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NEWS RELEASE

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WELD COUNTY BUDGET DIRECTOR DON WARDEN RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD

WELD COUNTY, CO – Weld County's interim Director of Finance and Administration and Budget Manager Don Warden was awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) during the regularly scheduled Commissioner's meeting on Monday.

This is the 32nd year Warden has received the award. Warden said Weld County is the one of three governmental entities in the U.S. and Canada to receive the award for 32 consecutive years.

The GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program encourages and recognizes exemplary budgeting practices among governmental entities in the U.S. and Canada. The award reflects the commitment of Weld County's governing body and staff to meet the highest principles of governmental budgeting.

"We appreciate Don's leadership and work on the budget," said Commissioner Chair Douglas Rademacher. "Receiving this award for 32 years straight is a testament to Don's hard work."

Last year's budget was more difficult than previous years because of the 2013 September flood and the associated costs for unexpected repairs. However, Weld County's budgeting process and fiscal responsibility allowed repairs to be made while maintaining its status as the only debt-free county in the nation.

"Every year the Board has a set of goals based on our mission," said Commissioner Sean Conway. "One of those is to act in a fiscally conservative manner, and Don Warden has been the mainstay of that, as well as the rest of the accounting department."

Warden echoed the Commissioner's sentiments, saying, "The budget is really a team project. It starts in the departments and continues with human resources and information technology. We're fortunate that in Weld County everyone works toward a balanced budget. Ultimately, I thank the Commissioners for approving the budget."

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