



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
 - b. **In-Person Board Members:** John Clark (Town of Ridgway, Chair), Dave Frank (City of Montrose, Vice Chair), Mike Lane (Delta County), Roger Rash (Montrose County), Michelle Nauer (Ouray County), Kris Holstrom (San Miguel County)
 - c. **Remote Board Members:** Dave Roberts (Town of Lake City), Paige Smith (Town of Paonia), Jim Gelwicks (City of Gunnison), Jonathan Houck (Gunnison County), Greg Levine (Hinsdale County), Michael Bacani (Mt Crested Butte), Elyse Casselberry (City of Delta)

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**
 - a. **ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve amended agenda: M/S Dave Frank/Kris Holstrom, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for March 2024, Executive Committee Meeting**
 - a. CLS- III Lake city clarify staff going there. Kerry Franks & Joe Walker
 - b. Broadband – III Confirm that we were talking about the Town of Pitkin rather than Pitkin County. And VI. policy items SB 24-91
ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve amended minutes: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Kris Holstrom, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **ACTION ITEMS**
 - a. Approval of Repayment of Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Funds
 - i. Michelle Haynes included in the Packet a memo she wrote to DOLA explaining the return of the broadband equipment purchased under an earlier grant. As the project progressed, we found that the project would require larger, upgraded routers, as the previously purchased equipment could not be upgraded due to supply chain issues. The equipment was returned to a vendor, who paid \$94,000 and the new equipment was discounted an additional \$200,000 to offset the return of the previously purchased equipment.
 - ii. DOLA is demanding repayment, stating that we sold equipment that was bought with grant funding, and selling it violated the technical terms of the contract. Michelle tried different approaches to offset the payment request, but DOLA has maintained the funds should be repaid.
 - iii. Region 10 payment: we have \$94,000 that we received for selling the equipment and are proposing to borrow \$226,000 from the Business Loan Fund (BLF) to pay back DOLA.
ACTION ITEM: Motion to authorize Michelle Haynes to source the funding to repay DOLA from the source that she sees as a best fit: M/S: Dave Frank/Kris Holstrom, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
 - b. Discussion of Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Assessments
 - i. We have shared that we are facing a fiscal cliff with ARPA funding expiring and an increase in request for services.
 - ii. From the State Funding all AAA's are receiving \$2 million of the \$6 million that was requested. The impact for Region 10 is we are planning for \$70,000 new funding from the state instead of potentially \$250,000 (Region 10 receives approximately 3.5% of state funds for AAA.)
 - iii. Received a waiver to have the RSVP Grant match decreased from a 30% match to a 10% match.
 - iv. Region 10 is still looking at a shortfall for the AAA Budget next year, of about \$250,000.
 - v. At least 70% of the people that we provide services for are over the age of 80 and those services are keeping them in their homes. Our services are typically about \$3-4,000 a year for each client,

with about 2,000 clients served each year. Nursing home facilities costs about \$6-8,000 per month per client.

- vi. This discussion serves to find out what role the board wants to have in supplementing funding for the AAA budget. Michelle sent out with the Packet a spreadsheet that shows how Board Assessments could be impacted with increases in assessments for AAA. Current AAA dues for member entities is \$32,000. The spreadsheet included shows if the AAA dues for members was doubled to \$64,000 it would be approximately a 20% increase in total dues for member entities.
- vii. There was a discussion about the AAA Dues. Several board members echoed the thought proposed doubling of AAA dues for some of the member entities was not too significant an increase for the services that they would cover considering that there is an expressed need for the services for the elderly population in the region. The board members expressed interest in seeing multiple AAA dues scenarios, if they stay the same, if they are doubled, if they are tripled and what services would be able to be continued or would be minimized depending on each scenario.
 1. Michelle Nauer mentioned that for Counties are facing some unknown tax increases and so with our budgets it is difficult to commit to funding.
 2. Roger Rash asked if the JBC gave reason for the denial? The concern is that the state keeps shifting the funding burden onto the municipalities and counties even though it is a state program that the state is not funding.
 3. Michelle Haynes wants to visit each of the Counties in a work session and present the challenges the AAA is facing and what the assessments would cover. The increase would be effective in 2025, so there is some time to review potential increases and impacts.

5. REPORTS:

a. ED/Financial Reports | Michelle Haynes

- i. Included a report of insurance costs, an increase from \$24,000 to about \$60,000 for new and updated coverage.
 1. We've had to underwrite lending separately and include additional insurance on that.
 2. The Broadband equipment that we have here and in California has been added to coverage during the staging.
 3. We had to go to the secondary market for some of the newer coverage and will hope to see costs decrease when we are able to access the primary market in a couple of years.
- ii. We are considering an RFP to outsource operations for the Broadband network to cover day-to-day operations. Longer term we are meeting with 5 of the regions (NWCCOG, Region 9, San Luis Valley, and Southeast Colorado's region) that are managing broadband assets to meet in June to have a bigger conversation about what is being managed mostly statewide with DOLA and Colorado Broadband Office. DOLA is beginning to reduce funding Broadband, and the middle mile network.
- iii. Resubmitted the DOLA broadband grant supplemental, and we have not had any response on the \$800,000 requested.
- iv. CDOT is hosting a meeting of Transportation Planning Region administrators in Denver and Michelle is planning on attending.
- v. Regional Grants Navigator updates of applications supported:
 1. City of Gunnison and Town of Paonia received some Bureau of Reclamation grant funding.
 2. The team is waiting to hear back on the Town of Crawford's application.

b. Small Business Resource Center | Nancy Murphy

- i. SBDC/Business Cultivator
 1. Today we made the decision to postpone the Demystifying Entrepreneurship program. We only had 6 registrations and that was not enough to justify the team from CU Boulder traveling to Delta. That program does require a larger number of participants to have engagement in the program to be successful. The team is considering whether we try to bring people in from the Front Range to run these programs or if we can develop programs with a local facilitator, which would more flexible on the number of required attendees.
 2. Region 10 attended the Montrose Business Expo.

