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Minutes of the Board of Conejos County Commissioners Regular Meeting held on May 6, 2021 at 9:00am in the Commissioners Board Room, 6693 County Road 13, Conejos, CO 81129

Comm. Jarvies called the meeting to order at 9:05am

Mitchell Jarvies – Chairman – Present

Carlos Garcia - Vice Chair – Present

Joseph Baroz – Vice Chair – Present

Tressesa Martinez – County Admin. – Present via Zoom

Present: Nick Sarmiento-County Attorney, Connie Ricci-HR Director, and Nathan Ruybal Clerk and Recorder.

Pledge of Allegiance: Comm. Jarvies led everyone on the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer: Comm. Baroz gave the opening prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda as presented

Comm. Baroz 1st motion - - Comm. Garcia 2nd Motion

3-0 Motion Carried

Approval of Minutes:

No Discussion or Corrections

Comm. Garcia 1st Motion - - Comm. Baroz 2nd Motion

3-0 Motion Carried

Public Comment:

No Public Comment

Administrators Correspondence:

Sales Tax Ad Agency – Turn Corp.

Agency Customer Service Rep – Bryan Blakely

- Will educate the public on behalf of the County for Sales Tax Ballot Question
- Fee will be determined on how much they provide for the County
 - Poll via phone calls by 3rd Party will run \$20,000
 - Public engagement via Turn Corp. approx. \$20,000-\$30,000
- Turn Corp. has 18 plus years of experience in govt. affairs
- Local Ballot Initiatives, economic development, community relations.
- Turn Corp. has worked with special districts, counties and municipalities needing to bring together a group of constituents together to rally around a policy or project.
- Turn Corp. is currently working with Weld County, City of Littleton, Grand County.

Comm. Jarvies would like to set up a work session via Zoom with Bryan from Turn Corp. to discuss fees and options for Conejos County regarding the Sales Tax Ballot Question for 2021 Coordinated Election.

County Attorney – Nick Sarmiento

Resolution Number C-11-21 - Opposing Ballot Initiative 16

A RESOLUTION BY THE CONEJOS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OPPOSING BALLOT INITIATIVE 16 IN ORDER TO PROTECT OUR LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2021, a citizens initiative entitled “Protect Animals from Unnecessary Suffering and Exploitation (PAUSE) was approved by the Title Board of the Colorado Secretary of State for petition to the November 2022 General Election as Initiative 16; and

WHEREAS, the initiative is an industry killing effort that will disrupt all aspects of meat production, sales, and export; and

WHEREAS, the initiative criminalizes farmers, ranchers and veterinarians who use accepted animal husbandry practices to care for animals; and

WHEREAS, the initiative changes state statutory language to define common animal care practices as cruelty to animals; and

WHEREAS, the initiative bans slaughter for animals that have lived less than 25 percent of their “natural” life span; and

WHEREAS, the initiative criminalizes the following veterinary and animal husbandry practices: spaying and neutering, reproductive practices (artificial insemination, pregnancy diagnosis, fertility testing), etc.; and

WHEREAS, the initiative eliminates accepted animal husbandry practices, opening the door to animal cruelty prosecution for common and basic practices such as feeding, sheltering and transportation; and

WHEREAS, Conejos County’s citizens depend on the ranching and farming production to continue; and

WHEREAS, the economic impact to farmers, ranchers, meat cutters, veterinarians and other related industries would be tremendous and negative; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that even the Governor of Colorado agrees that the PAUSE initiative would “hurt Colorado, and destroy jobs”; and

WHEREAS, this Board abhors the infliction of needless suffering of animals and recognizes that our cattle and livestock producers take great effort to treat their animals humanely.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Conejos County, Colorado, that the Board opposes this Initiative and urges the Governor of Colorado and Commissioner of the Colorado Department of Agriculture to continue to do the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Board urges all citizens of Conejos County to decline to sign any petition that supports placing Initiative 16 (PAUSE) on the November 2022 ballot and also encourages all Conejos County citizens to educate our urban cousins about the importance of agriculture to the entire State of Colorado; and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that all people that care about the well-being of animals – be they livestock, pets, service animals, or other – take action to defeat this measure if it does make the November 2022 ballot.

