

TEAM HIGHLANDS RANCH  
MINUTES FOR AUGUST 27, 2007

The meeting was convened of Team Highlands Ranch Group on August 27, 2007, with the HRCA providing a BBQ entree, with appropriate “fixin’s”. All members of Team Highlands Ranch were represented as follows: Douglas County – Commissioner Melanie Worley, Clerk & Recorder Jack Arrowsmith, Sheriff Dave Weaver; Douglas County Libraries, David Starck, Board, Pam Nissler Staff, Dorothy Hargrove, new Manager for HR Library; HRCA – officers Jeff Wasden and Paul Meyers; Metro Boards – Nancy Smith, Board; Terry Nolan; Chamber of Commerce, Michelle Colaizzi and Krista Simonson; Douglas County Schools – Steve Herzog, Assistant Superintendent and, Jerry Goings, Principal HRHS; Jenn Garbar, Metro District Community Relations Coordinator; and Glenn Hagen, local business attorney.

Dave Weaver advised that latest patrol vehicles would be appearing in Highlands Ranch in the near future with the logo “Serving Highlands Ranch” and that the Commissioners had approved a ballot measure to seek extension of the tax for the Justice Center. Paul Meyers reported that the HRCA Rodeo had been successful, and that numerous other events were forthcoming for the Ranch in September. Terry Nolan reported that 41 miles of fence upgrades/replacement were anticipated to be approved by Metro in September. Krista Simonson reported that the Chamber Golf Tournament was the most successful in its history; and, that the Chamber is looking for a new Executive Director with the departure of Cindy Walters. Steve Herzog reported that 2,500 new kids had been enrolled in the Douglas County School System for the school year 2007 – 2008.

Dave Starck reported The Douglas County Libraries Board of Trustees unanimously approved a resolution to include a question on the upcoming November 2007 ballot which will ask voters to increase the mill levy by 1.25 mills for the primary purpose of building and operating new facilities in Parker and Lone Tree, and adding meeting space at the Highlands Ranch Library. Pam Nissler introduced the new Highlands Ranch Library Manager, Dorothy Hargrove.

Nancy Smith reported that the Team Highlands Ranch “A – Z Project” had grown to 30 plus pages; that it was being publicized in the Metro Messenger; and, that it had been expanded to include attachments to list churches, clubs, public and private schools serving Highlands Ranch; and, sub-associations. Initially the web site will be updated on a monthly basis; and, thereafter not less than quarterly. Metro has volunteered to be the “gate keeper” for the Listing.

Krista Simonson reported that the Echo Pages phone directory had offered Team HR a one-half page complimentary advertisement in the Community section of the new phone book. Wendy, of Douglas County Government, has offered to provide the logo to Echo as part of the publication. Those attending Team Highlands Ranch moved and adopted formal approval to accept the offer of Echo Pages for purposes of marketing Team Highlands Ranch.

Douglas County Clerk & Recorder Jack Arrowsmith provided a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Analysis and Review of the 2006 Douglas County Election". There had been some problems evidenced in significant delays for voting within certain areas of Douglas County during the last election. These have been addressed for the 2007 election due in part to the cooperation as between the County, Library and School District. It is anticipated that the 2008 election will be at a cost of \$1.2 million. The U.S. Congress adopted the "Help Americans Vote Act (HAVA)" which has made the process more difficult for implementation. Jack noted that in the prior election the last person to vote in Douglas County was at 1:30 a.m. which was one of the reasons for the full review of the process.

Colorado now mandates reporting by precinct, yielding up to 202 different types of ballots given the number of issues in Douglas County at last election. It had been projected that it would take individuals 5 minutes per ballot; in reality, it almost took 9 minutes per ballot, with 5% of the equipment exhibiting errors. These issues have been addressed. At present, Douglas County is registering 1,000 new voters per month, with 35 vote centers projected for the year 2008. On election day, the School District will have a "in-service day", opening all high schools to the public for purposes of voting, most of which are capable of handling high technology voting machines. These will be known as "Super Precinct Centers" which will house a combination of both paper and electronic ballots. As was noted, the paper ballots serve as "surge protection for electronic machines". Individuals can vote in advance with mail-in ballots, they are no longer called absentee ballots. Generally voting is allowed 2 weeks prior to the actual election. Names and signatures are matched by the Office of the Clerk and Recorder for Douglas County. On October 12, 2007 the ballots for this year will be mailed. The November 7<sup>th</sup> election will be a "mail only" ballot.

Jerry Goings reported that the district high schools are working with the Arapahoe Community College for potential college credits; they are developing on-line courses allowing for up to 6 credits, referred to as the EDCSD credits. High School #9 in Parker will stress technology; HRHS is gradually shifting toward a business program for its students. The operative term for the schools within Douglas County is "relevancy".

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:25 p.m.. The next meeting will be September 17, 2007 with dinner being provided by the Douglas County Libraries.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn W. Hagen,  
Recording Secretary