3. Adriana has been really making progress with Hispanic Outreach from the Olathe Cultivator. She is also doing kitchen tours regularly. The Cultivator program has 3 kitchen clients.
 4. We are onboarding 5 new SBDC Consultants, accounting, banking, Spanish interpretations.
 5. The Cultivator will host the mobile food trucks monthly during the summer, starting in May.
- ii. **Business Loan Fund**
 1. We brought in a consultant last week to go over the Business Loan Fund processes to help us manage the program more effectively.
 2. We are closing about 3 loans a month. Currently, 2 are closing in April and 2 closing in early May.
 3. We have been experiencing more late payments in recent months.
 4. Currently servicing 118 loans.
 5. Reviewing potentially hiring an additional loan fund officer for the Montrose office.
- c. **Community Living Services | Eva Veitch**
- i. Reminder, the Village on San Juan is slated for completion in July with an opening on August 2nd; we encourage everyone to attend.
 - ii. Continuing conversations regarding opening a Senior Center in Crested Butte.
- d. **Broadband | Corey Bryndal**
- i. Wrapping up Lake City construction; the trunk line and all but 2 of the anchors have been connected.
 - ii. Working with Crested Butte and Mt Crested Butte; the Town of Mt Crested Butte will be building some fiber network and a CNL. As the Crested Butte and Mt Crested Butte CNL connection is completed, we will look at connecting Crested Butte down to Gunnison.
 - iii. Telluride and Ridgway to improve E911: Region 10 was approached by Century Link to utilize dark fiber in Telluride for redundancy of E911. We proposed that we trade dark fiber lines that we have for the same amount of CenturyLink fiber to increase the redundancy for the area. Century Link has not continued the conversation, but San Miguel County and the PUC are continuing the conversations. One of the reasons they communicated was that they were not sure that their Microwave could not handle the burden that Ridgway and Ouray may place on those Microwave Lines.
 - iv. Expansion Project
 1. Working to connect to Denver and Salt Lake City;
 2. Also will connect to Region 9 and eventually hopefully Albuquerque in the future.
 - v. We are following SB24-091 that would repeal the CDOT recurring Right-of-Way fees that could be a hinderance to providers expanding services in the region.
- e. **GVTPR - Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region Committee | Michelle Haynes for Vince Rogalski**
- i. There was a public meeting held on Tuesday, with about 400 people attending, about the bridge on Blue Mesa Reservoir that has been closed.
 1. CDOT is putting \$10 million into getting that bridge back up and running; that will likely not cover the full cost of repairs.
 2. The official detour is I-70 and US 160 and both routes add about 7 hours to the trip between Montrose and Gunnison. They have opened a "Local Access" route that is the Lake City cut-off. There are only two times a day that you can go through each day. The in between time will be spent repairing and building up the road to improve its ability to take the traffic,
 3. Another alternate route will be Kebler Pass but that currently has about 5 feet of snow on it and so that will take time to complete to open.
 - a. Jonathan Houck mentioned that the unfortunate part about the connectivity is that the Local Access route is not a road built for heavy traffic, In the long term this road will still not be able to be built to handle any sort of heavy traffic.

- b. We are working closely with Gunnison and Hinsdale County health to find new places for folks to receive essential medical treatments.
 - c. Inspections are still ongoing. We are pleased with the response from CDOT and the state especially with the initial investment of \$10 million.
 - d. There will be significant impacts to the supply chain and the economies of Gunnison, Hinsdale and Montrose.
 - e. Currently, cannot travel CR 26 with over 16,000 lbs.; truck travel over that weight is not allowed.
4. For more information on the Bridge, the community can call 970-648-4423 or email us50bridge@gmail.com
- ii. Little Blue Canyon Construction will begin May 6th and should be open in August. The delays should be less impactful than in previous years.
 - iii. Transit bus between Montrose and Gunnison was delayed because of Little Blue and will likely have more delays because of the bridge outage.
 - iv. Statewide Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC) meeting is May 2nd in person in Denver. Followed by a Transit and Rail Advisory Committee (TRAC) meeting the same day. The TPR administrators and managers will also be meeting that day as well.
 - v. The Commission is scheduled to review and approve the decisions for HB24-1101.
 - vi. GVTPR meeting on May 9th: we will be discussing our 10-year plan and the MMOF (Multi-Modal Options Funds) funding that is available for the next 3 years. We have been in conversation with some of the projects that were awarded MMOF funds in 2022 that are over budget, and we may have to look at awarding some already funded projects additional funding.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Reports; M/S: Dave Frank/Kris Holstrom. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

6. ADJOURNMENT

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.