Attorney Sarmiento read the resolution; a motion was made to approve resolution.
Comm. Garcia 1st Motion – Comm. Baroz 2nd Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

Sheriff’s Report

- April Cases Total 441
- Year to date is 1082 calls for service
- Expecting 25-30% increase from last year
- One New Hire – Nobel Haven – Deputy Road position
- Two New Hires for Jail Detention Area – Still 2 down from normal staffing.
- Report of an abandoned car in the mountains
- School Threat Alarms Set Off – False Alarm
- Another body found in Los Sauces – allegedly tied to Psycho Case
- Reports of Helicopter landings – No Confirmation of Military Drills

Under Sheriff Crowther reached out to a 9NEWS reporter which got him in touch with a Man in Colorado that built a SNOW CAT for Search and Rescue Missions.

- The Machine is valued at \$100,000 but would be sold to the County for \$20,000
- Under Sheriff Crowther would do Fund Raisers to help fund the cost of the machine.

Sheriff's Office has applied for Grants for Rifles, Body Cameras and New Radios.

- There are 4 to 5 other Grants that have been applied to by the Sheriff's Office.

Engine blew on new Ford F-150 Police Vehicle

- Low Oil Level was cause of Engine Failure
- Town and Country are not taking responsibility, even though 7 days prior the truck was serviced by dealership service dept.
- Claim to be filed with CTSI for cost of new engine

Comm. Garcia asked for status on the County Jail being added to the Town of Antonito's Sewer system.

- Work is under way building Concrete Transfer Station – Completion is several weeks out.

Cumbres and Toltec Liquor License Renewal

Ed Beaudette from Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad came in to represent his Liquor License renewal.

Motion Made to approve License Renewal

Comm. Baroz 1st Motion – Comm. Garcia 2nd Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

Land Use – Linda DeHerrera

CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE - CASE SUMMARY- REPORT

CASE NO: CCLU-2020-0360

REQUEST: Division of Land

APPLICANT: Patricia Gallegos

ZONING: Rural

SURVEY BY: Tony Martin – Russell Surveyors & Associates

BACKGROUND: An application was filed with the Land Use office on December 20, 2020, for a Division of Land (DOL.) The property is legally described as Tract 1A Replat of HC Martinez/AP Gallegos Minor Subdivision I Division of Land located in Section 24, Township 32 North, Range 9 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Conejos County Colorado. County Parcel #613524300040. Physical Address: 20 County Road A.5 – Los Pinos area.

The proposed Division of Land containing 10.02 acres will create the following:

Lot C containing 7.02 acres ±

Lot D containing 3.00 acres ±

No County Road Dedication

Applicable Codes Used:

CCLUC – Article 10 – Division 10.7 Subdivision Exemptions, Division of Land.

Purpose of Adjustment: The owner is estate planning and will convey one lot to each son. Ten years have passed since the Minor Subdivision was approved.

Land Use Administrator review/approval: 05/06/2021

County Surveyor review/approval: 05/03/2021

Board of County Commissioners review/approval: 05/06/2021

Motion Made to Approve Division Land as Presented
Comm. Garcia 1st Motion – Comm. Baroz 2nd Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

Comm. Jarvies makes Motion to approve Emergency Action Item to today’s already approved agenda discussing possibility of hiring Turn Corp. to assist the county with Marketing for Sales Tax Ballot Question.

Comm. Baroz 1st Motion – Comm. Garcia 2nd Motion

Motions Carries 3-0

Adam Moore – Forest Service Report

Adam from the Forest Service explains the current Fire Management Plan, based out of Alamosa Adam covers all of the San Luis Valley.

Forests in Colorado have Beetle infestation, which everyone is well aware of.

Fires spread faster because of all the dry fuel from Beetle Kill.

Fire Mitigation has proven to help Wild Fires from spreading so fast and so far, logging and mitigation is key to help.

Forest Health Report- There is a map on the Forest Service Website to see forests in Conejos County and how they have been affected by drought, infestations and or fires.

