acquisitions or programs around that property.

Member Betts asked if she had a concept like a pie chart within stewardship like trail maintenance, leading school groups, etc. and what our own needs are vs. what others’

needs are.

Ms. Lohmann said she didn't have that and it will need to be developed. We've had discussions internally and where we need some of the stewardship work to be done and what kind of programs to take on, given limited staff. She does know what the intent was when some of them were purchased. They will be tackled over time.

Member Parker said there ought to be a means of managing human impacts like at Ortíz Mountains and with other parcels, whatever the intent at time of purchase was.

Chair Dannenberg observed there are lots of topics for stewardship. We are looking for general focus topics related to stewardship and more structured relationships with outdoor organizations like Fat Tire Society, Santa Fe Conservation Trust, Trails Alliance, and others.

Mr. Olafson listed them on the board.

Member Betts suggested species monitoring or counting to have a year-to-year understanding of them, both plants and animals. Inventory and monitoring.

Member Parker suggested endangered species particularly.

Mr. Olafson added cultural site-watch on the board.

Member Betts asked if there is a way for smaller groups to help financially like a friends group -

Mr. Johnson suggested an adopt-a-road type sign.

Mr. Olafson wrote "Friends of County Open Space".

Member Parker suggested having a person to call for groups that are interested or to report things.

Chair Dannenberg suggested school connections for projects like the Master's program to work on trails and be educated.

Ms. Lohmann added the summer intern program out of university or another resource.

Member Cedeño suggested kids at risk like outward bound.

Member Betts mentioned ADA access if there are people who could assess trail segments to provide information on widths, slopes, etc. to inform people with different abilities to make their own decision on which trails meet their needs. Also, different

groups are working independently and might not have strong ties with others but sometimes there are conflicts in use. He suggested some sort of mediation on stewardship to enhance communication among those groups to ensure needs of all groups are addressed.

Member Parker suggested a no drones policy.

Ms. Lohmann said she has a list of policies we need yet to establish.

Member Cedeño suggested habitat protection.

Mr. Olafson said as they put this into the 4-year plan they needed to pay attention to contact other groups and how they could work with the County like Outward Bound.

Member Parker suggested identifying stewardship partners.

Member Betts asked if the County has a co-sponsorship policy.

Mr. Olafson said no.

Member Cedeño suggested grouping them and then prioritize them.

Mr. Olafson thought this was a good start. There will be lots of crossover on them.

Ms. Lohmann agreed to put them into the buckets and that will help wrap our brains around it. We just need to sit with it for a while.

Member Betts wondered if there is a group out there that seems ready made for stewardship as a good pace setter and then when agreements or letters of intent are secured, the BCC won't be skeptical or apprehensive. It will be mutually beneficial.

Mr. Olafson thanked the Committee for good brainstorming.

D. Discussion on Public Outreach and Events

Ms. Lohmann wanted to plant seeds for what type of outreach we want to do. One is the open space plan. The other is effort are fun events. Last year, the Committee did trail events. She didn't have the bandwidth to do them. We don't need the discussion now but everyone can think about it.

There is a lot on the agenda in March so she might not put it back on for March.

Chair Dannenberg suggested they might have to work some off-line on things like

trail days.

Member Betts suggested for events such as Earth Day that other groups are planning, COLTPAC could have a table and staff it for a built-in crowd. It would provide a lot of bang for a one-day event.

Ms. Lohmann cautioned that they don't have the materials developed yet.

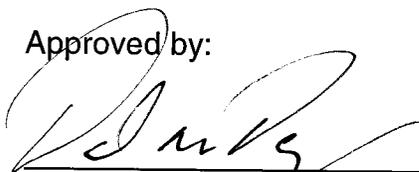
10. NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 2, 2016

11. ADJOURNMENT

Member Conway moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Cedeño seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Approved by:



Dave Dannenberg, Chair

Attest:



Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk



Submitted by:



Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 16TH Day Of May, 2016 at 12:19:02 PM
and Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1793573
of The Records Of Santa Fe County



Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy  County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM