Message From the County Manager

I am honored to share the 2017 Clear Creek County Annual Report. 2017 was an amazing year, where Staff and our Elected Officials worked hard in taking care of our residents and visitors everyday. By focusing on the real priorities, we made great strides in terms of our continuing budget challenges, economic development, primary health care, transportation, and so much more.

From energy savings initiatives, to the creation of a ‘Trails Strike Force’, to the opening of the CHPG Primary Care Clinic, to improving housing opportunities around the County, to starting an intra-County transit system, 2017 was a solid year of progress and achievement.

As we jump into 2018, challenges continue to face our County. While we embrace the lessons learned in the last few years in terms of our declining budget revenues and the need to truly diversify and grow economically, we must not forget the men and women who work hard daily to ensure we always put ‘People First’. I am truly honored to highlight their hard work, and look forward to sharing their successes in the coming years.

—Keith P. Montag—
Clear Creek County’s finances for calendar year 2017 declined overall, yet retained solid fund balance reserves and low long-term debt. For 2017, total revenues were $33.3M while expenditures were $36.9M.

**GENERAL FUND:** This is the general operating fund of the County, and is used to account for all the financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. Principal sources of revenue are property taxes, fees and permits, and state share revenues. Primary expenditures are for general administration, planning and zoning, and law enforcement.

**SPECIAL REVENUE FUND:** These funds account for revenues derived from specific taxes or other earmarked revenue sources including state highway user’s tax, federal and state grants, and property taxes that are legally restricted to expenditure for specific purposes. Special Revenue Funds for 2017 are: Road & Bridge; Conservation Trust; Social Services; Emergency Telephone; Lodging Tax; Public Health; Open Space Trust; Road Projects; and, Emergency Services District.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS TYPE FUNDS:** These funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditures for capital outlays. For 2017, they are: Capital Improvement and Capital Projects.
The Sheriff’s Office held its first ever Clear Creek County Community Festival, known as ‘C3 Fest’, on Aug. 26, 2017, at the Idaho Springs ball fields. The event was co-sponsored by first responders from both inside and outside the County—including Clear Creek Fire, EMS, Idaho Springs Police Dept., Empire Police Dept., Flight for Life, Victims’ Advocates, Search and Rescue and many more. There were carnival games, live music, and prizes for the kids.

“Meet Up Spot” was created in the Sheriff’s Office lobby to allow for the safe exchange of internet purchases. Accessible 24/7, the lobby is equipped with a camera system and staff are on-duty at all times.

A Safe Disposal RX Box is also in the lobby, allowing the community to safely dispose of unwanted or unused prescription medications.

After nearly three years of hard work by the entire Staff, we completed the Sheriff’s Office Policy and Procedure Manual. This policy was taken from other Colorado agencies, and reflects the best practices in law enforcement.

Other Elected Officials

- **Clerk & Recorder:** Provides Recording, Motor Vehicle Titling and Registration, Voter Registration, Marriage Licenses, and Election Administration.
- **Assessor:** Discovers, Lists and Values All Real and Personal Property Located Within the County on the Assessment Date (January 1st of each year).
- **Treasurer/Public Trustee:** Responsible for Mailing Property Tax Statements, Collecting Property Taxes, and Disbursing the Taxes to the Individual Taxing Authorities. They Receive All Monies Sent to the County and Maintain a Proper Accounting of All Money, Disbursements and Investments. The Public Trustee’s Office is a Statutory Mediator in the Colorado Foreclosure Process, Including Administering Foreclosure Proceedings for Properties in the County and the Release of Deeds of Trust.
- **Surveyor:** Represents the County in Boundary Disputes.
- **Coroner:** Mandated to Establish Cause and Manner of Death in All Coroner-Reportable Cases. Certified Death Investigator w/the CO Coroner’s Association & Nationally Certified Medical Investigator. 2017 Goals: Community Outreach, Modernized Office, Continuity of Operations.
2017 Accomplishments:

