



1. **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**–Meeting was called to order at 12:06 by Vice Chair Roland Mason

Board Members	Staff
<b>Delta County</b>	Michelle Haynes
Elyse Casselberry – City of Delta	Dan Scinto
Mary Hockenbery – Town of Hotchkiss	Trish Thibodo
Les Mergelman – Delta County	Virgil Turner
<b>Gunnison County</b>	Nancy Murphy
Roland Mason – Gunnison County BOCC	Courtney Rodwell
Jim Gelwicks – City of Gunnison Mayor	Corey Bryndal
Michael Bacani – Mt. Crested Butte Council	Eva Veitch
Vince Rogalski – Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region	
Jim Schmidt – Crested Butte Mayor	<b>Guests</b>
<b>Hinsdale County</b>	
Kristine Borchers – Hinsdale County BOCC	
Dave Roberts – Town Trustee Lake City	
<b>Montrose County</b>	
Jon Waschbusch – Montrose Deputy County Manager	
Roger Rash – Montrose County BOCC	
Linda Riba – Montrose County	
<b>Ouray County</b>	
Ben Tisdell – Ouray County BOCC	
John Clark – Town of Ridgway	
<b>San Miguel County</b>	
Delainie Young – Town of Telluride Mayor	
Kris Holstrom – San Miguel County BOCC	
Mike Bordogna – San Miguel County	

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- a. 4. Check Signing
- b. 5. In-Person Meeting

3. **APPROVAL and RATIFICATION OF MINUTES for April 22, 2021 meeting**

Motion to approve: M/S: Les Mergelman/John Clark as accepted. None opposed.

4. **Business Items**

a. **Board Elections:**

- i. Board seat change overs start in July at the start of the new fiscal year.
- ii. The Vice Chair moves into the Chair position and so the Vice Chair position is vacant. Kris Holstrom has expressed interest in the Vice Chair position. We also have the Treasurer position vacant; Jon Waschbusch at Montrose County is willing to serve, and it works really well for us to have someone who is located nearby that is a signer.
- iii. **Vice Chair Nomination:** Kris Holstrom – San Miguel County

1. **Motion to accept: M/S Roger Rash/ Mary Hockenbery.** None opposed.
  - iv. **Treasurer Nomination:** Jon Waschbusch – Montrose County
    1. **Motion to accept: Kris Holstrom/Roger Rash.** None opposed.
  - b. Check Signing:
    - i. Currently checks require two signatures, an officer and Michelle.
    - ii. Suggestions:
      1. Region 10 can have up to 4 signers, Michelle is a signer and is the organizations official Secretary. Michelle recommends that we have Michelle, Roger and Jon as signers and then we could be open to have a 4<sup>th</sup> signer. We could manage with 3 but it might be beneficial to have a 4<sup>th</sup> signer. They are in most cases a physical signer so that can be challenging if signers are not located nearby.
      2. Alpine Bank will not honor a two-signature check requirement. But Vectra Bank we have had checks returned in the past. It is internal for audit purposes so that the auditor knows that there were two people within the organization that know about the financials and that more than one person is looking at these checks.
      3. We have been using a stamp for Roger’s Signature while he is out of the state, and we send him a list of the Vouchers for him to approve and confirm via email to use the stamp as a signer. If we add Roland Mason as a 4<sup>th</sup> signer suggested that if we put him on as a signer to have it operate like it has with the Stamp Signature for Roland with confirmation as.
      4. **Roland Mason:** Is there a way if I was the 4<sup>th</sup> signer it could be a modified way like the Stamp policy to have an option if it is needed? Michelle: Yes, and Corey is also our new staff addition and he lives close to Roland and could possibly transport checks in a situation if needed.
      5. **Action Item:** Motion to have 4 check signers: Michelle, Chair Roland Mason, Past Chair Roger Rash, & Treasurer Jon Waschbusch.
- Motion to approve: M/S: Jim Gelwicks/Mary Hockenbery as accepted.** None opposed.

- c. In Person Meetings:
  - i. We have had a few board members ask if we are going to resume in person meetings for Region 10. We are open for discussion on that. Our conference room is set up for the option for hybrid meetings and we would like to continue to have the option to Zoom in. The board discussed meeting times and options for video and in person. Consensus was to have an in person meeting in July with the hybrid option at 12 noon. In June, we will have the meeting where just the staff is in the conference room and electronically for all the executive committee and board members. In July we will plan on a hybrid meeting where everyone has the option of in person or electronically.
    1. June 24<sup>th</sup>: Electronic Meeting for all Exec & Board, Staff in person
    2. July 22<sup>nd</sup>, Hybrid Meeting for all
    3. August 26<sup>th</sup>, Full Board Meeting, Hybrid Meeting for all

## 5. Reports:

- a. **Executive Director/Financial Report** – Michelle Haynes
  - i. **Introduction of Corey Bryndal:** Michelle welcomed Corey to the Region 10 team. Corey introduced himself and interest in serving at Region 10 to support the expansion of Broadband. Virgil will remain our Broadband Director and our plan is for Corey to move into that when Virgil rides off into the sunset.
  - ii. **Financials:** March financial information is in the board packet and it is from March. Michelle noted the new accountant Jo has done amazing job with our financials. Most programs are performing at a positive net margin.
  - iii. **Audit:** It will be coming up. We will be getting an engagement letter from the auditor and it is our plan to engage Chadwick, Stein, Kirshner. If you are comfortable, we are comfortable moving forward with the auditor we have and not sending it out to bid. (No concerns)
  - iv. **Budget:** Typically, we would have our budget prepared, however, we are waiting on some of our funding to be approved. Request to see if we could present the budget at the Executive Committee in June and then have it ratified by the full board in August.
    1. **Action Item:** Motion to approve the FY 2021/22 Budget at the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting and have it Ratified by the Full Board in August.

**Motion to Approve: M/S Jim Gelwicks/Marky Hockenbery.** None Opposed.

- b. **Business Loan Fund – Dan Scinto**
  - i. **Activities:** April & May to date \$402,000 loans closed in those two months. That is a groundbreaking number. Loans represent closings in San Miguel, Gunnison & Montrose – Inquiries are keeping pace. Seeing about 2-3 calls a day with viable start-ups or expansions or transition of business.
  - ii. Incorporated an online loan application to update some of the data that we collect.
  - iii. Registering loans for a credit enhancement with the Colorado Credit Reserve Program that is administered by Colorado Housing Authority and they provide a match. The match goes into an account that is jointly held and used to pay off loan losses as they occur. And right now, we have a healthy balance with very little past dues.
  - iv. State Funding Available (Spreadsheet Attached):
    - 1. Colorado Rescue Plan Stimulus: A focus on Technical Assistance and Access to Capital
      - a. Climber Fund: Short-term working capital for COVID Recovery. Demand for this may be more utilized on the Front Range rather than the Western Slope due to eligibility requirements of economic harm and proven losses. Our county's tax revenues are typically up and that is a direct derivative of the gross sales of business and so we have not seen quite the economic harm that other parts of the state have seen.
      - b. Energize Colorado: Philanthropic dollars matched by OEDIT dollars.
      - c. A lot of programs are targeted towards Women, Minority & Veteran Owned businesses. Colorado rescue plan and stimulus programs are focusing on these maybe because they were often overlooked early in on the recovery.
      - d. OEDIT Small Business Alternative Funding options: it is 32 pages long. There are roughly 5 opportunities per page, and they typically come from industry associations, philanthropic organizations, or rural funding sources. Go to the following link for those funding sources:
        - i. [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18B-15Rz8XE14Bn9LdQ1a8oDOpi6kKB1p0v2L\\_qQtVBE/edit#gid=987142964](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/18B-15Rz8XE14Bn9LdQ1a8oDOpi6kKB1p0v2L_qQtVBE/edit#gid=987142964)
- c. **Small Business Resource Center - Nancy Murphy**
  - i. Consulting number: 18 clients a month
  - ii. 204 attendees to our workshops
    - 1. 55 people registered for the Child Care course but only one has completed it. We are finding that people have pre-registered for it but they are waiting until the summer to begin it.
    - 2. New course On Demand Profit First – an 8 session “Profit First”
      - a. Helping people to understand to pull money out of the business to support themselves.
  - iii. Diversity & Inclusion trainings have been attended for 2 3hr sessions.
  - iv. Federal Funding Programs through the SBA
    - 1. EIDL available till the end of the year
    - 2. EIDL Advance (\$10,000 grants) closed out and no longer available.
    - 3. Targeted EIDL is available only by a bank.
    - 4. PPP -closed May 6<sup>th</sup> and banks are currently in the process of processing applications in que but not accepting any more.
    - 5. Shuttered Venues is still going on and that is until it is exhausted, and we have not heard how close that may be.
    - 6. RRF (Restaurant Revitalization Fund) is closing Monday May 24<sup>th</sup>
      - a. Received more than 300,000 applications for requests of more than \$70 billion.
    - 7. SBA Debt Relief – extending of payments.
    - 8. Community Navigators program has not yet been defined and we will be working on that.
- d. **Community Development – Trish Thibodo**
  - i. We did submit the High Alpine application for the Roadmap for Recovery (San Juan, Dolores, San Miguel & Hinsdale Counties)
  - ii. Submitted REDI Grant on behalf of the West End Economic Development Corporation
  - iii. Submitted REDI Grant for Rural Entrepreneurship Program for Region 10
  - iv. Crested Butte Center for the Arts and Grand Valley Health were approved as EZ Projects.
  - v. Invite for the REDS Meeting (Regional Economic Development Strategy) on Friday June 18<sup>th</sup>
    - 1. Spend the day from 9-4 at the Montrose Events Center
    - 2. Inviting in some panel discussions to address what are the innovative ideas, what are the solutions.
      - a. Livable Communities focus: Housing, childcare and transportation.

