

MEMBERS	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Bob Beda, Chair	X		
Dusty Szymanski	X		
Erich Ferchau	X		
Stu Ferguson	X		
Carolyn Riggs	X		
Greg Larson	X		
Councilor Ed Seymour	X		

## OTHERS PRESENT:

**I. CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM BY CHAIR BOB BEDA****II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG****III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MAY 11, 2011 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Larson moved to approve the May 11, 2011 meeting minutes as presented.

Commissioner Ferchau seconded the motion.

Roll Call Yes: Erich, Bob, Greg, Ed

Roll Call No:

Roll Call Abstain: Dusty, Stu, Carolyn

Motion Carried

**IV. ACTION TO EXCUSE COMMISSIONERS SZYMANSKI AND RIGGS FROM THE MAY 11, 2011 MEETING.**

Commissioner Larson moved and Councilor Seymour seconded to excuse Commissioners Szymanski and Riggs from the May 11, 2011 meeting.

Roll Call Yes: Erich, Stu, Bob, Greg, Ed

Roll Call No:

Roll Call Abstain: Dusty, Carolyn

Motion Carried

**V. COUNCIL UPDATE**

Councilor Seymour updated the Commission on recent Council business:

- Last week Council interviewed candidates for Board and Commission Vacancies and took action last night to appoint
  - Stu Ferguson and Carolyn Riggs to the Planning and Zoning Commission
  - Wes Bailey and Scott Frazier to the Zoning Board of Adjustments and Appeals
  - Appointments to the Building Board of Appeals
- Took action on the slurry seal project;
- Took action on the road construction bid for New York, Reed, South Boulevard and West Tomichi

**VI. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

- Commissioner Ferguson is looking forward to the new opportunity on the Commission; Chair Beda thanked him for his ongoing community service and Commissioner Szymanski echoed congratulations to Commissioner Ferguson;
- Director Westbay stated that Councilor Harriman did an excellent job on the Commission and Chair Beda noted that she dropped off some cookies and a card for the Commission,

which he read aloud;

- Commissioner Riggs thanked the Commission for excusing her from the last two meetings so that she could graduate, she is now a WSC alumna and thanked City Council for reappointing her to the Commission;
- Commissioner Larson attended the economic summit group meeting and information will be on the website soon. He stated a working group has been formed to put together an action plan to address topics in the Governor's Bottom Up Economic Review Regional Strategies and Goals. Discussion followed:
  - Commissioner Ferchau stated that in the draft there are words that don't correspond with actions he has seen. He stated that the words in the plan are the polar opposite of the position being taken. The most obvious being mining, tourism growth or ski areas. He asked if it was just more words on paper or if there will be changing behavior. Commissioner Larson replied that he hopes that it is not just words on paper. He stated we could study this for years and not accomplish anything.
  - Commissioner Ferguson said he would describe this as a process rather than an end. He stated as he views the work in Gunnison County thus far, he sees lots of opportunities to refine it, to get better and refocus. He said that a really good brainstorming session was held to come up with the ideas in the plan and that mining, growth and being proactive are part of it—those issues did not get swept under the table.
  - Commissioner Larson stated there is a lot of work that needs to be done and it is not going to happen overnight.
  - Commissioner Ferchau stated that businesses in town are not doing well and that “if we don't have a good summer, we are in trouble. We are in bigger trouble than I have ever experienced in this town: literally with the businesses.” He asked people to support him on this because people don't believe him.
  - Commissioner Riggs stated that we have to get more vocal with the businesses and she feels this is a subject that needs to occur outside of tonight. Commissioner Ferchau said he agrees, but “it is that frame of mind that needs to be prevalent in business leaders, government leaders, and the general public because the businesses you can expect to be on board, the government should be able to see it and get on board and the general population is oblivious to most of it.”
  - Commissioner Larson said, “the hard part in a lot of ways is actually getting businesses involved. That has been a struggle getting them to show up , just like here we are reviewing the sign code tonight, that affects every business and no one is here.”
  - Commissioner Ferguson said the Council pointed out that one of the opportunities that communities have is to review their code, like we are doing, to find ways to make them more business friendly. He said he believes the City has been the leader in that category of finding ways to make processes work for people effectively. He proudly points to Gunnison as an example of what needs to be done at a lot of places.
  - Commissioner Ferchau stated he has always agreed more with what the City of Gunnison has done [as opposed to] the County of Gunnison. He continued, saying, “One of the issues that we face is business involvement, who in their right mind says, “I'm going down, I'm losing control, you just go”. We all put up a good face to be positive. It's the same reason business owners don't get involved in County Commissioner or City Council races, because of fear.”
- Commissioner Ferchau asked if the clock in the Council Chambers could be made the

same time as cell phones so he is not late – it is a couple of minutes fast.

#### VII. PLANNING STAFF UPDATE

Director Westbay provided an update on activity in the Community Development department:

- the Building Department is very busy with the jail and hospital projects and there will be an inspection of the Taylor Hall Fire System tomorrow;
- Eric Jansen will be going to Salida [weekly] over the next year for inspections of the high school so Dennis, Eric and Steve will team up to do inspections in Gunnison;
- staff has been working the past three weeks on communications regarding the CDOW Discovery Center and possible amendments to the *Annexation Agreement* for the GOV zone district;
- staff has had discussions with Safeway about a possible addition to their store;
- Management Staff met with Travelers Insurance to look at exemptions and is taking a good look at City policies;
- Staff is finalizing a draft of the Stormwater Management Manual and the City Engineer will review it before public distribution-it is basically an engineering textbook for stormwater management;
- Steve gave a presentation to Cathy Elliott's Real Estate class at the college; and,
- upcoming planning projects include a rezoning of the hospital property and a conditional use.

#### VIII. ADJOURN. Chair Beda adjourned the meeting to a work session at approximately 7:28 p.m.

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Bob Beda, Chair

Attest:

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Andie Ruggera, Secretary