



**Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting  
October 27, 2022  
12:00 to 2:30 p.m.  
Region 10 Conference Room**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81809583483?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 818 0958 3483

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- 1) **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**
- 3) **APPROVAL Minutes August 2022**
- 4) **Discussion ITEMS:**
  - a. **Infrastructure Grants Navigator Position**
- 5) **REPORTS**
  - a. **Executive Director/Financial Report**– Michelle Haynes
  - b. **Small Business Resource Center**- Nancy Murphy
  - c. **Business Loan Fund**-Dan Scinto
    - **Charge Off of Bad Debt**
  - d. **Community Development**-Trish Thibodo
  - e. **Community Living Services** – Eva Veitch
  - f. **Regional Broadband**-Corey Bryndal
  - g. **Gunnison Valley Transportation Region Committee**- Vince Rogalski
- 6) **NEXT MEETINGS**
  - a. **Executive Committee:** January 26, 2023 Noon-3 p.m.
  - b. **Board of Directors Meeting:** Proposed December 1, 2022 Noon-3 p.m.
  - c. **BLF Committee:** Proposed December 1, 2022 10 a.m.
  - d. **AAA Regional Advisory Committee:** December 2, 10-1
  - e. **Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region:** TBD
- 7) **ADJOURNMENT**



1. **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**–Meeting was called to order at 12:04pm.
  - a. **Staff:** Michelle Haynes (R10 Director), Trish Thibodo (Community Development), Eva Veitch (Community Living Services), Nancy Murphy (Small Business Resource Center), Dan Scinto (Business Loan Fund), Corey Bryndal (Broadband Project Director), Courtney Rodwell (Program & Office Assistant)
  - b. **Board Members:** Kris Holstrom (Chair, San Miguel County), Roland Mason (Past Chair, Gunnison County), Mary Bachran (Town of Paonia), Ben Tisdell (Ouray County), Roger Rash (Montrose County), Dave Frank (City of Montrose), ested Butte), Kristie Borchers (Hinsdale County) Linda Riba (Montrose County) Vince Rogalski (GVTPR), John Clark (Town of Ridgway), Michael Bacani
  
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
  - a. Additions: Round Table

**Motion to approve agenda: M/S: Dave Frank/Roger Rash as accepted.** None opposed.
  
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for July 28, 2022, Board Meeting**
  - a. **Correction:** Add Roger Rash to the Attendance list.

**Motion to approve: M/S: Dave Frank/Roger Rash as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  
4. **Business Items:**
  - a. Olathe RISE Construction Contract
    - i. Subcontractor bids are back. Came in higher than expected. Stryker reduced their Contractor’s fee. We removed the Walk-in cooler, food truck setups and appliance allowance to get contract down to about 1.2 million in the new final budget. We have \$965,000 set aside and so that leaves us about \$235,000 under budget. We do believe that we will be able to make up those short comings. We do have about \$1.2 million in our operations and we are looking at \$165,000 budget and we are looking at how we can repurpose that from furniture and equipment to construction. We have talked with Montrose County and they are looking at committing about \$100,000 from their budget next year. We have talked to Olathe about waving the permit fees. We have also talked with DOLA about supplemental funding.
    - ii. Asbestos abatement is finished and construction expected to begin soon.

**Motion to approve signing of Construction Contract with the \$265,000 short fall.: M/S: Roger Rash/Roland Mason as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  - b. Employee Handbook Approval
    - i. Reviewed in detail at last month’s meeting. New additions include: Public Health & Leave, Telecommuting, Cybersecurity, Whistleblower Policy,

**Motion to approve Handbook.: M/S: Dave Frank/Linda Riba as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  - c. Audit Engagement Letter Approval
    - i. Scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup> to begin.
    - ii. Kris: is there a standard on how often you change your auditor. Michelle: They recommend 3-5 years. We did bid it about 6-8 years ago and every other bid that came in was twice as high. Although we did not change firms last year, we did have a new audit team. We should consider bidding again next year.

**Motion to approve audit: M/S: Roger Rash/Dave Frank as accepted with addition.** None opposed.
  
5. **Reports:**
  - a. **Executive Director/Financial Report** – Michelle Haynes
    - i. These are draft year end financials. Of note for the financials:
      1. Broadband assets we are looking at those increasing next year. We are working on a sustainability plan for broadband. Working on our prices and contracts.