- b. Skilled Workforce
  - vi. Funding Opportunities for Communities
    - 1. NACO (National Associations of Counties and Organizations)
    - 2. Economic Development Administration Investment Priorities
      - a. Of the \$3 Billion, 25% of funds are reserved for communities that have suffered injuries to economic development due to job losses, travel, tourism, or outdoor rec centers. It is an 80:20 match. If you are thinking about any projects Michelle & Trish can help you see if there is any potential there.
- e. **Community Living Services** – Eva Veitch
  - i. Ready to go back into the 7 senior centers where we provide a AAA funded meals for Seniors (Olathe, Delta, Cedaredge, Hotchkiss, Paonia, Norwood, & Nucla)
    - 1. We have been on a tour to talk with people in the community about the meals program going forward.
    - 2. We are not sure how many seniors are comfortable coming back into the communal setting.
    - 3. We are continuing the Grab-&-Go programs
    - 4. The Seniors in Cedaredge decided that they are comfortable to have meals together in the Pavilion in the park.
    - 5. In Montrose we have not had a hot meals program, we are working with Shepherd’s Hand will be providing meals 5 days a week– July 1<sup>st</sup> for Grab-&-Go & Home-Delivered and then eventually open their center for meals in person.
      - a. Will require a lot of Volunteers! Joe Walker with our RSVP with be busy getting that coordinated.
  - ii. We do have some funding coming our way (detailed in the report) and some it is available for use until 2024.
    - 1. We are working in community Para-Medicine programs throughout the region. Talking with the Delta County Program that is currently doing to help roll it out throughout the 6 counties. We are looking at laying some good groundwork for programs to have success long term.
- f. **Regional Broadband** - Virgil Turner
  - i. Updates since the Report was put together:
    - 1. Excited to have Corey on board and we have been traveling, been in Ouray, San Miguel, Montrose & Delta and we will soon be in Gunnison. We are getting him to know all the assets and understand where all the network resources are.
    - 2. SMPA Connected: A connection to the line owned by San Miguel Power Authority to make a connection between Ouray & Ridgway. Construction has re-begun and the conduit is all in place and the Fiber will begin being pulled soon.
    - 3. Working to completed project in Crested Butte for the CNL
      - a. Generator needed to be ordered for the facility and our contractor has been successful in appropriating a generator that will be here next week. It will be in the Town Marshalls office.
      - b. The CNL Project has been bid out and it came in higher than the engineer estimates. We are maybe looking at delaying that project until 2022 which would align with the Gunnison to Mt. Crested Butte fiber projects. We could possibly open that project up for additional grant funding due to the delay.
    - 4. Lake City, Hinsdale County
      - a. We are looking to get some CNL improvements done, not sure what we can get done before the end of the grant term in June. Construction is difficult right now and finding contractors has been hard to come by.
  - ii. Updates on Legislation
    - 1. HB21-1109: Supportive of the proposed amendment. The reconfiguration of the Broadband Board 1:20pm. It would move the members from the DORA board to the OIT (Office of Information and Technology). The board is currently a large board and it is hard to get a quorum going.
      - a. **Ben Tisdell:** The reconfiguration will be good it removes the industry heavy perspective.
    - 2. SB21-060: I do not anticipate that it will make it through the process. It is competing with HB1109.
    - 3. SB21-072: Regional Transmission Organization: the piece that we are concerned with is Section 3 to bring Tri-State Generation Transmission and their lines for Middle mile into the folds of the bill SB19-107.