Spruce Beetle has been the biggest threat to the forests in Conejos, over 1.88 Million Acres since the year 2000 that have been affected.

OLTC – Denise Jiron and Gary Gurule

The County needs to close out the OLTC account which includes a payment and refund for vehicles and office equipment.

Grand Total Refund is \$140,015.97

- 2008 GMC Yukon
- Sirius XM Radio subscription
- Furniture, Computer and Equipment for 1 office
- Misc. fees

\$17,000 approx. is vehicle and office equip. and furniture as mentioned above
\$122,000 is the federal portion of CICN amount.

Roughly \$50k in OLTC Bank Account

Dollars will have to come out of the General Contingency Fund, nothing will come out of the General Fund to close out this program, instead will affect the Nursing Fund but not the General Fund.

Discussion leads to how and when to transfer the vehicle back, how to transfer the title to new entity. Vehicle title, registration and insurance are all under Conejos County Nursing Service. Bill of sale will be drafted for \$1.00 and title will be signed over.

Motion made to close out OLTC account and pay off vehicles and Office Furniture.
Comm. Garcia 1st Motion – Comm. Baroz 2nd Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

MOTION TO SWITCH TO PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING

Comm. Baroz 1st motion – Comm. Garcia – 2nd Motion

Motions Carries 3-0

Discussion about COVID-19, Conejos Counties positive cases are surging for consecutive weeks.

CCPH continues to hold COVID vaccinations on Tuesday and/or Thursdays by appointment, depending on demand. Demand from CCPH has lessened since regional partners have expanded clinics into Conejos County.

Motion made to sell the 2 Ford Edges for \$1.00 each.

Town of Sanford – Transportation Issue

Rod Mortensen from Sanford on the behalf of the Town of Sanford.

Rod brings to the attention of the Commissioners how bad the roads are in and around the Town of Sanford. Primarily the paved roads in the town that belong to the County

In several sections of Main there is only room for one vehicle to pass at a time, shoulders are dropping off.

Third road is brought up being very dangerous, Mr. Mortensen asks for the County to fix this road, because vehicles are going off the side of the road all the time.

Donnie – Road and Bridge Officer was brought in to discuss the 2 paved roads in question.

- Donnie and Comm. Jarvies agree that they need to look at these roads.

Mr. Mortensen also brings up the difficulties of having no back up for their police force, he is asking the County to have a Deputy cover the Town while their officer has days off.

Attorney Sarmiento suggest to have the Town Board come up with an amount that they will be willing to pay for law enforcement coverage by a County Deputy.

Ambulance Report – Ernest Abeyta

Incoming Financials for April - \$27,854.19

Outstanding debt collection \$80K

Discussion on Numbers to afford another full time EMS or moving to Part Time to Full Time

Mr. Abeyta will also look into Grants from Colorado Health Equity Fund

Motion made to hire another FT EMT

Comm. Baroz 1st Motion – Comm. Garcia 2nd Motion

Motions Carries 3-0

Motion made to Transition to secondary stipend schedule for a duration of 3 months

Comm. Garcia 1st Motion – Comm. Baroz 2nd Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

Motion to sell Ford Econoline Ambulance

Comm. Garcia 1st Motion – Comm. Baroz 2nd Motion

Motion Carries 3-0

Public Comment

Felix Gallegos asked about the use of the Guadalupe Parish Hall for County or Combined Courts.
Combined Courts need the Parish Hall but the Church is only allowing County to use twice a month.
Church will charge Courts if they need the Parish Hall.

Motion to enter into Exec. Session

Comm. Garcia 1st Motion – Comm. Baroz 2nd Motion
Motion Carries 3-0

12:18pm Return from Exec. Session

Turn Corp. Work Session

- Events
- Social
- Mailings
- Surveys
- Community Influencer
- County Website
- Cost of

ATTEST:


Nathan Ruybal
Clerk of the Board


Mitchell Jarvies
Chair of BOCC

Conejos County COVID-19 Vaccination Report

Last Updated
5/2/2021 15:08



		% of Total	% of Eligible
Residents Immunized with One of Two Doses	473	5.8%	7.5%
Fully Immunized Residents	2178	26.5%	34.7%
Ineligible Residents (<16)	1933	23.6%	
Unvaccinated Residents, Eligible	3621	44.1%	57.7%
Total Population	8205		

