

By consensus, the Commissioners agreed to have Hunt make the commitment understanding that the County would do what it could in the way of outreach to get help with the commitment and put additional pressure on Colter to advocate to the different groups to get them onboard.

- 5) **Alpine Ranger OHV Grant** She had prepared a letter of support for the Alpine Ranger grant. Commissioner Albritton allowed Staff to use her signature stamp to forward it on, and Hunt would put the letter on for ratification at the next meeting.

Commissioner Fedel had nothing to discuss:

Commissioner Albritton discussed the following:

- 1) **Tires Follow-Up** She asked if Hunt or David Masters had made a request to the Sheriff's Department to get their report on the Gunn property. In anticipation of the December follow-up meeting, she wanted to enter it into the record. She wanted to ask the Sheriff for a memo saying what position the Sheriff's Office was taking on the issue, in particular, was there an ongoing investigation, was the Sheriff moving forward with charges or not, to enter in the record of the upcoming hearing.
- 2) **Attorney Search** She explained that the search for a new County Attorney would be ongoing. The offer was not accepted by the proposed candidate for the County Attorney position. The Commissioners needed to have a discussion about how to proceed. Commissioner Padgett wanted to re-advertise and start the process again. Commissioner Albritton's concern with the current arrangement was a financial concern. She was inclined to re-advertise. Commissioner Fedel was not optimistic. Commissioner Padgett suggested trying to get ideas from colleagues at CCI next week. Commissioner Albritton wanted to hold off on advertising for now. She felt comfortable with the salary range that had been approved. She would like to see a projection of what the financial picture would look like if the County continued to contract with the Masters Law Firm. Hunt noted that Allan Gerstle, Director of Social Services, was going to go ahead and contract with Hockersmith for needs for Social Services. Commissioner Padgett wanted to hold off on the personnel policy manual revisions in order to examine the funds remaining in the attorney's budget for 2011.

Linda Munson-Haley, Clerk of the Board, had nothing to discuss:

Commissioner Padgett discussed the following:

- 1) **Broadband** She sat through the Region 10 broadband discussion twice now and appreciated the opportunity to attend the presentation on the "middle mile" and the "last mile" solutions.
- 2) **CCI next week** She was looking forward to child welfare conversations, moderating the session on hardrock mining regulations, and mixing with colleagues. Commissioner Fedel planned to attend. Commissioner Albritton would be there for two days and would be there for the mining session. No Staff would be attending this year other than Allan Gerstle, Director of Social Services.
- 3) **Budget** Commissioner Albritton forwarded a synopsis of the meeting on the budget and wanted feedback if she was missing anything. She wanted to make the memo publicly available once it was shaped up.

E. 10:28 Andy Mueller, Colorado River Water District Representative:

1. Program Update:

Andy Mueller discussed the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement that the Colorado River Water Conservation District (River District) and 35 other entities on the Western Slope had negotiated with Denver Water and with the Northern Water Conservancy District. The process was a long one. The agreement was announced eight months ago by the Governor and yet to be signed by any group. The biggest issues holding it up were Western Slope centric issues. The Western Slope was agreeing to compromise but the benefits it would be getting out of it took longer to implement and required the cooperation of the federal and state government, as well as some other Front Range entities who had not signed off on the agreement so the Western Slope was not going to sign until it got the agreement from the federal government and the state. The primary benefit to the Western Slope was keeping water in some of the depleted streams in Grand and Summit Counties. Denver agreed to supply the water and the River District agreed on ways to implement the water but the State had said they did not think that the River District had the legal right to do it the way it was structured. The River District was working with the Attorney General's office and the Governor was helpful in trying to get them to understand that the River District did have that right. Another issue was a cooperative agreement to ensure that the water did not flow eastward when the Shoshone Power Plant went down but would continue to provide water for Western Slope ranchers and farmers, and the fish in the Grand Valley in Mesa County. Agreement was close to being reached on that, as well.

Certain members of the River District staff had done a great job in working on the selenium and salinity programs that affect the Uncompahgre Valley and the Lower Gunnison River tremendously. The River District helped to secure over \$3 million in funding from the federal government coming out of money produced by the sale of hydroelectric power projects on the Colorado River. The money would be used for ditch improvements to help prevent the leaching of the selenium and salt back into the river. The federal government's main concern was to help the four endangered species of fish that lived in the river. From the River District's perspective if the fish were good and the federal government was happy the River District could continue to divert water for human consumption upriver so that new water diversion projects that came online would not have to go through as much federal red tape from an environmental perspective. Anytime the quality of the water in the river could be improved everyone benefitted.

There were also four other projects in the Gunnison Basin benefitting from the federal funding. The Shavano Conservancy District was successful in bringing all of Ouray County into the salinity management basin and there were