

BROOMFIELD CITY COUNCIL ADVOCACY, TRAINING AND TRAVEL REPORT



Council Member Denny McCloskey

26 November 2012-28 November 2012

WINTER CCI CONFERENCE

<http://ccionline.org/download/AGENDA.pdf>

TOTAL COSTS:	\$568.97
BROOMFIELD COST:	\$0
CCI REGISTRATION:	\$350.00
HOTEL COSTS:	\$45.19
MILEAGE: 2 X 89= 178 miles@ 51¢=	\$90.78
PER DIEM:	\$83.00

(per government guidelines) (Council Member Paid)

This WINTER meeting of CCI holds forums on issues for policy work organizing Commissioners to speak with a unified voice to our soon-to-be-convened state legislature. We held an introductory meeting after the recent election for Legislators to meet their constituent's county commissioners. Broomfield's returning House Representative Primavera attended. Unfortunately, newly elected Senator Marble did not. In January, CCI will hold a more detailed

policy meeting. I will again invite both Broomfield Legislators to attend and engage in the CCI Legislative meeting.

The major topic of concern around Child Welfare case management, highlighted by the recent week long series in the Denver Post, revealed a serious lack of funding and manpower to address the real time caseload. The ratio of 25 cases to each case worker seems to be the standard for attaining expected standard of care and services. Many counties are pushing 45-50 per caseworker and that volume is clearly affecting the unacceptable outcomes. The other factor of significance is communication. Many of the cases involve clients that move frequently, and involve a continual new brace of service providers and those public agents required to report (teachers, police, fire, etc). The Colorado State desire is to close that gap in information. The system suggested would help County to County information sharing through a clearinghouse, however, the information would still come from service providers that have no common communication system. Also, many privatized service providers seem less inclined or averse to reporting, perhaps due to being unsure that they are protected by immunity due to reporting.

Another major area of concern highlighted by last summer's fire season, is that of insurance coverage. Insurance is covered by state regulations, and so varies significantly by state. The common claim in Colorado is settled by assessed loss. Homeowners are not aware that their homes will not just be replaced. Factors that affect coverage are many, including: riders for replacement cost, riders for content value exception threshold, riders for alternative housing while rebuilding (various limits), home improvements not going through permitting process (not covered), to name a few. There may be a request to follow other states that identify dollar amount on declaration page of policy. This would streamline the process from the continuous additional submit for approval of claim additions. Either way, premiums will go up for all of us. One of

the significant shocks is the difference between market value and cost to replace a home to pre-disaster state.

The Front Range Commissioners meeting & 50,000+ population counties addressed these, plus concerns over water and on-going hydraulic fracturing in the urban interface. (Governor Hickenlooper also addressed this at lunch Tuesday.) Work on Colorado's Healthcare Exchange continues and is likely to be ready for next implementation steps for the Affordable Care Act. The design to allow free market choices is a strength other states are looking to replicate. Broomfield's vote for CCI Board Representative went to Lew Gaither of Larimer County as he is more representative of our positions. We are glad Lew won. Dennis Hisey (El Paso) will continue as Secretary CCI Board, and Barbara Kirkmeyer (Weld) will continue as Treasurer CCI Board.

At the business meeting the Colorado Commissioners supported Sallie Clark, El Paso County in her decision to run for 2nd Vice President of the NACo Board. Some housekeeping regarding bylaws that were addressed successfully. All but three counties remain members of CCI, and we are working to help them see the value. A brief organizational meeting for Commissioners who have leadership roles and will travel to Washington was held. After several years of dues freeze, there will be a slight increase. The January Legislative Meeting with new and incumbent legislators will be held on the 19th at CCI's Building.