- a. We have had challenges getting access to Tri-State dark fiber lines that are already in place.
    - b. Has gone through the Senate and is now in the House. The appropriations deadline is the end of the month.
  - 4. HB21-1289: Representative Chris Kennedy's funding bill to use excess funds within the general fund to be used for Broadband. \$35 million will go for last mile projects and \$5 Million that we are hoping to go to DORA to configure this within the DOLA Middle Mile Grant Program.
- iii. Broadband Funding Opportunities:
  - 1. Emergency Broadband Benefit; we encourage local governments to get the word out to your citizens through your public relations office to get a discount on Broadband bills if they are on low-income programs.
  - 2. American Recovery Plan: The act provides funding directly to local governments; the question is how you can use it. This funding is a nice resource that we may be able to work with you to do broadband projects in your communities.
  - 3. New notice of Funding Opportunity: Grants to expand Broadband access through the NTIA. Has \$988 million for this opportunity and eligible entities Includes municipalities and non-profits. These are for last mile projects which we are interested in helping ISPs provide letters of support for expanding last mile projects.
  - 4.
- g. **Gunnison Valley Transportation Region Committee-** Vince Rogalski
  - i. Greenhouse Gas seems to be infiltrating everything. Transportation Rule vs Policy. HB: gives authority to
  - ii. The authority lies with Air Quality Control commission
  - iii. We are almost one year into the 2045 plan. STAC is interested in moving forward with the projects that are already.
    - 1. CDOT did a good job in going out to the communities and getting information from communities on what they would like to see with Transportation.
  - iv. STAC and Transportation committee agreed to have in person meetings in June with a hybrid option.
  - v. SB 260: new transportation bill focused on fees. Passed the house last week and has moved into the Senate.
    - 1. Directs funds to alternative Multi Modal investments.
    - 2. Monitoring road expansions
    - 3. CDOT is in favor of Land Use in the bill. They will need an increased cooperation with the local municipalities.
  - vi. Historic Bridges: what about the bridges that still exist but you cannot see. For example, the bridge under the Blue Mesa.
  - vii. Create a Rail District from Cheyenne: to create a passenger rail. Must go into a NEEPA study that is generally a 5-year study. They are looking at ways to trim that down to 3 years. Are they going to try and provide outreaches to communities and right now their focus is the Front Range.
  - viii. Shoshana Lew did mention that there have not been any significant complaints.
    - 1. The delay from US50 was because the work had not been finished on US92 to increase the safety on there before traffic was re-routed.
  - ix. Roland: Was there some talk about putting down some fiber or cables down as they are opening it up for the construction?
    - 1. Bob asked for a letter of support to support an initiative to install conduit into the 5 miles of the Little Blue Project. I have not heard any updates on that, but it does sound like they were trying to find the funding for that project.

**Motion to approve Reports: M/S: Kristi Borchers/Kris Holstrom as accepted.** None opposed.

## 6. Roundtable Discussion

- a. Michelle will be out of the office next week on vacation but is available on her cell if needed.
- b. **Gunnison County**
  - i. **Jim Gelwicks – City of Gunnison:** We are in the process of an upgrade to the transformers on our electrical. Received a \$150,000 Main Street Grant to work on an intersection that is in front of the library and school district. That will be done this summer. We have a meeting of council tomorrow for housing in what is known as the Lazy K district. It is needed housing inside the city. Received grants to work on the

