RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Hugo, Colorado
October 13, 2026, 6:00 PM
Hugo Town Hall Board Room

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Town of Hugo, Colorado was called to order on October 13, 2026, at 6:00 P.M. by Mayor Emmerling. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was recited in unison. The following Trustees answered roll call: Trustee Piper, Trustee Emmerling, Trustee Thelen, Trustee Ehlers and Trustee Mohan. Trustee Boyd arrived via Zoom at 6:30P.M., left Zoom at 6:29 P.M. and arrived in person at 7:02P.M. Mayor Emmerling declared that there was a quorum of the Board present for the transaction of business.

Staff present at this meeting were Clerk Administrator Lancaster.

Guests present were Destiny Aberle, Sheri Gaskins, Michael Gaskins, Chris Rosado Sr., Kevin Stansbury, Troy McCue, Dawn Morton, Dannah Koeniger, Lucas Hopper and via Zoom Becky Osterwald, Stephanie Zwick, Phil Howerton, Bill Hall and Scott Thomas.

A motion was made by Trustee Emmerling and a second was made by Trustee Mohan to approve the agenda. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

GUEST REPORTS:
Kevin Stansbury with Lincoln Community Health presented the monthly report highlighting the Denim & Diamonds Gala had nearly 400 guests, Lincoln Health was awarded a grant through Colorado's Rural Health Transformation Program, these monies cannot be used for new capital projects and will be used for equipment and technology, the Rural Healthcare Fact of the Month is about Breast Cancer Awareness Month, flu shots are recommended for flu prevention, Lincoln Health applied for a DOLA Housing Grant for planning the infrastructure to Lincoln Health's housing.
Troy McCue with Lincoln County Economic Development presented the monthly report highlighting Hugo Main Street meeting on October 21, Opportunity Zone 2.0 of which part of Lincoln County is in the map, waiting on the final capital stack from contractors on possible new housing, they are working on new ventures with a few Hugo businesses and one for expansion, Hugo UP Roundhouse will host a memorial service for Chris Fox on October 21, SBDC is still in transition, Hugo Fall Festival had a successful Strutt Your Mutt event, the Wonder View Tower is closed for the season, Sentinel Clean Power, Arriba Wind Farm and Ebba Solar continue to move forward, Big Ben's RV in Arriba opened The Shack as a new community space and reviewed the Value Ticker.
Sheri Gaskins with the Lincoln County Historical Society reviewed the year of events at the Hedlund House highlighting the Memorial Day Ice Cream Social, 4th of July Tom Sawyer, Huck Finn and Becky Thatcher Day, Homecoming event and upcoming Holly Jolly Hedlund Holiday, discussed the new volunteers this year, reported on a project that with the Estate of Maye Gene Lee that with result in donations to the Lincoln County Historical Society, they have received an $8,000 donation form the descendants of John and Bessie Shaw, the Historical Society does not carry insurance on their collection, they had 92 visitors in 2025 and 89 so far in 2026, asked for the Museum sign to be moved, asked if the Town staff to paint the buildings, and Destiny Aberle and Sheri Gaskins attended Rural Philanthropy days to connect with organizations that may be able to support the Historical Society.
Scott Thomas with Colorado Rural Water Association (CRWA) presented the Rate Study. He pointed out that the Town is currently spending out of savings to service their debt in both the Water Enterprise and Sewer Enterprise. It is estimated that a 40% increase to rates in the Water Enterprise and a 28% increase to rates in the Sewer Enterprise, as well as annual rate increases for inflation using the Consumer Price Index suggested form DOLA, would be needed to cover operational costs and debt service for current and future projects.

ACTION ITEMS:
Ron Farmer with rfarmer, LLC presented the 2025 audit.
A motion was made by Trustee Emmerling and a second was made by Trustee Thelen to accept the 2025 audit. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

GMS Update
A Solomon Addition/Roundhouse Estates infrastructure presentation was given with options on how to repair the existing infrastructure and build out of future infrastructure.
Water restrictions helped conserve water for the Town. We are on track to stay under our allotted shares.
The rate increase for the CDBG Sewer Project was reduced after the 2025 audit was factored in. The loan closing will happen in the next few months.
The Water System Improvements Project bid will be advertised in December with construction to begin in the spring.
The Drainage Study can be broken into three sections. It is suggested to do all three sections together to save on costs.

GMS received the information provided by the Town after the pothole patching. More information will be needed throughout in regard to pavement depth and materials.
We are working with the ORC to find an inspector for the overflow tank at the main lift station. The inspection report will enable us to recommend repairs and estimated costs.
GMS would like for a Geotechnical Engineer to confirm the stability of the hill the Town used to pull sand from as it relates to the electric poles at the top of the hill.

A motion was made by Trustee Thelen and a second was made by Trustee Emmerling to approve Resolution 2026-13, a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Hugo, Colorado Amending the Municipal Water, Wastewater, and Collection and Disposal of Refuse for Residents Inside & Outside the Incorporated Limits of the Town Of Hugo, County of Lincoln, State of Colorado, Beginning January 1, 2027, Per Month, with an Open Water Account with corrections. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made by Trustee Emmerling and a second was made by Trustee Mohan to approve Resolution 2026-14, a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Hugo, Colorado Adopting a Fee Schedule Effective January 1, 2027. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There is not an October GMS Draw.

A motion was made by Trustee Thelen and a second was made by Trustee Emmerling to accept the Contech Construct Co insulation bid. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made by Trustee Emmerling and a second was made by Trustee Thelen to approve Resolution 2026-15, a Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Town of Hugo, Colorado Authorizing the Clerk Administrator to Submit a Funding Request to DOLA's Local Planning Capacity Grant Program on Behalf of the Town of Hugo. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made by Trustee Ehlers and a second was made by Trustee Mohan to approve the September 16, 2026, minutes. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was made by Trustee Ehlers and a second was made by Trustee Thelen to accept the September financial report. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS:
At the September 21 steering committee meeting only four potential Board members were in attendance. We have another steering committee meeting with Colorado Main Street on October 21 at 5pm. At this meeting the steering committee will discuss Hugo Main Street Strategic Priorities and small obtainable goals. Anyone is welcome to attend.
The resolution for the DOLA Division of Housing Local Planning Capacity Grant was passed and staff will submit it this week. We will work with Willdan on other ordinance updates.
Ellie is working on the Rules of Order and Procedure and Code of Ethics revision.
The Strategic Plan draft will be reviewed more at the October 19 budget workshop.
The Geotech and survey at the pool are in progress for the Main Street Live Grant.
DacraTech will present on the photo radar cameras at the November 9 meeting.
Water Restrictions automatically lifted October 1.

STAFF REPORTS:
There were no comments on the Maintenance Supervisor's report.
There was no comment on the Clerk Administrators report.

MAYOR AND TRUSTEE REPORTS:
Trustee Ehlers stated that he had many comments of the vast improvement in Town over Homecoming.
Trustee Thelen asked if Bruno's Painting had painted yet. They have not.
Mayor Emmerling reported on the grand opening for the new Farrel Hines Park playground equipment Friday, October 2, the CML District Meeting in Kiowa, the September 21 Main Street Meeting and set the first budget workshop for October 19.

The Meeting was adjourned.

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Kara Emmerling, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Sara Lancaster, Town Clerk Administrator