- 5,957 Hours of Snow Plowing
- Responded to 348 Requests from Residents
- 5,105 Hours of Roadway Maintenance (grading, ditches, culverts)
- Added 18K Tons of Road Base to County Maintained Roads
- 4,300 Tons of Salted Sand & Ice Slicer
- No Injuries to Staff/Customer at Transfer Station
- 65K+ Gallons of Dust Control Product on Gravel Roads
- $50K Road Base for County Non-Maintained Road Program
- Numerous Permits for Construction in Public Right-of-Way

Capital Improvement Projects:

* Sinton Road Pavement Replacement & Drainage Improvements ($800K)
* Fall River Road Pavement Replacement (mm 3.5-4.5)—$700K
* Crack Seal, Road Base, Pavement Marking Programs
* Dumont Garage Hydraulic Lift Installation

In 2017, Public Works administered a $5.3M budget including public infrastructure operations and maintenance, fleet maintenance, solid waste/recycling, engineering, surveying, construction, management and inspection. We are responsible for 192 miles of streets and roadways, six state certified bridges, three bike path bridges, 165 vehicles, the County’s Transfer Station, and two satellite service/operations yards (Brookvale & Brook Forest Estates).

The men and women of YOUR PW Team are honored to serve our community, and look forward to a tremendous 2018!

Photo By Peter Monson
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health
⇒ ‘Baby Me Tobacco Free’ enrolled 13 women.
⇒ Child Fatality Prevention Team Introduces “Baby Boxes”.
⇒ VFC Vaccine Program Continues to Thrive.
⇒ Communities That Care Moves Into Phase 4.
⇒ PHED EX Exercise held Jun 15-17th; ONLY County to open 3 Points of Distro—ensured County ready for pandemic crisis.

Environmental Health
⇒ Record Year for On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems Permits; 14 repairs, 32 new systems; 117 Use Permits for Homes.
⇒ Hosted Wastewater Industry (2nd Year) at Shadows Ranch—day of field demonstrations, wastewater technologies, OSHA Course for industry professionals.

Child Protection
⇒ Implemented ‘Differential Response’ (DR) to better meet family needs, and respond to child abuse and neglect reports.

Economic Security
⇒ Nearly 1,700 County Residents Enrolled in Eligibility Programs.
⇒ Economic Security Team Given Excellence Award by the State.

Adult Protection
⇒ Neighbors Support Neighbors, Ever-present Adult Protection Worker in Community—Our Adults & Seniors Protected Before Crisis Occurs.

Office of Emergency Management
⇒ Developed 15 Emergency Support Functions for Emergency Ops Plan
⇒ $100K Dept. Natural Resources Grant & $112K State Hazard Mitigation Grant for Wildfire Mitigation Project in Echo Hills Area; $83K Grant to Update County Hazard Mitigation Plan
⇒ Responded & Supported Santa Fe/Mad Creek Fires; I-70 Closure

Veterans’ Services
⇒ Created Veterans’ Treatment Court
⇒ Sponsored Flag Day, July 4th, 9/11 Ceremony, POW/MIA Day, Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance, Wreaths Across America
⇒ VA Services for County Vets
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Special Projects
♦ Assisted in Sale of County-owned Property at Georgetown Lake Front/Lagoon for Near-Term Development, Housing.
♦ Established New Scenic Byway Committee for Mt. Evans and Guanella Pass Scenic & Historic Byways Designations.

Open Space Commission
♦ Peaks to Plains Trail Phase 2 Underway—Project Awarded $2M from GOCO Connect Initiative and Previous Funding from CDOT, CPW and County’s Conservation Fund.
♦ Floyd Hill Open Space Trail System—Steering Committee Formed (MALT, VOCO, COMBA, Team Evergreen, etc.) to Guide Development, and 1/2 Mile of Trail Built.

Mapping
♦ Spatially Restructured 416 Property Boundaries & 16 Subdivisions in Parcels Database; Added 66 ROW & Easement Boundaries.
♦ Interactive Maps Had 25,332 sessions (up 18% from 2016).
♦ Working With Public Works to Develop 2017 Road Maintenance Inventory.