- downtown Pocket Park that will have a built in small stage that will be an improvement and amenity to down town. Employment and getting people to take jobs is important.
- ii. **Jim Schmidt – Crested Butte:** We are having the same problem with employees here as well. We tried to hire 5 positions for Parks & Recreation and had no applications. In talking with some of the restaurant people they may only be open 5 days a week rather than 7 because they do not have the staffing. The guy who bought up property in Crested Butte is not planning on opening the restaurants within those buildings. So Crested Butte may be at a restaurant shortage this summer. Council voted to re-open the RV Dump Station in town.
  - iii. **Michael Bacani – Mt. Crested Butte:** For the first 3 months we collected record Sales Tax. Building is continuing the 22 homestead housing units. At the Town Council meeting we voted to outfit the units with solar so that the energy bill will be almost \$0, and residents would pay a small meter fee. Starting to see lots of traffic, bikes, campers and RVS coming through.
  - iv. **Roland Mason:** We are close to having 10,000 vaccinated which would move us to green on our local COVID meter and the only restriction that would remain would be masks on Transit and in Schools. Schools will be out soon and so we did not want to create any confusion and just end out the school year. Just about anyone who needs or wants a vaccine can get one. The Airport project started and ground has been broken on that. Close to creating our last affordable housing and close to 50% of those will be ready to be filled in July. Housing is in a crisis. A local rental company that had a house available to rent had 35 applications within 24 hours. Some folks that are renting are getting notices that they need to vacate because the home is being sold due to home prices. The Town of Marble is addressing the amount of traffic and OHVs that are passing through. Implementing designating campsites up in the Crested Butte Forest area with a limited number of sites up the Kebler, Irwin and Gothic drainages. People will no longer be able to pull off the road and camp. Drought issues are in place with some of the reservoirs at 50%.
- c. **Hinsdale County**
- i. **Dave Roberts – Lake City:** Silverton City council decided to Outlaw OHVs in town and we are seeing the fallout on that already with people looking for lodging. Town is going through the process with hiring a Town Manager. Pitched in our town meeting to set aside finances for Broadband. We have started putting in place water restrictions already. Looking at a very busy summer around the corner.
  - ii. **Kristi Borchers – Hinsdale County: Submitted 2 CDOT revitalizations; \$960,000 project to chip & seal our busiest road and install 6 traveler stops to replace some of the 1970s restrooms.** We are working on wayfinding signs and we submitted a wayfinding plan for those signs. Alpine Loop pre-season meeting that brings together the sheriff's office, road & bridge, and marketing directors to hear from each other no matter how they get onto the High Alpine Roads are receiving the same message. There is no snow and we expect more traffic throughout the summer. Our observation spot up on Slumgullion pass is beginning. We are having a mostly normal summer and on target to have San Juan Solstice, Fireworks are planned for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, and we are hosting a Festival for Wine & Music that is expected to be a regular event that brings in about 1000 people. And we are entering Red Flag Warning so we are trying to be vigilant as we enter fire season.
- d. **Montrose County**
- i. **Jon Waschbusch – Montrose County:** It is busy and like everyone else we are feeling the growth. We have had 54 single family permits and 16 mobile home permits. Our airport terminal expansion is out for bid and those are due back June 23/24. We did end up holding back on one of our capital projects for the Courthouse and at this time we are not awarding that bid because it was over budget and we only received one bid. I will note that that had a materials price that was only good for 10-20 days from the time of bid which we understand but made it difficult to move forward. We have seen a couple of different developments come through with a 42 site RV park that was approved. Large scale manufactured homes parks are being proposed and subdivision lots that are being absorbed.
  - ii. **Roger Rash – Montrose County:** Chipeta light, the City and County have come to an agreement and construction will happen no later than 2023 and that design is out for bid right now with them due June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Town of Nucla & Naturita are going to be hosting their Jeep tour on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Michelle & Eva as they have helped get me and Linda home to get us the services we need, hopefully sometime next week we will be home.
- e. **San Miguel**
- i. **DeLanie Young – Town of Telluride:** Can echo that our local business are struggling to get employees to support their services. One business pre-covid had 11 employees, 10 of those employees had to move away due to lack of housing. Recently purchased one of the last large lots to have 20-24 units with parking on site within the next two years. Black Hills energy is finishing up a pressure line improvement with improved safety measures. Sales tax for March was the best, the only number that was lagging in the