Vaccinations Received by County Residents By Type

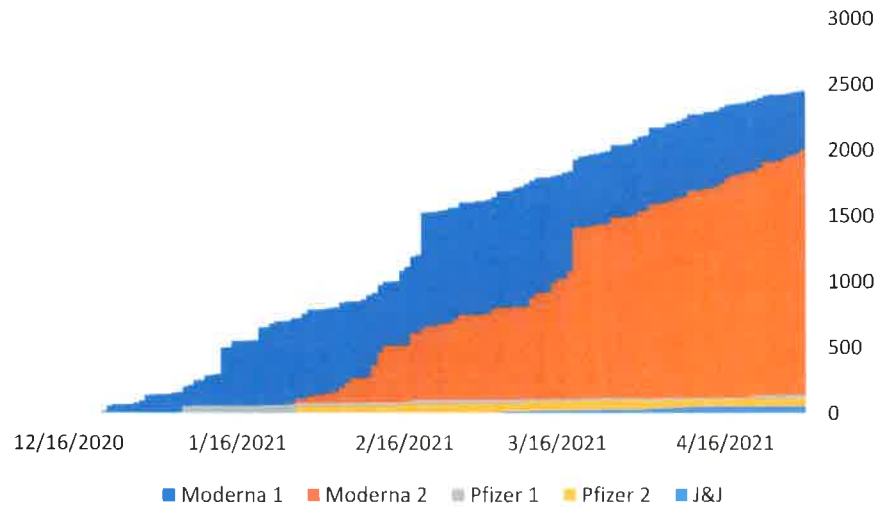
Mod1	Mod2	Psr1	Psr2	Jsn	Total
2452	2006	141	114	58	4771

% of Eligible County Population Immunized with at least one dose	42.3%
% of Eligible Patients Up-to-Date	34.7%
% of Eligible Patients awaiting second dose	7.5%

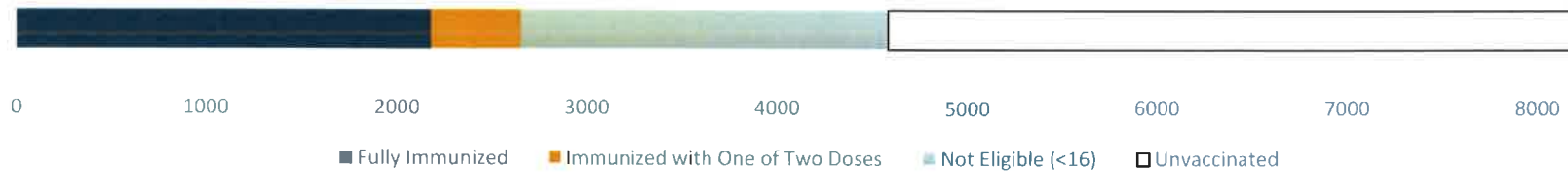
Up-to-Date Population Goal

4/30 (25%)	5/31 (50%)	7/4 (75%)
1568	3136	4704

Conejos County Vaccinations over Time



Conejos County Vaccination Status



**CONEJOS COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT
5/6/21**

SLV Regional information on COVID-19 as of 5/6/2021:

There are currently 157 known active cases of COVID-19 in the San Luis Valley.

- Alamosa County - 64
- Conejos County - 48
- Costilla County - 6
- Mineral County - 1
- Rio Grande County – 20
- Saguache County- 18

Conejos County as of 5/6/21:

- 48 active cases
- 533 positives confirmed to date
- 38 hospitalized to date
- 11 Deaths
- 4 Outbreaks

Vaccination Updates:

CCPH continues to hold COVID vaccinations on Tuesday and/or Thursdays by appointment. Depending upon demand. Demand from CCPH has lessened since regional partners have expanded clinics into Conejos County.