2. SBA TA Grant we did not expend that to draw it down in full, so some was deobligated, and revenues/expenses are less than budgeted.
  3. RSVP Grant is relatively new, and we have faced some challenges with allowable expenses, so is less than budgeted.
- ii. Received first estimate for this building, we planned on \$600,000 and it came in at about \$700,000. We have not yet had the conversation with them about where some savings on that project would be. WE have borrowed about \$530,000. If this number stays where it is we may be short on that. We should have better numbers next month. We have not paid Stryker for soft costs, if we decide to not move forward we would have to pay those costs.
  - iii. Parking lot at our building is finished and the construction at the neighboring police building is almost finished.
  - iv. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup>. We are working on an invite list and we will have an online RSVP.
- b. **Small Business Resource Center** – Nancy Murphy
- i. SBDC has put together a small business legal aid program.
    1. Limited to small businesses, They can have one meeting a year and they can only talk about a topic once a year.
  - ii. Have the Gunnison Grand Opening on Tuesday Sept 13<sup>th</sup> at our Gunnison Office.
- c. **Business Loan Fund** – Dan Scinto
- i. **Action Item:** Charge Off Bad Debt for High Desert Mechanical, our policy states that we have to charge it off, we do not have to send it to collection right away.  
**Motion to approve Loan Charge off Loan #1508 in \$18,342.27: M/S: Ben Tisdell/Jim Gelwicks as accepted.**  
 None opposed
  - ii. **Action Item:** USDA IRP Discussion
    1. Intermediary Lending Program: utilize for advancing funds in the GAP funding. Real estate acquisition of funds. There are several other BLFs in the region that have utilized this program. It will expand the types of loans that we can offer to small business start ups.
    2. Quarterly application process, would look at applying for funding in January for the \$400,000.
    3. Program funding can grow to up to \$1 million.**Motion to approve application for IRP: M/S: Ben Tisdell/Roger Rash as accepted.** None opposed
  - iii. Activities & Inquiries: 11 loans are currently in the pipeline to process for \$1.5 million. These are a variety of business in a few areas
    1. Excavating business, car wash, brewery (Montrose), sign company, two hotels, a beauty shop, coffee roaster (Hotchkiss), dog wash business.
  - iv. CDBG: an additional \$430,000 was approved and that helped to close a loan for Smith Fly Designs for \$160,000 which will help ring 12 jobs.
  - v. Additional funding source available to us for startup business: we do have access to about \$430,000 and some of that is grant money for purchasing tools for education. Subgrantee through Region 9
- d. **Community Development** – Trish Thibodo
- i. Roadmap to Recovery: We are inviting public land managers to our next meeting. Inventory of land use and infrastructure needed. We are applying for an OREC grant for that.
  - ii. New state of Colorado Tax Credit through DOLA for rural areas for 35% tax credit for people who contribute to homeless and housing projects.
  - iii. Regional housing data project: working to develop some living data. They will be presenting at the October board meeting.
  - iv. Visitor Information from Data Contractor: Main street data, tourist data, county and subcounty data. They will be presenting at our Nov/Dec board meeting.
- e. **Community Living Services** – Eva Veitch
- i. Approval for Sole Source for Consumer Directed Care Contract. We have looked at several options to assist with this program—this is the only feasible option we have at this time.  
**Motion to approve Sole Source to apply for EZCP: M/S: Dave Frank/Ben Tisdell as accepted.** None opposed
  - ii. Soft Launch for the consumer directed care program will be Sept 1 beginning in our most rural areas.

- iii. Survey cards have gone out for the statewide aging survey (on green cards). Some of the links did not work, we have let them know that there are also. A third party survey company sent them out and we have received hundreds of them back.
- iv. Have started community conversations, Gunnison was fruitful, have been to Paonia. Need a contact in Marble & Somerset. Did a zoom with some of our board members and it wasn't bad doing it that way so we could try a zoom for Ridgway. I can also try again to do one in person
- v. One conversation in Lake City got us a Lake City RAC member.
- vi. State Unit on Aging onsite audit happened last week and it went really well.

f. **Broadband – Corey Brynda**

- i. Have had some difficulty accessing the fiber through CDOT on I-70-- DOLA grants were based on being able to access CDOT fiber and as we have gotten farther along in the process it has become more challenging. There are a couple of agreements between CDOT and the private companies is that CDOT can lease to government entities and because we are a nonprofit we are running into some issues. The agreements also say that they cannot be used for commercial use. We are trying to make the case that we are really accessing the fiber for community development more so than for Commercial development.
- ii. 4 new 100 gig circuits going into Telluride. It gives us some flexibility to lease to a phone company in Telluride
- iii. New IRUs in Ouray County. They are fiber assignments from a fiber company that we have purchased leases on.
- iv. Met with Gunnison County and got direction to work on the long-term solutions for redundancy.
- v. Worked to identify local matching funds to get smaller communities connected through DOLA that are along the routes. We currently have funding to get fiber from Denver to Junction, Junction to Montrose, Gunnison, and then Durango
- vi. Submitted a letter of intent to the Colorado Broadband Office for 4 separate middle mile projects partnered with local ISPs for last mile access to about 4000 addresses for each project.

g. **Gunnison Valley Transportation Region Committee – Vince Rogalski**

- i. Wildlife crossings being activated along the highway.
- ii. Next STAC meeting we will be discussing elections and Vince is up for another term.

