

## Amendments 60, 61 and Proposition 101 among discussion at NECALG meeting

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

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The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Northeastern Colorado Association of Local Governments was held July 21 in Holyoke.

Executive Director Larry Worth distributed information on Amendments 60, 61 and Proposition 101. Worth stated, "NECALG is not a taxing entity, but provides a variety of human services through contracts awarded by State and Federal governmental entities. Any of the programs or services that require a local match could be impacted by reduced revenue to counties and municipalities of the region.

As an example, NECALG receives \$236,870 from counties and municipalities to match funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the operation of County Express. NECALG also receives funding from the counties to match FTA/CDOT (Colorado Department of Transportation) awards for the purchase of vehicles and equipment.

"NECALG receives \$79,500 from the counties for administration of NECALG, local match for the Energy Impact Assistance Fund and local match for the Area Agency on Aging. If Amendments 60, 61, and Proposition 101 are approved by electorate, the resulting impact would be reduced revenue for NECALG and the reduction or elimination of services provided by NECALG." The board approved a motion opposing Amendments 60, 61, and Proposition 101.

The audit of financial statement for the year ending Dec. 31, 2009 was distributed to the board of directors. In 2009, revenue for all programs totaled \$6,582,729. Expenses for all programs totaled \$6,561,559 for an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$21,170. The audit notes, "As the association completed the year, its general fund reported a fund balance of \$369,270, which is \$21,170 greater than reported last year."

"Net assets exceed liabilities by \$1,063,060. Net assets have increased by \$276,823 from the end of 2008 to the end of 2009. A total of \$850,886 or 80 percent of the net assets are cash." Worth noted the net assets include pre-payments of grant funds that will be expended in the program year and other restricted program income. The board of directors approved the 2009 audit and authorized distribution of the audit to funding sources of NECALG.

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Rich O'Connell, Economic Developer for Logan County, and Nici Bishop, Economic Developer for Phillips County, presented the recommendation of the economic developers of northeastern Colorado that NECALG sponsor an application to the Economic Development Administration to establish an Economic Development District (EDD) for northeastern Colorado.

The summary of funding opportunities from the Economic Development Administration noted that eligible applicants include Economic Development Districts, state, cities or other political subdivisions of the state.

Eligible entities must be located in an economically distressed area or an EDD. In order to be eligible for funding, the application for assistance must include a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) acceptable to the Economic development Administration.

Executive Director Worth distributed a potential Energy Impact Assistance Grant for northeastern Colorado. The regional development/technical assistance grant of \$25,000 would update the overall economic development plan of northeastern Colorado. NECALG would match the EIAF Grant with \$25,000 in cash or inkind.

The scope of services would include the development of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the creation of an Economic Development District. The board approved submittal of application to the Department of Local Affairs for an energy impact assistance grant of \$25,000 and a request for a local planning grant from the Economic Development Administration of \$40,000.

Sandy Baker, Director of the Single Entry Point (SEP), Options for Long-Term Care, distributed the 2010-11 SEP contract with the State of Colorado. Revenue for the SEP program will increase by \$11,138.19 from \$25,260.83 in 2009-10 to \$736,399.02 in 2010-11.

The SEP, Options for Long-Term Care program provides case management for 650 clients who are Medicaid eligible and require long-term assistance.

Baker distributed the monthly report for the Area Agency on Aging. In July, the Meet and Eat

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sites served 3,571. In July, there were 3,284 home delivered meals provided by the Area Agency on Aging. The monthly report includes all services provided by the Area Agency on Aging.

H.J. Greenwood, Director for the Home Weatherization Program, distributed the Quality Assurance and Training and Technical Assistance Visit report for the Home Weatherization Program in Greeley and Fort Morgan. The Home Weatherization Program contracted for and completed 650 units in the fiscal year ending June 30.

The 2010-11 budget for the Home Weatherization Program is \$3,061,125. NECALG agrees to complete 650 units at a cost of \$4,737 per unit. A total of 455 units will be site built homes and 195 units will be mobile homes

Dorie Devie, Dispatcher for Logan County, distributed the operations report for County Express. In June, County Express provided 8,168 trips for the residents of northeastern Colorado. To achieve this level of service, the employees of County Express drove 72,513 miles and operated 5,118 hours.

Worth announced that NECALG has received a grant of \$35,000 from the Caring for Colorado Foundation to assist with non-emergent medical transportation for the residents of Northeastern Colorado.

A meeting of the Non-Emergent Medical Transportation Advisory Committee will be held at 10:30 a.m. Aug 20. at the Logan County Human Services Building in Sterling to review the conditions of the Caring for Colorado Grant, review care reform on Medicaid, and identify gaps in service.

The accounts payable was distributed to the board of directors. Payroll for June was \$173,928.76. Payables for June totaled \$530,188.40 for a total accounts payable of \$704,117.16

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