



# COUNTY OF ELBERT

Sam Albrecht, County Manager

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## STAFF SUMMARY For BOCC MEETING PRESENTATION

**Date of Presentation:** 2/14/2018

**Staff Lead:** Sam Albrecht

**Affected Departments and Offices Affected:** Building Department, Sheriff's Office, Fire Districts

**Topic:** Industrial Hemp

**1. Purpose:** To develop a plan for Industrial Hemp as an agricultural crop in Elbert County

**2. Background:** Industrial hemp is regulated by the Colorado Division of Agriculture. Over 50 counties have permitted operations. There are currently 9 operations permitted in Elbert County. Staff believes that we should develop a permit system for these operations that includes registration, zoning and water use review, open access to SO and compliance staff, and coordination with the appropriate fire district (since crops that fail testing must be burned).

**3. Key Points:**

- a. Research:** Completed. Doug Chimenti has looked at state as well as other county requirements.
- b. Discussions:** We've had an applicant come give us a presentation on what the operation would look.
- c. Next Steps:** Develop permit, coordinate with SO and fire districts, determine fees.

**4. Impact on County:**

- a. Fiscal:** Fees will provide additional revenue.
- b. Services:** Building department will issue permits. Compliance Officer and SO will monitor.
- c. Infrastructure:** None expected at this time.

**5. BOCC Action Required:** Authorize industrial hemp permit development and issuance.

**6. Required Decision Date:** If we do this soon, permittees will be able to grow this spring/summer.

**7. Point of Contact:** Sam Albrecht, County Manager; Rory Hale, Public Works; Doug Chimenti, Veteran Transition Fellow.