6. **Round Table;**

- a. **Kris Holstrom:** Sunnyside project is not quite done but people are moving into the Tiny House portion. Norwood is in its lottery phase. Tourism Data: Kira Skinner has been hired. Compost and food waste reduction grant through the state is something we are working on. We had Senator Hickenlooper visit the Uncompahgre Clinic and talked about the challenges associated with that: housing, retention and costs. All Points
- b. **Dave Frank:** September 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a ribbon cutting for the new police facility.
- c. **Roger Rash:** Construction everywhere--the admin building is being remodeled currently, with asbestos abatement finishing up. This will be the new admin building for the clerk. Construction will go out to bid on the old courthouse. Substation in the West End for the sheriff by Hopkins field is in motion. Chipeta and Hwy 550 stop light is a go with a 60/40 split between the County and City on cost, and we are working on the engineering. We have entered budget season and we are reevaluating salaries to help retain our people. Airport is coming together and if you want a tour Roger can get that set up. Looking at completion in Mid-Summer. Like others we are experiencing supply delays, specifically on electronic components.
- d. **Jim Gelwicks:** Gunnison is 90% complete on the Rebuilding Streets of palisade on the northwest corner of the City. Energy efficiency report on all city buildings. We are working with the county and CDOT on an access plan that will complete access areas on Hwy 50 and 135 and combine multi-modal and safety components. We have had several accidents and one fatality. We had interest in our housing at Lazy K along Comichi and Hwy 550 for a total of 55 units, we have sold 7 units and we have the next lottery on 11 units in November. Our City Manager is moving to the County Manager and will be leaving later this fall.
- e. **Roland Mason:** We have had 4 interviews for a new ED for the Gunnison Housing Authority and should be making a decision shortly. Airport is about 90% complete, we anticipated it to be finished beginning of July and we have been experiencing supply chain issues and it should be complete by the end of the year. We did have a record season over the summer over the last 30 years. County has hired a chief financial officer. Sales tax was up about 20% across the county in June and it will be interesting to see what the numbers are for July & August. We have had a lot of rains throughout the summer season and has kept the fire danger low. Blue Mesa reached about 43% full and they have decided to not drain it this year like they did last year. It will go down to about 20% this winter.
- f. **John Clark:** Space to Create project is looking at a move-in date of October 1<sup>st</sup> and we won't be having the grand opening until spring. Successful Summer Concert Series and the numbers have been down. It is down compared to

COVID years but not in comparison to 2019. Enacted a moratorium on some new development while a bunch of projects are in the pipeline that need to be completed.

- g. **Kristie Borchers:** We are working with Gunnison Housing authority on some combined housing situations. We are utilizing some of our contribution project status as an incentive. Soft opening of the HUB, tomorrow, that is a coworking space/business center that businesses or digital nomads can utilize.
- h. **Michael Bacani:** Gearing up for winter. Purchased free market housing to house government workers and to house essential workers in town. The couple units that we purchased were a couple million. There is no approval on our housing project due to a building issue and that is 22 units for the homestead development for affordable housing.
- i. **Ben Tisdell:** CDOT Region 5 completed their 28 miles of resurfacing so you can now drive from Ouray into Montrose without major delays. 2 mile of shoulder work around the Cemetery. Paradox Community Trust, rural homes project, in with 14 units complete in Ridgway by December with a similar project in process in Ouray for 20 units with the hope of up to 70 with an updated septic/sewer system. Funding for Community Wildfire Protection plans are coming through the pipeline as the have not been updated in about 10 years. West Region Wildfire Council is helping with those.

7. **Next Meeting:**

- a. Executive Committee Meeting September 29<sup>th</sup>, 12pm-3pm – Hybrid Option

8. **Meeting adjourned 2:22pm**

- a. **Motion to adjourn: Ben Tisdell/Roger Rash.** None opposed.



## Executive Director Update October 2022

### Discussion Items:

- Infrastructure Project Navigator-continuing to work with the state on the contract for the position. Would like to have a discussion regarding how members would see the position working in the communities.
- In reviewing the FY 2023 budget, will recommend pay increases of 5% (previously budgeted at 3.5%) to maintain market competitiveness.

