

****DRAFT**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

TOWN OF OPHIR, CO 81426

TUESDAY MAY 27TH, 2025 7:00 PM

OPHIR TOWN HALL 36 PORPHYRY ST.

Video and audio recording available upon request

1) CALL TO ORDER

Andy Ward calls the meeting to order at 7:11pm

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Slator Aplin, Allyn Hart, Gerry Oyama, Gunnar Doyle, Kirk Drogsvold, Abigail Gamache, Eric Beerman, Lucas Leighton, Holly McCarthy, John Humphries, Marc Campbell, Teri Steinberg, Mark Rikkens, Joe Schults, Jacey DePriest, Corinne Platt, Phil Hayden, Annabelle O'Neill, Janice Gerona, Natalie Fijalkowski, Doris Glynn, Dylan Sloan, Chris Drew

NON-VOTING MEMBERS: Hailey Carmer, John Wontrobski, Kara Pauls Gray

2) ADOPTION & SIGNATURE March 18th, 2025 Regular GA minutes
Moved to June GA due to no packet being sent out to GA voters prior to meeting.

3) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Slator Aplin motions, Gunnar Doyle seconds.

All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

4) BUSINESS ITEMS

**A) EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSION WITH
TOWN ATTORNEY**

Andy Ward motions, Slator Aplin seconds

All in Favor (Yay): Unanimous

Executive session begins @ 7:12 and recording is stopped.

Executive session ends @ 8:03 and recording is resumed.

Andy requests that if anyone has any concerns regarding the discussion during the executive session to speak now. No one speaks.

B) GA Authorization to increase Eco Action annual support from \$1750 to \$2000.

Mark Ridders motions, Phil Hayden seconds.

Corinne asks what EcoAction does for Ophir.

Andy notes they have and will be assisting with solar projects. John Humphries states they help with education, working with SMPA.

Motion passes with unanimous approval.

5) STAFF REPORTS

OEC – Ophir received a plants and pollinators grant for \$2k in March. This money will go to education, plant ID and protection.

In late April Ophir received a \$34k grant for new composting machine, which will be newer and smaller than our current cubes and will also require less labor. Town has also purchased a bio-char kiln with these funds.

Funding has been restored for the New Dominion mine cleanup, to be done in 2026.

TOWN MANAGER - John has contacted the county about Ophir Pass but hasn't received word on when it will be open yet. San Miguel County Road and Bridge says Ophir Road will be graded and dust controlled in mid-July. Spring road work on Ophir streets by Ground Pounders should begin next week.

The 2nd Ophir spring cleanup dumpster is full, a 3rd will be incoming 5/28

Please don't throw out electronics or batteries in the town trash barn. Eco-Action/Town of Telluride/Mountain village do spring and fall

electronics trash collection. Also Cortez has a dump that will take pretty much every kind of trash all year.

Ophir Days is June 14 and 15!

Eric Beerman asks about speed mitigation for summer and what the status is with Ophir's water. John Wontrobski responds Ground Pounders will be putting in speed dips again this year and planters will be put out soon. Ophir is still on Werner springs for water as the redwood box in Waterfall needs maintenance before we can switch back.

Annabelle O'Neill asks if SGM has any updates on water. John Wontrobski responds there is no update but we have a new contact there and Andy Ward is also in touch with them.

MAYOR – Andy asks residents to contact Fritz about his potential guidebook on skiing the San Juans, requesting that Ophir not be included. Corinne notes that increased backcountry skiing tourism could cause undue strain on local search and rescue. Ophir also does not have much parking or public restroom facilities. His email if you would like to reach out is fritz@giterdunpublishing.com.

6) NEW BUSINESS

Carpenter ants in the greenhouse – John W. laid traps but hasn't seen the ants yet. Any help is appreciated.

7. ADJOURN

Andy adjourns the meeting @ 8:40pm

Minutes prepared by Ben Foster, Town Clerk

Audio and video recordings of all General Assembly Meetings are available to the public. Please contact the Town Clerk if you would like a copy of this month's audio of the meeting minutes.