

**DRAFT**  
**MINUTES**

**REAP Meeting**  
September 12, 2019  
11:45 a.m.

Colorado Air & Space Port, Watkins, CO

The monthly meeting of the I-70 Regional Economic Advancement Partnership was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Kirk Howell, who welcomed the attendees and called for introductions.

**The following Board Members were present:**

Jeff Baker	Wil Chase	Doug Claussen
David Gruber	Mark Harding	Mary Hodge
Kirk Holwell	Julio Iturreria	Neal Mancuso
Theresa NeSmith	Peggy Otto Finnegan	Glen Rotkovich
Tom Turrell	Jan Yeckes	

**Guests attending were:**

Nicci	Beauprez	Adams County
Tracy	Carter	SBDC/ReMax
Lonnie	Clark	Citizen
Chris	Curl	Citizen
Craig	Curl	SBDC
Maxwell	Daffron	Adams County ED
Loretta	Daniel	Arapahoe County
Gretchen	Davidson	Early Childhood Council
Steve	Hebert	Bennett Planning & ED
Duncan	Jerman Jr.	Bennett Mini Storage
Jack	Keever	Retired
Kathy	Mahan	Reap
Kathy	Nickerson	American Advisor's Group
Wes	Price	Reflective Wellness

Craig	Rathbun	Marshall Real Estate
Daryl	Rice	Pilot Properties
Robin	Schnicke	Morgan Community College
Tyler	Shetterly	EIS Solutions
Bob	Stewart	Hillside Country Homes
Mike	Shriver	Citizen
Libby	Tart-Schoenfelder	Adams County
Steve	Vetter	I-70 Scout
Sean	Walsh	Citizen
Wayne	Walvoord	Citizen

**Approval of June 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes:**

Minutes were approved as submitted.

**Chairman Report:**

Kirk Howell announced that Gary Duke had resigned as Chair and is now living in Texas and that he had accepted the position as Reap Chair.

**Executive Director Report:**

**Guest Speakers:**

**Long Range Planning in Arapahoe County**

**Jeff Baker, Arapahoe County Commissioner**

Jeff started out with Arapahoe County is among Colorado’s fastest growing counties. Currently there are 650,000 residents, the expected population in 2030 is 800,000. A \$404 million of revenue to the county comes from 3 sources. \$202 million comes from property, sales and use taxes, \$113 million is from other governments that use county resources and \$32 million from fees for services like licenses renewals. \$57 million comes from a variety of other sources like investments and fines. In 2016, the county established a Long-Term Budget Committee to investigate budget trends and fiscal issues. In 2017 the committee continued in-depth analysis of fiscal challenges. In 2018, the Commissioners identify current and desired levels of services provided by the County and the cost of providing these services in the coming years. In 2019, a Citizen’s Committee was appointed to assist with this process. Results were that public safety and transportation were priorities. Jeff spoke about the conditions at the jail. The average daily of inmates is 1,100 it can go up to 1,200 inmates a day. In certain situations, inmates must be separated due to gang affiliation, females, males and co-dependents. The 33-year old

jail has limited facilities and utilities. In 2011, the County purchased 11 acres of land located next to the current jail for a future jail and courthouse. The new jail will have 1,612 cells large enough to accommodate 1 -3 beds. Improved infrastructure will be more energy efficient saving dollars and maintenance. A Citizens Committee was tasked with studying the county budget, transportation and public safety. A new detention center would cost \$464 million. The county is also looking at programs to address inmates needs for rehabilitation and mental health concerns. Measure 1A was a unanimous vote by the Arapahoe County Commissioners asking voters for a property tax increase. 1A will raise \$46 million a year and that is about \$5.66 per month increase for the average home. Funds will be used to build a new county jail and introduce programs to reduce incarceration rates in Arapahoe County. Arapahoe County currently has the lowest mill levy rates in the Metro Area. If 1A passes, the process to build a new facility will start in 2020 and take up to 5 years to complete. If this measure doesn't pass, the county will explore other ways to fund this project.

**Other Business:**

Kathy Mahan reminded everyone that this years' Fall Farm Festival will be held in conjunction with the Bennett Community Market on September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Historical Muegge House in Bennett.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.