### Informational Items:

- Financial audit by Chadwick, Steinkerchner and Davis was on-site week of Oct 16. The audit went well, and we are not anticipating any audit adjustments or findings.
- As we are just closing FY 2022, current financial statements are not included.
- Met with new Telluride Foundation Jason Corzine to discuss current and potential regional projects.
- Attended DOLA Small Communities Workshop and presented with the IJJA Infrastructure Position panel regarding Region 10's approach to the position.
- Moving forward on the Olathe remodel project; construction has begun. Requesting USDA to revise budget to move funds from operations to cover the construction balance.
- Contractor is receiving bids from sub-contractors for final estimate for addition/remodel at 145 S Cascade building. Current estimates are close to budget, but with no contingency budgeted.
- Meeting with IT Contractor ProVelocity to continue to improve IT security and staff support.
- Thank you to those who attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. We will update the website with some of the information presented and pictures of the event.
- Setting up meeting with WAPA (was Sept 20—moved to Jan 13) to discuss fiber access for Gunnison County. Working with BB Director on project financial sustainability. Continuing to work with CDOT on access fiber on the I-70 corridor.

# SBRC Board Report

September 29, 2022

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## What's New

- Region 10 hosted the national SBDC accreditation team on Wed, Sept 21. Follow up comments will be provided to the State SBDC Lead Center next week, with a final report available in February 2023. The network will have one year to correct any findings.
- We have applied for the Town of Telluride's CCAASE grant again this year.

## Of Interest

- Olathe Program Manager Ann Bradford is onboard. She has met with several businesses and stakeholders and is attending the Olathe steering committee meetings.
- National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept 15- Oct 15) gave us the opportunity to do further our Spanish language outreach:
  - ✓ Callie presented at the Gunnison Inmigrantes Unidos meeting on Sept 1. This is a group of Spanish-speaking immigrants in Gunnison who meet monthly to share information and resources.
  - ✓ Bilingual SBDC consultant Susan Welk Valdez attended the Festival Agricola put on by the Western CO Rural & Migrant Coalition on Sept 10.
  - ✓ Callie also represented Region 10 | West Central SBDC at the Hispanic Heritage Celebration in Gunnison on Sept 17.
- Held the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter SBRC Advisory meeting was Thurs, Oct 6.

## What's Coming Up

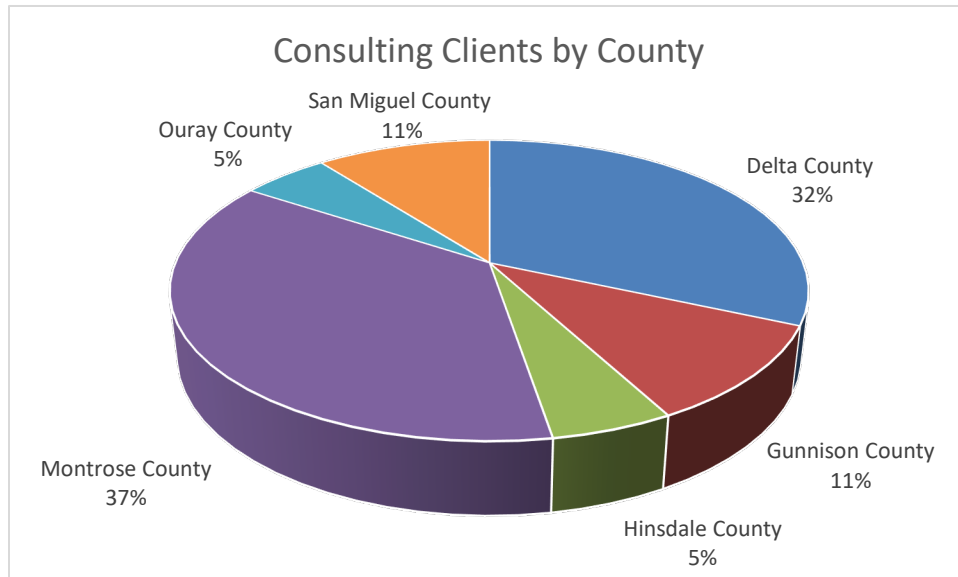
- Financial Leading Edge: Fine-tuning your business financials to meet today's economic challenges, 3-part series starts Thurs, Oct 13 and runs for three Thursday evenings—Oct 13, 20, and 27, 6-8 p.m.
- Workshops and Trainings
  - ✓ Finance Friday: The relationship between personal and business finance Fri, Sept 30 2:30-3:30 p.m.
  - ✓ SmartStart: How to start a business, Thurs, Oct 6, noon- 2 p.m., \$35
  - ✓ Finance Friday: Tax Deductions, Fri, Oct 28, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

## What's Ongoing

- Ongoing: New employee onboarding (Callie and Ann)
- Ongoing: Online and on-demand program/training development
- Ongoing SBDC meetings—bi-weekly network meetings, monthly committee meeting (operations)
- Ongoing SBDC network collaboration and program development meetings- every two weeks
- Ongoing SBDC consultant recruitment and training
- Ongoing Region 10 initiative meetings— RISE grant advisory
- Ongoing Region 10 marketing meetings- PR, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Gunnison Open House
- Ongoing website updates
- Client consulting meetings

