



1. **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**–Meeting was called to order at 12:34 pm.
 - a. **Staff:** Michelle Haynes (R10 Director), Nancy Murphy (Small Business Development), Corey Bryndal (Broadband Director), Eva Veitch (AAA Director), Courtney Tribble, Aris Freeborn, Patty Gabriel
 - b. **In-Person Board Members:** John Clark (Town of Ridgway, Chair), Dave Frank (City of Montrose, Vice Chair), Jim Gelwicks (City of Gunnison), Mike Lane (Delta County) Roger Rash (Montrose County), Michelle Nauer (Ouray County), Jim Gelwicks
 - c. **Remote Board Members:** Jonathan Houck (Gunnison County), Michael Bacani (Mt Crested Butte), Dave Roberts (Town of Lake City), Kris Holstrom (San Miguel County), Greg Levine (Hinsdale County), Mary Bachran (Town of Paonia)

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**
 - a. **Motion to approve amended agenda: M/S Dave Frank/Michelle Nauer: as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for February 2024, Board Meeting**
 - a. Correction of Auditors last name from Flair to Blair and add the second for the approval of minutes
Motion to approve amended minutes: M/S: Dave Frank/Michelle Nauer as accepted with addition. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - a. Discussion/Recap Project 7 Tour (Tour was held prior to the meeting from 10-11:30am)

5. **Reports:**
 - a. **ED/Financial Reports | Michelle Haynes**
 - i. Financial Report
 1. January statement may look like we have a low cash amount. We are collecting our membership dues and a lot of our grants are quarterly billed and so we have utilized funds for some grants until reimbursed.
 2. Salaries are down but that is offset by use of contract services.
 3. Revenues are higher than budgeted and that is typically because we do not include capital grants in the operational budget.
 - ii. Executive Director Report
 1. We have been working on updating our Professional Liability and additional Directors and Officers liability. The cost is about \$40,000 for the professional liability coverage.
 - a. We received notice from Nationwide that they would not cover our property and liability insurance. Working with the new agent, the costs came in about \$16,000, which was a reduction from the previous general liability policy.
 - b. We will have an increase in insurance costs of about \$50,000-\$60,000 total per year. We will work with the agent to reduce costs if possible once all policies are in place.
 2. Broadband budget we are working to bring cash flow to a break-even point.
 - a. We have a position budgeted for broadband that we have not been able to fill, so are utilizing contracts as available for support.
 - b. We are meeting with some of our partner organizations to see what the structure of the larger broadband network should be going forward.
 3. Area Agency on Aging is facing a budget cut of about \$700,000 this year.
 - a. Working on balancing services and costs—numbers of population served vs. amount of service provided to fewer.

- b. Will bring the AAA budget in May and maybe a proposed increase in AAA dues to present at the April Board meeting.
 - iii. Hired a project assistant for the Olathe Business Cultivator, Rachel Duke, she began earlier this month.
- b. **Small Business Resource Center | Nancy Murphy**
 - i. Last month we worked with the Rocky Mountain Micro Finance Institute to host their business Idea Lab. We had 17 participants for businesses ideas; all were Spanish speaking. 15 finished the program, 10 presented ideas, and 5 are possible kitchen clients for the Cultivator.
 - ii. SBDC/Business Cultivator
 - 1. Revisiting model, with increased focus on Olathe and a grassroots approach to bring in people from the community to make it a community center for businesses.
 - 2. Demystifying Entrepreneurship is back and we are working with Kara Riddle at the Delta Library Innovation Workspace to host this year's event.
 - iii. Gunnison Office
 - 1. Back in 2016 the SBDC was in Gunnison and moved to Montrose with Region 10 and some of the business support numbers decrease there when it moved. Our business support numbers are now back up to those back in 2016 after opening the Region 10 Gunnison satellite office.
 - iv. Business Loan Fund
 - 1. 3 loans to be closed in April
 - 2. We are receiving requests from all 6 counties
 - 3. The reimbursement from DOLA has been submitted to and received for the Rathbone Hotel in Montrose on their loan.
- c. **Community Living Services | Eva Veitch**
 - i. Headed to Crested Butte today to facilitate a forum on a grassroots Senior Center there.
 - ii. Eva will be postponing her retirement (supposed to be June) to try and see Region 10 through some of the budget cuts and service adjustments.
 - iii. Staff members, Kerry Franks and Joe Walker, will be in Lake City to ramp up the Retired Senior Volunteer Program(RSVP) there.
 - iv. Meeting with two coordinators who will share the RSVP Volunteer Coordinator for Gunnison and Hinsdale Counties.
 - v. We have an opening for the Montrose RSVP Volunteer Coordinator
 - vi. Long Bill was finalized without an increase to the funding for senior services and so now we are looking at an amendment to long bill to see if we can still get the \$5 million in funding for AAA
 - 1. Included a list of the House Representatives if you could send an email to them in support. DRCOG (Denver Regional Council of Governments) has put together some suggested language for you to utilize for contacting state legislators.
 - vii. We are looking at creative ways to support the older population in our area as we are looking at reducing services by at least 30% without any increase in funding levels.
- d. **Broadband | Corey Bryndal**
 - i. Received Indefeasible Rights of Use (IRU) for Hinsdale County and Lake City. Met with the commissioners there and we have 2 final sites that will be built this summer—all other anchors are connected.
 - ii. Opportunity to swap fiber into San Miguel County in the Telluride area and with Lumen. This would help us build a link from Ridgway to Telluride to complete a loop for the area connecting with the Ouray fiber lines.
 - iii. Expansion project (the \$4 million project expansion) we are working on agreements with fiber providers, cities, towns, and hardware providers. All optical and routing equipment has arrived. Part of it is in CA being stage and part of it is in the Montrose Office. We contracted with a resource last week to begin staging the routers in Grand Junction.
 - iv. Challenges with the scale of operation in the Town of Pitkin have delayed a potential project. Working with the current providers on a potential solution for the community.

- v. We are reviewing possible upgrades to our existing network to upgrade and stabilize the aging equipment.
 - vi. Policy Items
 - 1. CDOT ROW SB 091 that originated with CCI for recurring fees along the 1-70 corridor
 - a. John Clark: Encourage everyone to make calls to the legislature in opposition of the recurring fees.
 - vii. Corey will be presenting at Mountain Connect with the equipment vendor.
- e. **GVTPR - Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region Committee | Michelle Haynes for Vince Rogalski**
- i. GVTPR report includes update on CDOT's effort to house their employees in our primarily rural areas to best maintain services in more rural areas where housing is a challenge.
 - ii. Upcoming meeting on May 9th; meetings will begin discussing planning for the 2050 plan.
 - iii. Will revisit the MMOF (Multimodal Mitigation Options Fund) and how to allocate some of the upcoming funding once notices of funding amounts are received.

Motion to approve Reports; M/S: Dave Frank/Michelle Nauer. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Roundtable**

- 7. The meeting was adjourned at 1:47p.m.

APPROVED 4-25-2024