Vaccine Interest form/ sign up form can be found on Conejos County public Health Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/conejoscountypublichealth>

OR at

The Conejos County Government website <https://www.conejoscounty.org/>



Conejos County Public Health Commissioners Report

5/6/2021



Public Health-Core Public Health Services

A. Administration and Governance

All public health agencies are required to establish and maintain programs, personnel, facilities, information technology and other resources necessary to deliver core public health services in the agency's jurisdiction.

1. Personnel-current
 - a. 1 public health director
 - b. 1 public health nurse- .25 PT
 - c. 1 prevention coordinator-part time-VACANT
 - d. 1 Public Health Generalist/ Nurse - (30hrs/week)- Filled
 - e. 1 office manager-
 - f. 1 commodities manager
 - g. 2 PCP supervisory employees
 - h. COVID Response

B. Assessment Planning and Communication

All public health agencies are required to use assessment and planning methodologies to identify, evaluate and understand community health problems, priority populations, and potential threats to the public's health, and use this knowledge to determine what strategies are needed to engage partners and improve health

1. Conejos County Specific Goal:

Work with community partners on existing and emerging local projects to influence health behaviors and conditions and advocate for family support systems that strengthen protective factors and reduce risk factors for children and families.

C. Communicable Disease Prevention, Investigation and Control

All public health agencies are required to track the incidence and distribution of disease in the population and prevent and control vaccine-preventable diseases, zoonotic, vector, air-borne, water-borne, and food-borne illnesses, and other diseases that are transmitted person-to-person.

1. Communicable Diseases
 - a. Coronavirus COVID 19
 - i. See BOH report
2. Immunizations
 - a. Continuing with COVID 19 vaccinations by appointment
 - b. Ramping up for Regular Child immunizations

Turn Corp
Sara O'Keefe
Bryan Blakely

Allen Matlosz Stifel Public Finance was George K Baum

They will educate the public on behalf of the County for the sales tax. First, they will work with the community to get up to speed on the issues and potential solutions.

If you engage a poll, (phone) it will be a third party hire at appox \$20,000

Fee for Turn Corp is \$25,000-30,000

Will be a hard electorate this year due to an off year after a presidential. Potentially more conservative voters.

- Public engagement firm in business for over three years and specializing in developing strategies, messaging, and outreach to help constituents build an understanding of what is being asked - the cost, the specific projects, the timeline, the value, etc.
- The team is Bryan Blakely and myself; we each have 18+ years of experience in government affairs, local ballot initiatives, economic development, community relations, and communications, among others
- We've worked with utilities, fire districts, P3s, local government, builders and developers, nonprofits and foundations, and other businesses and organizations needing to bring together a group of constituents together to rally around a policy or project
- Our process for this type of ballot initiative typically includes the following:
 - Constituent survey (short, 10-12 questions, non-scientific because it doesn't control for a representative sample of the population; provides an opportunity to understand the appetite for funding 6th cent projects and prioritize messaging)
 - Messaging hierarchy (given the many jurisdictions partnering on this, it will be critical that everyone is talking about it consistently)
 - Outreach / education plan (tactics will vary based on our discussions with all of you about the best ways to engage your constituents)
 - Timeline / schedule of activities and communications

Working with Weld County on a Rec Center
City of Littleton on a tax
Grand County on an Emergency Management
Garfield County
Otero last year.

720 939 0480 Bryan

CONEJOS COUNTY LAND USE - CASE SUMMARY- REPORT

CASE NO: CCLU-2020-0360

REQUEST: Division of Land

APPLICANT: Patricia Gallegos

ZONING: Rural

SURVEY BY: Tony Martin - Russell Surveyors & Associates

BACKGROUND: An application was filed with the Land Use office on December 20, 2020, for a Division of Land (DOL.) The property is legally described as Tract 1A Replat of HC Martinez/AP Gallegos Minor Subdivision I Division of Land located in Section 24, Township 32 North, Range 9 East, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Conejos County Colorado. County Parcel #613524300040. Physical Address: 20 County Road A.5 - Los Pinos area.