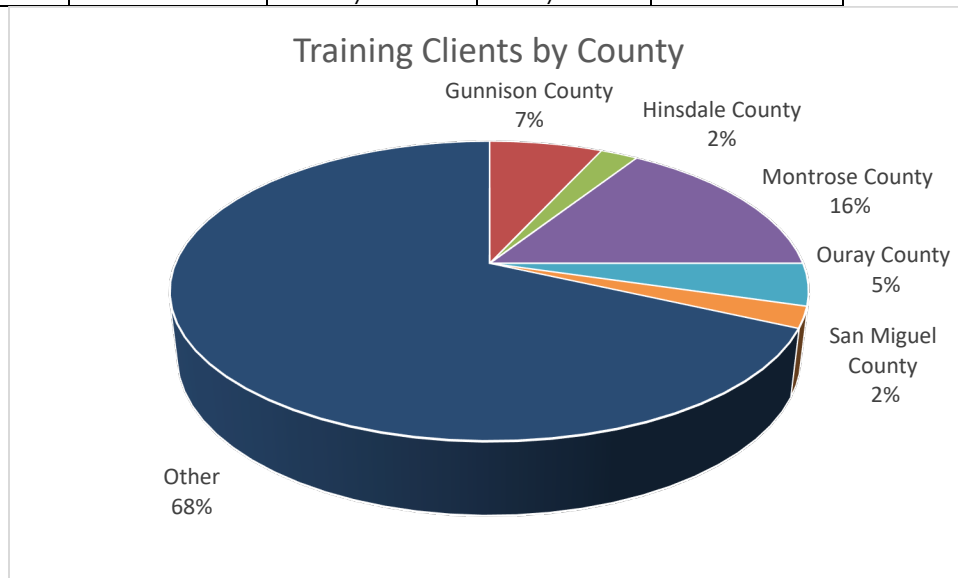
## August Consulting

2022	Clients	Sessions	Hours	Satisfaction
August	19	25	32	4.8



## July Trainings

2022	Attendees	Workshops	Hours	Satisfaction
August	44	7/9*	13/11*	5



\*on-demand





## **Business Loan Fund**

**October 2022**

### **Action Items/Activities/Inquiries**

#### **Action Items**

1. Recommend Charge-off of Loan Number 1710 2 Rico, LLC in the amount of \$18,500.02. The borrower is over 120 days past due.

#### **Activities/Inquiries**

##### **Loan Closings**

- Closed three Loans totaling \$153,000. One in **Delta County** for \$83,000 for Waw Beauty Salon. Two in **Montrose County** for \$70,000. One for Alpen Confections and One for Globeville Commercial dba Briarwood Inn. We have two more loans approved and scheduled to close in the Month of September.

##### **Loan Inquiries**

- In our Active Pipeline we have 3 applications in process. Two in **of Montrose County, and** one in **Gunnison County**.

##### **Notables**

Instillation of new loan production and servicing software in moving forward.

Onsite training for Margill Completed. There is still data clean-up ongoing.

State Start-up Loan Fund went live September 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Rathbone Project (Montrose hotel) is moving forward with Alpine Bank as a lending partner.

## **Loan Production Report**

Below is a summary of all loans closed from July1, 2021 to current (FY 2023)

July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 (FY23)									
Loan Number	Amount	Date Closed	County	Jobs	Created	Jobs Retained	Funds	Source	Funds Leveraged
3610	\$ 50,000.00	7/18/22	Gunnison	0		1		SBA VI	\$ -
1432	\$ 160,000.00	7/29/22	Montrose	8		8		CDBG	\$ 616,000
1089	\$ 160,000.00	7/29/22	Delta	6		4		RLF	\$ 320,000
3612	\$ 30,000.00	9/8/22	Montrose	1		0		SBA VI	\$ -
1090	\$ 35,000.00	9/8/22	Montrose	4		0		RLF	\$ -
3611	\$ 50,000.00	9/9/22	Montrose	3		2		SBA VI	\$ 132,050
3613	\$ 50,000.00	9/9/22	Delta	5		2		SBA VI	\$ 50,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$535,000.00</b>			<b>27</b>		<b>17</b>			<b>\$ 1,118,050.00</b>

