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Media note: Updated photos of Commissioner Susan Beckman and the Board of County Commissioners are available for download at ftp://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Pub/CM/photos/

Susan Beckman selected chair of Board of County Commissioners

Arapahoe County Commissioner Susan Beckman was selected Tuesday to serve as chair of the Board of County Commissioners for 2004. Commissioner Bernie Zimmer will serve as Chair Pro Tem and Commissioner Marie Mackenzie as Financial Officer.

Beckman, who represents District 1, which includes Littleton, Englewood and Sheridan, is serving her first term as commissioner. She was elected to the Board in 2001 and served as Chair Pro Tem in 2003 and financial officer in 2002. She represents Arapahoe County on numerous boards and committees, including Colorado Counties Inc., Denver Regional Council of Governments, C-470 Task Force, South Metro Denver Economic Development Group and is the Board liaison to Tri-Cities organization, Tri-County Health Department and the T-Rex Project.

Beckman's goals for the upcoming year include the successful start up of the County's new Open Space program; working with local, state and federal agencies to increase funding for transportation projects, such as the intersections of Parker and Arapahoe roads and C-470 and Santa Fe; as well as continuing to serve as the contractor of choice for the City of Centennial.

Other goals include following up on last year's effort to fight West Nile Virus through a comprehensive mosquito control plan; improving security at the County's court facilities in Littleton and Aurora and continuing to nurture the positive and cooperative relationships with our incorporated cities and neighboring counties.

"2003 was a tremendous year in Arapahoe County, and certainly one in which we experienced many firsts," she said, adding that the County experienced record snowfall with the spring Blizzard, battled a major public health issue and saw voters approve a countywide sales tax for open space. "Our commissioners and our employees care about this community and everyone in our organization works hard to provide quality services while also maintaining one of the lowest mill levies in the metro area. I'm proud to serve Arapahoe County and look forward to an even better year."

Also Tuesday, the Board announced department assignments for commissioners.

Beckman will oversee the County Attorney's Office and BOCC Administration. Zimmer will supervise the County's Human Resources and Information Technology departments. Commissioner Lynn Myers is responsible for Community Services and Human Services; Mackenzie oversees Development Services and Infrastructure Management and Communication Services; and Commissioner Debra Vickrey supervises the County's Finance, Support Services and Strategic Programs departments.

To learn more about the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners, or to find out which commissioner represents you, visit the County's web site at www.co.arapahoe.co.us and click on departments, and Commissioners' Office.