The proposed Division of Land containing 10.02 acres will create the following:

Lot C containing 7.02 acres ±

Lot D containing 3.00 acres ±

No County Road Dedication

Applicable Codes Used:

CCLUC - Article 10 - Division 10.7 Subdivision Exemptions, Division of Land.

Purpose of Adjustment: The owner is estate planning and will convey one lot to each son. Ten years have passed since the Minor Subdivision was approved.

Land Use Administrator review/approval: 05/06/2021

County Surveyor review/approval: 05/03/2021

Board of County Commissioners review/approval: 05/06/2021

Approval: Motion/Second: _____ Resolution # _____

Recorded date: _____ Reception # _____ -resolution

Reception # _____ -plat

Other Comments:

CONEJOS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA
REGULAR - MEETING
May 6, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
OPENING PRAYER

- 9:00 a.m.
- Call Meeting to Order
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA – **Action Item**
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 15, 2021 - **Action Items**
- PUBLIC COMMENT
- ADMINISTRATORS CORRESPONDENCE –

COUNTY ATTORNEY –

Resolution No. C-11-21 Opposing Ballot Initiative

 -16

- 9:30 Sheriff Crowther – Sheriff Report
- 9:45 Linda – Land Use Report
9:45 Linda – Public Hearing
John Cangelosi – Special Use Permit – Short-term Overnight Lodging
Resolution No. C-12-21 - **Action Item**
HC Martinez/AP Gallegos DOL of Tract 1A
Resolution No. C-13-21
- 10:00 Ed Beaudette – Cumbres Toltec Liquor License for Special Events – **Action Item**
- 10:15 Adam Moore – Forest Service Report
- 10:30 Denise and Gary - OLTC
- 10:45 Town of Sanford – Transportation Issue
- 11:00 Naomi Keys – Abatements - **Action Item**
- 11:05 Ernest Abeyta – Ambulance Report

CONEJOS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
AGENDA
REGULAR - MEETING
May 20, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
OPENING PRAYER

- 9:00 a.m.
- Call Meeting to Order
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA – **Action Item**
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting, May 6th, 2021 - **Action Item**
- PUBLIC COMMENT – Congresswoman Lauren Boebert
Clarice Navarro, Cathy Garcia and Kristi Kirkpatrick
- ADMINISTRATORS CORRESPONDENCE –
Resolution No. C-14-21 Transfer of Money from Special
Contingency to OLTC – **Action Item**
Coronavirus Relief Funds
From the American Rescue Plan
Town of Antonito Covid Funds \$44,305.43 for
the Guadalupe Catholic Church – **Action Item**
Resolution C-14-21 Transfer of Money – Special
Contingency fund to the OLTC cash fund
Update on the HORCA Project
Ruybalid Bridge - update

COUNTY ATTORNEY – **Executive Session**

9:30 Nick – DSS Report and Payables – **Action Item**

9:45 Linda – Land Use -
Special Use Permit for Alamosa County – Resolution No. C-08-18
General Report

10:00 Rodney – OEM Report

Permit Statistics From 1/1/2021 to 4/30/2021				Month-to-Month		Current
PERMITS TYPE	PERMITS	AMOUNT				
				January	\$ 13,160.82	
				February	\$ 5,234.00	
Physical Address	16	\$ 560.00		March	\$ 8,300.00	
Address Signs		\$ 373.50		April	\$ 9,214.50	
Septic Permits	8	\$ 2,600.00		May		
Construction Permits	48	\$ 22,391.82		June		
Variance				July		
Land Use Misc.		\$ 59.00		August		
Vacation of Roadway				September		
Minor Subdivision				October		
Division of Land	5	\$ 2,500.00		November		
Boundary Line Adjustment	1	\$ 350.00		December		
Lot Consolidation	1	\$ 650.00				
Septic Contractor License		\$ 325.00				
Administrative Review	1	\$ 300.00				
Special Use Permits	2	\$ 1,500.00		YTD	\$ 35,909.32	
Access Permits (Road and Bridge)	7	\$ 800.00				
Utility in the ROW (Road and Bridge)	5	\$ 1,500.00				
MHIP	1	\$ 2,000.00				
Major Subdivision						
Total Fees Collected	95	\$ 35,909.32				