## Community Development/EZ Sept 2022

**Action Items: None**

### **Noteworthy:**

- **Planning a Regional Training on Brownfields** in partnership with Community Builders and The Brownfield Partnership. Expecting the one-day training to take place in mid-February.
- **Central San Juans High Alpine Roadmap to Recovery (Oct 2021 – Jun 2023) Hinsdale, San Miguel, Ouray, San Juan and Dolores Counties** – Three subcommittees are developing action items related to public lands on:
  - **Infrastructure assessment on public lands:** In partnership with the Alpine Team, Mountain Studies Institute and San Juan Mountain Association submitted a [Colorado Outdoor Recreation grant](#) application to conduct an assessment to focus on inventory of land use and existing infrastructure to identify needs, areas to encourage or discourage usage, etc.
  - **Hazard Mitigation** initial focus is on coordination of Emergency Managers for the High Alpine Roadmap region. They will expand the existing Southwest Emergency Managers group to include Hinsdale and Ouray Counties, and then bring in [DHSEM Regional Field Managers](#).
  - **Communication/Messaging to Visitors/Users:** will convene a work group Thursday, Oct 27, made up of Destination Marketing Organizations, Chambers, County POI, Key non-profits and possibly State and Federal organization to work on creating visitor and user messaging. The workgroup initial tasks will be to help build content & identify the messages for the new (in process) website: [alpineloop.info](#).
  - **Enterprise Zone:** Projects are submitting their annual reports, which are reviewed by Region 10 in order to continue their projects.

### **Informational/Ongoing:**

- Regional Housing Data Meta-Analysis (February – Dec 2022): Consultants continue to conduct analysis and final report and recommendations should be available December 2022. Scope of Work was expanded to include economic impact modeling related to housing development.
- Regional Data Project (February 2021 – December 2022): Ongoing
- [Regional Outdoor Recreation Product Summit](#) – Taking place in Nov 2022 (**Montrose**) -Working with Colorado Outdoors to sponsor an Outdoor Recreation (ORec) Product Summit with the target audience being ORec Product Manufacturing Industry Cluster.
- Region 10 RISE Innovation Center: Construction begins Oct. 10, 2022.
- **Delta County** Positive Employee Training launched first two cohorts (classes of 25 participants each) this month.
- **Telluride Foundation** – met with staff of TF to discuss partnership opportunities.
- **West End** Economic Development Corporation (Nucla, Naturita, Norwood)
  - Attending Board Strategy Session on Oct. 28 to discuss the transition with Deanna Sheriff leaving her position as Executive Director.
  - We are administering/managing a Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) grant for the West End to support transition work which began March 2022 – June 2023
  - Participating as an Ex-officio on their board of directors.

- **Delta County**- Continue to participate as an ex-officio member of the One Delta County Board. Attended the Delta County Municipal Meeting held in **Hotchkiss**.
- **RISE Steering Committee** – continues to meet on a monthly basis.
- **Attended and presented at** the Annual Economic Development Council of Colorado Conference. Presented on the new IJA position COGS are getting.
- **Presented on panel at the Colorado APA Conference** discussing the Brownfield Partnership and specifically the work done in **Hotchkiss**

**Other:**

- **Economic Development Council of Colorado:** Board of Directors, Executive Committee, Events Planning Committee and Public Policy Committee.
  - Attended EDCC Public Policy Retreat
- **Western Workforce Development Board**
- **Regional Workforce Planning** – moved to quarterly with Montrose County School District, Technical College of the Rockies, Colorado SW Workforce and Colorado Mesa University – Montrose Campus.
- **Co-Action Project West Central Steering Committee** – participating in the career pathways two-year grant project which includes **Delta and Montrose** County School Districts, **Ridgway and Gunnison**. Project will develop career pathways for Health Care, Construction and Outdoor Education (tourism and environmental science).
- Working with Michelle on doing our Economic Development District Peer Review with SW Missouri COG



## CLS Board Report October 2022

Action Item: None

Noteworthy:

- Community conversations have been held in held in Delta, Crawford & Montrose. Still no luck scheduling Marble or Somerset.
- We did have 3 findings from the State evaluation all were nutrition requirements around fiber and sodium. Plan of correction has been sent.
- The state has released a new data system for the AAA, it has been very challenging with many bugs to work out.
- The consumer directed program with GT Independence has begun, thus far we have just a few caregivers in the first phase of clearance. The program focus will be the very rural areas where the agencies are unable to serve.
- We have suspended service with one provider for billing inaccuracy investigation.
- Received the \$1.4 million grant for SB-290 (thank you Trish) for the continuation of community paramedicine in Delta County and to purchase 15 homes for the supportive housing project for older adults in partnership with CASA!

Informational/Ongoing

- The Telluride Foundation Grant application for the Ouray, San Miguel and West End Adult Services Partnership has been submitted.
- New RSVP coordinator in Ouray has begun working! We are recruiting for a new coordinator in Gunnison and Hinsdale.

