Town of Saguache Board of Trustees Special Session September 8, 2017

<u>2:30 PM – Special Session Meeting Called to Order-</u> Meeting was ran by Trustee Lovato upon agreement of the board.

The following Trustees were present: Trustee Lovato, Trustee Aldrich, Trustee Collins

Trustee Lovato announced the resignation of Mayor Greg Terrell.

Pledge of Allegiance: Trustee Lovato

Review/Discuss/Approve Letters of Interest for Appointment to the Board of Trustees—Seven letters of interest received: Randal Arredondo, Timothy Chittum, Terry Gillette, Elvie Samora, Amber Wilson, Janice Torrez and Wyoma Hansen. Oral interviews were conducted with Randal Arredondo, Timothy Chittum, Terry Gillette, Elvie Samora.

Trustee Lovato addressed applications for Wyoma Hansen, Janice Torrez, and Amber Wilson. Read aloud the letter signed by the board that was sent to their email thanking them for their interest, but declining their letters of interest at the advice of their attorney due to pending litigation, potential and actual conflict of interest that may exist.

The Board discussed the resignation of the Mayor and the process for seating the existing 4 seats and options for seating a Mayor.

**Approval of letters of interest by tally vote secret ballot:** Top 3 in no particular order Elvie Samora, Timothy Chittum, Randy Arredondo. Swearing in scheduled for September 12, 2017.

Introduction of Interim Administrator: Trustee Lovato introduced Brandy Reitter as the interim administrator.

## Citizen's Comments: (limited to 3 minutes per citizen)

Susan Bentley commented that she would like the town to move forward and have less personal agendas and do what is best for the entire town. She suggested more communication with the community regarding ongoing and new projects.

Patty Massey commented that she is new in the community and was shocked at what was happening this community and would like to be a part of making the community better.

Don Geddes thanked Trustee Collins and Aldrich for their commitment to the town and is optimistic about the town's direction.

Elvie Samora clarified the dates of the resignations of the prior members and discussed the timeline for filling the now open 4 positions and the Mayor.

Tina Sanchez thanked Brandy Reitter and asked if we would be hiring another administrator and asked for the town to allow the citizens to see the job description. Commented that we should clarify his/her role as supervisor. Suggest that the new administrator focus on existing projects and less on personnel.

James Montoya commented that the time of the meeting happened when people were at work. Also notified the board that he contacted the Governor's office regarding town issues. Urged other to call when they have issues.

Mike Wheeler discussed that he was not able to find any information as to why the resigned board members could not be reseated. He acknowledged that the most important thing to do in the town is to have a fully functioning board and the community needs to support the board.

Laura Lee Conley commented that transparency has been an issue in the past. Found it difficult to believe that the old board couldn't be reseated and suggested we call the municipal attorneys in Denver.

Chris Samora was concerned that the citizens needed to be notified in advance before decisions were made and expressed concern about the money being spent on the sewer project. He also commented that the west side of town needed attention. Encouraged open communication between board members and community members. Discussed the timeline of the seating of new board members and mayor.

Dave Winters thanked the three board members that resigned. Expressed his opinion on existing board members and asked that they be transparent. Questioned the increase in water rates.

Christine Pacheco asked about executive sessions and questioned why that information could not be discussed with the public. (Trustee Lovato explained the process of executive sessions and voting outside of executive sessions)

Teresa Benns explained how towns operate and what rules they are governed by.

Wyoma Hansen thanked the community for their support and stated that she felt that good came out of their resignation. She wished the new board well.

Terry Gillette addressed his residency status and asked if there were any issues.

Paul Roth expressed his appreciation for the board members and expressed his displeasure with not hearing the community. Reminded the board that they are her to listen to the community. Talked about executive session requested a report giving citizens as much information as possible. Also asked about the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk position

Trustee Lovato expressed her desire to hear from community members but stated the town also needed to conduct business.

## Adjournment

Trustee Lovato adjourned the meeting at 4:02pm

TOWN OF SAGUACHE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SAGUACHE, COLORADO

Elvie Samora, Mayor

ATTEST:

Iris Garcia, Clerk