lodging district was hotels and so we are having discussions on how to get those numbers back up. We canceled 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities after having a discussion with the Chief of Fire Department. The Fire Department decided to cancel their Fireworks and Picnics and so to align with them we canceled the parade. We are hoping that restaurants get into the 5-star program thinking that it will be a crucial tool going into the summer in the case that we have to increase restrictions. Masks, we extended our mask ordinance last Tuesday and then on Thursday the CDC made their decision. We have a special meeting scheduled for tomorrow to revisit the mask ordinance tomorrow.

- ii. **Kris Holstrom – San Miguel County:** Public Health order will align entirely with the State to have no mask ordinance and it will just be public transit and schools. We are continuing 5-star through the end of June. We have started advertising for a Recovery Manager at the County. That person will be responsible for finding out all the resources that are available to us and businesses. We had a marketing meeting with the Norwood Chamber and they requested funding and so we awarded some I particular to the Dark Skies. We are in the number 2 position for most vaccinated county in the state.
- iii. **Mike Bordogna – San Miguel County:** With the 5-Star program we added a CO2 monitoring program that businesses can get more information on the COVID section of the website. If a business didn't want to go through the steps of the 5-Star program they can still check out monitors to see how their ventilation is. Rec Ranger program will have 5 full time Rec Rangers to educate and enforce visitors of the recreation rules of the area. Major capital construction projects, modification of our jail as well as new sheriff's annex our in Norwood are wrapping up and they are on time and on budget. Working with the Town of Telluride on the Sunnyside housing units that will be 30 net zero units. Testified on Senate Bill 2172 that Virgil mentioned. Hopefully, we Site Tour with the BLM that affects lands for the Gypsum Valley.

f. **Delta County**

- i. **Mary Hockenbery – Town of Hotchkiss:** We have permanent positions available for a Public Works employee. The Library in Hotchkiss has not been able to hire either. Drought restrictions are in place. Public Works building we are waiting for the Brownfields application to be approved. We have been meeting in person and hosting hybrid meetings Hotchkiss High is hosting the last walk through before the high schools combined. It will be the North Fork Valley High School going forward that will be combining the Paonia & Hotchkiss High Schools.
- ii. **Elyse Ackerman-Casselberry – City of Delta:** We are putting a strong emphasis on our Main Street. Submitted multiple applications to many of the grant funding that is available for main streets including a \$2 Million dollar application for our Hillside drive that connects Main Street and the residential areas. We are looking at a temporary demonstration of the Main Street configuration that we have been working on with CDOT and getting that down to one lane, putting in landscaped areas, and putting in left turning center lane. Working on an alley activation program so that we can encourage use of off Main Street parking. Housing Authority was awarded an income tax credit from CHFA which will be 50 Senior housing units. 72-unit multi-housing unit is under construction and anticipated the first units to be leased out starting in October. Lots of events, we just hosted an ultra-marathon at Smith Mountain, a weekly mountain bike series with some of the communities and we are re-birthing the Crazy Raft Race in June.
- iii. **Les Mergelman - Delta County:**

g. **Ouray:**

- i. **John Clark – Town of Ridgway:** We are hopeful Senate Bill 252 will help us with some Gap funding to close that out. Businesses are having a hard time finding employees and it is truly indicative of our housing issue. Planning on doing are concerts in the park starting in July. Things are opening and people seem to be grateful for that.
- ii. **Ben Tisdell – Ouray County:** We too are seeing problems with housing, employment, etc. Our Broadband Project is coming to an end, we are calling it the Golden Splice, and they have about 1/3 of a mile to go. To help in getting bogged down in different types of recreational users there is a program that we are trying to mimic from the State and we are submitting an application for that program today with a letter of support from the Town of Ridgway. Fire danger this summer will be something that we have to be aware of and it is at the top of the list. It is nice to be able to go out and have more in person meetings. The state epidemiology slides show that the Southwest Regions are doing well and now we need to weather the difficult summer ahead.

**Motion to Adjourn: M/S: Roland Mason/Ben Tisdell.** None opposed.

**Meeting adjourned at: 2:48 PM**