**Next RAC meeting Dec 2, 2022 10-1 R10**



October, 2022  
Corey Bryndal  
Regional Broadband Project Director  
Broadband Report to the Board

- Region 10 Hosted meeting with CBO Executive Director on September 28. Topics discussed centered on prioritizing construction of new middle mile fiber infrastructure, improving E-911 reliability and partnerships with last-mile Internet Service Providers. We also reviewed the use of Carrier Neutral Locations (CNL's), and progress on Region 10's expansion efforts to connect to Denver, Salt Lake City and Albuquerque.
- **DOLA EIAF Broadband** middle mile expansion plan is being reviewed. This allows for direct fiber connection into metro Denver and expansion south into Durango and Cortez. Region 10 is negotiating fiber agreements along Interstate 70 and south towards Durango and Cortez. Working with optical and routing vendors to finalize bill of materials and place orders for equipment. Significant challenges in accessing CDOT fiber are being discussed with CDOT and state partners. Alternative options with a private provider are priced higher than original expectations.
- Lake City IRU agreement and a Draft CNL + 1Gig circuit lease agreements have been completed. GCEA pole make ready work has been determined to be minimal. CNL improvements are slated to begin soon, and be operational by end of 2022. Fiber construction to start spring of 2023.
- Visionary Broadband announced completion of 19 miles of new fiber construction in and around Gunnison. Additional investments in the NW and SW portions of Gunnison County will be supported by current RDOF awards. This is a significant investment in upgrading services.
- Dark fiber into **Telluride** is ready for activation. Splicing between three cable owners is complete and test results have been received. We are seeing strong interest from ISP's in this route. Staff attempted to activate the line using existing and spare equipment as an interim solution while permanent optical switching systems could be ordered. Ultimately, we did not have enough equipment for the short term solution and have placed purchase orders to get permanent equipment ordered. Orders for permanent equipment were placed on 10/6/22 and some equipment has already arrived. Vendor indicates optical equipment may take up to 12 weeks from order date to arrive.
- **City of Ouray and Ouray County** has several new IRU's and construction is complete for the Ouray County portion near the Land Use building. Region 10 met with Deeply Digital to finalize the agreements for Operations and Maintenance. Additionally, a fiber lease was presented to Clearnetwork for use of two fiber strands to connect from Montrose to Ridgway and Ridgway to Ouray. Clearnetwork was awarded a State grant for further fiber expansion in Ouray County. As a result, Region 10



anticipates further fiber sales to Clearnetworkx. Region 10 has received additional inquiries for fiber leases and is working to move these opportunities forward.

- Continuing to evaluate options for **Gunnison to Crested Butte** and **Mount Crested Butte** connection. Feedback pointed towards focus on long-term, permanent fix, with possible interim solution between Gunnison and Crested Butte. Once FCC mapping fabric is finalized the region could seek BEAD funding for a mix of last mile, and middle mile construction.
- Region 10 has begun an audit of CNL facilities. The goal is to identify and address any gaps. We intend to normalize access control by expanding our use of a networked keycard system. Backup power systems use batteries that require periodic replacement and capacity upgrades. Generator and air conditioner systems require periodic inspections & occasional maintenance. Additional CNL services such as temperature monitoring are being considered. Data switching equipment is due for software upgrades and we are working with our vendor to evaluate the best options.
- Have activated Visionary Communications 5 Gigabit transport circuit between **Gunnison** and **Denver** using the new **Cottonwood Pass** path. We continue to receive requests for upgraded service to Gunnison County, which is challenging with the current service assets and lack of dark fiber.
- Within **Garfield County** and **Mesa County** eleven communities have used local matching funds along with DOLA provided funds to develop lateral fiber and CNL facilities. The goal is to attach to the planned Region 10 fiber along Interstate 70. This route would also extend the Region 10 network to Denver were commercial sources of service, content providers and the Front Range GigaPOP are. We have encountered challenges in obtaining access to dark fiber along Interstate 70 with both CDOT and Zayo and are working through options for interim and permanent solutions. CDOT has provided an Intergovernmental Agreement Template. We are petitioning CDOT to provide a Scope of Work and Fee Schedule allowing the purchase to be finalized. Several ISP's have approached us to pre-lease CNL space in multiple communities along the route. The City of Grand Junction has identified existing fiber assets which could help our overall effort significantly.
- Planning Western Slope meeting with **Front Range GigaPOP** and working with staff to submitting a Letter of Intent for equipment and labor needed to deliver FRGP services to the Western Slope communities. This LOI may result in future grant proposals to Federal funding agencies. We are working with the 4 western Colorado universities to identify priority services that would help each.
- Staff is working on plans expand visibility to the network and to identify and address service issues within the existing Region 10 network. A mix of new software, and partner services are being considered. The result should be improved uptime, timely software updates and better response to service impacting and ongoing maintenance needs. New routes are being added to Region 10's GIS system.