Building
♦ Earned “Gold” Sol Smart Designation for Solar Development.
♦ 263 Received Submittals, 98 Plan Reviews, 77 Traffic Impact Fees, 247 Issued Permits, 2,049 Inspections, 183 Permits Finalized.

Water Resources
♦ Satisfied All Water Bank Customers’ Contracts & Gov’t Water Depletions Timely and In-Full.
♦ Placed or Committed CCC Water Rights to BoCC-targeted economic Development Projects Including Bighorn Crossing.

Housing
♦ Created Clear Creek County Housing Authority
♦ Received $50K Freeport McMoran Community Grant for 2018 Housing Assessment, Action Plan and Feasibility Study

Planning
♦ Approval of Clear Creek County 2017 Community Master Plan
♦ Site Development Issued 100 Permits
♦ Adopted New Regulations for Short Term Rentals
♦ Complete Revision of Residential Building Permit Customer Packet for Residential Development

CSU Extension
♦ Led C2 Botz High School Robotics Club—hosted 200 Students from Colorado
♦ Planned & Conducted 12 Extension Thursday Presentations/Workshops for 400+ Guests
♦ Ran Summer Camps for 40 Youths
Administration & Board of County Commissioners

- Creation of Rec Core Group and ‘Recreation Ranger’ to Keep Trails/Parks Safe.
- Trails Strike Force Created to Maintain, Improve & Build County Trails System.
- Courts Wing Remodel Completed for District & County Courts Proceedings.
- Implementation of Annual Capital Request & 10 Year Planning Process.

Internal Services

- Archives Worked with Clerk & Recorder Scanning Historic Records for Public Use.
- Building Maintenance—Housekeeping Services for 8 County Bldgs/64K sq. ft.; 16 County Facilities
- Information Technology—Completed Broadband Study; County Server Network 100% Virtualized.

Transportation Liaison

- Launched ‘Prospector’ Intra-County Bus Transit System—Nearly 1,400 riders!
- Joint Gilpin-Clear Creek Transit Assessment & Planning Study.
- Key CDOT Member for: Westbound Peak Period Shoulder Lane; Fall River Bridge; I-70 Bridges Repairs; I-70 Coalition; RoadX; Silver Plume Sound Wall Replacement.

Looking Ahead...

2018 Clear Creek County

"Honoring Our Past, While Designing Our Future"

VALUE STATEMENT: One County, One Community

GOAL: REDEFINE AND ENHANCE COUNTY OPERATIONS AND COMMUNICATION
ACTION ITEMS:
- Continue to implement Priority Based Budgeting and begin using the Fiscal Health Diagnostic Tool to inform and educate our partners on the budget and financial condition of the County.
- Develop a sustainability plan for the road and bridge assets and the determination of levels of service.
- Continue to address the delivery of emergency services in the County and continue to improve efficiencies and enhance partnerships of public safety operations.
- Implement outreach programs such as Commissioner community engagements (“Road Shows”) to enhance information sharing and to celebrate County successes.

GOAL: REALIGN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES
ACTION ITEMS:
- Develop a housing vision and program to further develop affordable and workforce housing.
- Develop a recreation management plan including trail improvements and signage, transportation, stewardship goals, revenue generation, safety and enforcement strategies.
- Continue implementation of the Mini-Blueprint recommendations and apply for Blueprint 2.0.
- Identify and implement regulatory efficiencies.

GOAL: COMPLETE BROADBAND STUDY AND IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS
ACTION ITEMS:
- Implement appropriate solutions to build out middle mile service throughout the County.

GOAL: CONTINUE DEFINING THE STRATEGY TO PROVIDE FOR THE HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY
ACTION ITEMS:
- Commission a fiscal impact study on the health clinic.
- Implement a capital campaign.
- Completion of permanent health clinic facility by end of year 2021.

GOAL: ENHANCE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
ACTION ITEMS:
- Create departmental work plans to implement County goals and a dashboard to measure success.
- Develop leadership programs to provide emerging leaders in the organization and in the community an opportunity to enhance leadership potential.
- Continue to develop an organizational succession plan.

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