

Deputy Grey LaCerte started off the meeting with his Crime Statistics report. The March report did not indicate any unusually large up ticks. Part 1 Crimes Category Assault showed a slight increase but nothing of particular significance according to the Deputy. Interesting to note Part 2 Crimes category Trespass-Vehicle, usually involving unlocked cars has dropped about 50 percent since January. Deputy LaCerte also passed out the latest "Message from the Sheriff" flyer that can be found on the Sheriff's website. This flyer is titled, "Traffic Enforcement: What's Going on Behind the Badge?" The flyer describes the process the Sheriff's department goes through reviewing traffic accident statistics to help determine dangerous intersections and roadways in Jeffco where the motorcycle officers will set up and monitor for speeders and issue tickets accordingly. The Sheriff believes this strategy has helped in dramatically dropping the number of area traffic crashes. The number of traffic accidents in unincorporated Jeffco has dropped from 3188 in 2005 to 1930 in 2007. Speed was the main cause in 31 percent of the accidents last year. Walt Frankland representing Foothills announced that Ronald Hopp was selected to be the new executive director of Foothills. The guest speaker at this meeting was County Commissioner Kevin McCasky. Commissioner McCasky had been invited back after the March meeting to provide answers to some questions relating to county funding for highway improvements. This month he also brought along Commissioner Kathy Hartman, Tim Carl, Development and Transportation Director and a representative from the County Assessor office. Commissioner McCasky started off talking in more detail the proposed route of the I-470 "buckle" or completion from I-70 to the Northwest Parkway and how the planning is trying to respond to the City of Golden concerns. Tim Carl presented data relating to impact fees applied to developers and how those monies are used to defray costs to the county when road improvements are required in newly developed areas. Also in response to previous questions, the County Assessor representative also passed out data supporting Commissioner McCasky statement last month that individual property taxes are much lower than business property and personal property taxes and therefore developers and business do provide a substantial share of costs for county infrastructure improvements through impact fees and higher property taxes. Commissioner Hartman, who is also Jeffco's representative to the Regional Council of Governments, mentioned that the Council believes they have the funds available to proceed with traffic and safety improvements to Wadsworth at the Bowles intersection and along Wadsworth by the shopping center. In new business, COHOPE, unfortunately in my personal opinion, voted not to support the Foothills 3-mill property tax increase. I and four others were unfortunately out voted by 17 other members. The meeting ended with officers elections. There were two spots open, president and secretary, and both incumbents agreed to serve another term.