- Continuing to work with our neighbors to the south in **Region 9** and is working on projects in the region to develop redundant fiber routes with more capacity and connect to primary Internet sources for the Western Slope in general. Region 9 member Archuleta County has endured challenges accessing CDOT built fiber infrastructure between Pagosa Springs and South Fork which appear to be constrained by agreements with an out of state firm. Region 10 contributed route and equipment information to a NTIA Middle-Mile grant request submitted by Region 10 which will contribute to the fiber ring concept.
- Region 10 identified a significant fiber gap between Durango and Pagosa Springs. If this route is addressed it would provide an opportunity for improved reliability for the entire western slope of Colorado – especially Region 10’s six counties. Five partners came together to develop \$2 million in matching funds for the project. DOLA awarded La Plata County \$2 million in middle-mile funds for purchase of a one-time assignable IRU. The \$4.1 million project includes La Plata County, Archuleta County, La Plata Electric Association, Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Region 10. As a result, Region 10 will receive six strands of fiber that will contribute to improved reliability of our overall infrastructure. Partners in the Durango will lead the project.
- DOLA responsibilities -in the “Technical Assistant” role, Region 10 staff continues to present broadband educational materials, review potential project applications, attend regional meetings and provide technical assistance for broadband development throughout our DOLA identified territory. Engagements include Pike’s Peak Area Council of Governments, San Luis Valley Broadband Coordination Office, Region 9/SWCOG, AGNC and others.
- Region 10 has established new working relationships with network operators in Utah including Strata Networks and Emery Telecom. We have identified three potential fiber routes between Colorado and Utah which could provide connections to Salt Lake City to improve Internet reliability in western Colorado. Additionally, Emery Telecom was able to assist the City of Fruita in connecting to the Region 10 network at our Grand Junction POP.





# TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

**DATE: October 2022**

**Vince Rogalski, Chairman**

**Gunnison Valley TPR**

**[vrogal@montrose.net](mailto:vrogal@montrose.net)**

## **CDOT Update on Current Events – Steve Harelson, CDOT Chief Engineer**

CDOT was awarded a federal grant for the Floyd Hill project of \$100 M, amounting to 12% of the annual construction budget. CDOT has implemented the use of PMWeb, a project management software that will allow for more streamlined and accurate project status updates and dashboards.

## **Legislative Report - Herman Stockinger, Andy Karsian, and Jamie Grim, CDOT Office of Policy and Government Relations (OPGR).**

The Transportation Legislative Review Committee (TLRC) finalized several transportation-related bills, none that directly impact CDOT.

- STAC Discussion ○ Various MPOs and TPRs expressed interest or concern regarding the Bill proposing adding Transit agencies as members to the TPRs/MPOs. Conversations to potentially allow TPRs/MPOs to dictate how to use that member vote. As soon as draft language/legislation is created, it will be sent out to STAC.

## **STAC Officer Elections**

Nominations for Vice Chair included Heather Sloop and Kristen Stephens; ○ Nominations for Chair included Vince Rogalski and Keith Baker;

○ Polling Results:

- Vice Chair: Heather Sloop (8-6)
- Chair: Vince Rogalski (8-6)

## Office of Innovative Mobility Grant Program – Kay Kelly, Chief, Office of Innovative Mobility

The Office of Innovative Mobility (OIM) informed STAC of its launching of the CDOT OIM Grants Platform to provide grants to private, public, non-profit and local agencies to fund innovative mobility and electrification solutions in the state of Colorado.

○ A notice of funding for all discussed grants will go out on October 24. A webinar will be hosted November 9. Grant applications will be due December 9 with a notice of awards expected by mid-January 2023.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions / Planning rule and PD – Theresa Takushi

Theresa Takushi: Greenhouse gas planning rule will increase travel options, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions

- Transportation largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in Colorado
- Senate Bill 21-260 made roadmap recommendation
- Focuses on transportation planning, greenhouse gas emissions, gov't agencies, and specifically passenger cars, not trucks or planes
- Each plan must be modeled using travel demand models
- GHG mitigation measures can't yet be modeled or are too small to be captured, Policy Directive 1610
- Transit can be depicted in transit model itself, added on the travel model, or as GTG mitigation measure
- Wants this to be as good and Colorado-centric as possible

## Review meeting dates - Will Jones

- Proposed new TRAC dates for the first Thursday of every other month instead of current second Friday as indicated on the attachment 1:30-3:00. This will also match the day of the month STAC is currently holding their meeting. All in attendance in agreement. Will cancel current calendar invitations and send out new calendar invites for the scheduling.

**Transportation TPR Meeting**  
**NEXT MEETING NOTICE TPR meeting TBD**  
**VIRTUAL**  
**From 9:30am to NOON**