

**CHAFFEE COUNTY COLORADO
RESOLUTION NO. 2004-45**

ESTABLISHING THE CHAFFEE COUNTY HERITAGE AREA.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

WHEREAS, the Chaffee County Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) find that Chaffee County possesses unique characteristics resulting from the diverse character and history of Chaffee County, including the early uses of agriculture, railroad and mining and evolving to include recreation and tourism; and

WHEREAS, the economic, cultural, environmental, and aesthetic standing of Chaffee County cannot be maintained if the natural and cultural heritage of the County is disregarded; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that heritage tourism contributes significantly to the economic well-being of the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds and declares that the protection, preservation, and enhancement of the county’s cultural, historic, natural, and economic heritage is essential to the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Board is authorized pursuant to C.R.S.30-11-107(bb) to provide for the preservation of the cultural, historic, natural, and economic resources within the county; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing has heretofore been held on July 20, 2004 and the Board has determined, as a result of the testimony received at such public hearing, that the adoption of this resolution would be in the best interests of the citizens of Chaffee County,

RESOLUTION:

NOW THEREFORE be it unanimously resolved by the Chaffee County Board of Commissioners as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of this resolution is to promote the public health, safety and welfare through:

- a. the protection and preservation of the historic, cultural, natural, and economic resources of Chaffee County by establishing a Heritage Area; and
- b. the enhancement of property values through protection, preservation, and enhancement of important natural, cultural, economic, and recreational characteristics of Chaffee County; and
- c. the pursuit of grant funding to assist in accomplishment of the Heritage Area program; and
- d. the increase of economic and financial benefits as a result of the attraction of tourism and visitors to Chaffee County; and
- e. the provision of educational opportunities to increase public appreciation of Chaffee County’s unique heritage.

Section 2. Heritage Area Established. The Chaffee County Heritage Area is hereby created (the "Heritage Area"). The boundary of the Heritage Area coincides with the political boundaries of Chaffee County, but does not include the incorporated municipalities of Salida, Buena Vista and Poncha Springs. The County Commissioners encourage the municipalities to adopt a similar resolution incorporating the municipalities into the Chaffee County Heritage Area.

Section 3. Heritage Area Advisory Board. A Chaffee County Heritage Area Advisory Board is hereby created (the "Advisory Board"). The County Commissioners shall appoint an Advisory Board from the community at large to provide advice and assistance on matters associated with planning and implementation of the Heritage Area program. The program, with oversight from the Advisory Board, shall be administered and coordinated by the Greater Arkansas River Nature Association (GARNA), a local non-profit 501-c (3) entity committed to providing and promoting educational activities, volunteer projects, and community involvement to conserve the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the Greater Arkansas River Area for present and future generations.

- a. **Membership:** The Advisory Board shall consist of no fewer than seven (7) and no more than nine (9) members. All members shall be full time residents of Chaffee County. The members shall be selected by the Commissioners, based on appropriate geographic representation of the county, and based on representation of interests in cultural, natural, economic, and recreational resources.
- b. **Appointment and Terms of Office:** Members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed and approved by the Commissioners, and shall serve a three-year term from the date of the appointment. In order to stagger the initial terms of membership, the original membership shall serve as follows:
 - Three appointees shall serve three-year terms;
 - Three appointees shall serve two-year terms;
 - One to three appointees shall serve a one-year term.Terms shall expire on January 31st of each year. Members shall continue to serve until their successors have been appointed. Members may be appointed to successive terms without limitation. Appointments to fill vacancies on the Advisory Board shall be made and approved by the County Commissioners. All members of the Advisory Board shall serve without compensation, and may be removed by the County Commissioners for cause.
- c. **Quorum and Voting:** A quorum for the Advisory Board shall consist of a simple majority of the members of the Advisory Board excluding vacant seats. A quorum is necessary for the Advisory Board to hold a meeting or to take official action. A roll call vote shall be taken upon the request of any member. The chairperson of the Advisory Board may not vote except to break a tie. A tie vote shall be deemed denial of the motion or recommended action.
- d. **Officers:** The Advisory Board shall, by majority vote, elect one (1) of its members to serve as chairperson to preside over the Advisory Board's meetings, one (1) member to serve as vice-chairperson and one (1) member to serve as secretary. The members so designated shall serve in these capacities for terms of one (1) year, and may serve successive terms.
- e. **Meetings:** The Advisory Board shall hold at least one regularly scheduled meeting per calendar quarter. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings. The Advisory Board

shall comply with all requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act (C.R.S. 24-6-4-1 et seq.)

- f. Duties and Responsibilities: The Advisory Board shall:
1. As soon as reasonably possible after the appointment of the initial members of the Advisory Board and from time to time thereafter, develop and review plans to include, but not be limited to:
 - a.) criteria for identifying significant heritage resources in Chaffee County, and
 - b.) long and short term actions needed to protect, preserve, and enhance significant heritage resources, and
 - c.) strategies and programs to be developed for interpreting themes and topics of the heritage area to the residents and visiting public, and
 - d.) recommend to the Commissioners priorities for accomplishment of these actions.
 2. Work in partnership with local, state, and federal agencies, organizations, and private individuals to provide mutual support in accomplishing the purpose stated herein.
 3. Actively pursue financial assistance for heritage-related programs.
 4. Advise and assist owners of heritage resources on the physical and financial aspects of protection, preservation, and enhancement of their properties.
 5. Develop and assist in public education programs including but not limited to brochures, a marker program of historic properties, lectures, and conferences.
 6. Conduct surveys of heritage resources for the purpose of defining those of significance, and prioritizing the importance of identified heritage resources.
 7. Advise the Planning Commission and County Commissioners on matters related to preserving and enhancing the character of the County.
- g. Rules and Procedures for Advisory Board. The Advisory Board may establish additional rules of operation that are consistent with its duties enumerated herein, consistent with the guidelines for advisory boards as adopted by the County Commissioners.

Section 4. Effective Date. This resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon adoption by the Chaffee County Board of Commissioners.

ADOPTED AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED this 20th day of July, 2004 (Commissioner Glenn was absent).

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Joseph H. DeLuca, Chairman

Jim Thompson, Commissioner

