



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), Jim Gelwicks (City of Gunnison), Mike Lane (Delta County) Roger Rash (Montrose County), Michelle Nauer (Ouray County), Linda Rib (Montrose County)
 - 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), Mike Bordogna (San Miguel County), Elyse Ackerman-Casselberry (City of Delta)
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Agenda M/S Dave Frank/Michelle Nauer, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for March 2024, Executive Committee Meeting**
 - a. Page 4 Broadband #4 we would like to build a ring around the Northern San Juans

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve minutes: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Dave Frank, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Discussion ITEMS**
 - a. Discussion of Area Agency on Aging Assessments
5. **REPORTS:**
 - a. **ED/Financial Reports | Michelle Haynes**
 - i. Financial Report
 1. Have been focusing on the end of Fiscal Year Financials.
 2. Cash flow is related to broadband equipment; the checks are being held while we work through the grant process.
 3. Asked some of the outlying communities to support with Broadband: Mesa County did support with \$300,000 commitment; we invoiced for the funds and should receive soon.
 4. We contracted for some support with Broadband; contractor expenses are increasing, and salaries remain under budget.
 - ii. Executive Director Report
 1. Approval to submit grant to DOLA for \$134,000 for Broadband to supplement salaries for Corey in provision of technical assistance.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve grant submission to DOLA for Broadband Supplemental Salaries: M/S: Roger Rash/Michelle Nauer, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
 2. Revenues from Retired Senior Volunteer Program are less than budgeted due to issues with the grant.
 3. Just Transitions Grant: We have been encouraged by them to reapply for funding from them for Broadband Support
 4. John Clark asked about the CORA request that had come in from the ISP provider in Lake City. We have not had recent correspondence on the issue.
 5. We have sent a formal offer to an applicant for the AAA Director; we have a verbal acceptance and are waiting for the written acceptance to finalize.
 - iii. Community Development-report is included in the packet; no action items.
 1. Regional Grants Navigator: We are working with quite a few communities for the program. We understand that there will likely not be additional funding for that program for a 3rd year. We are exploring how/if we should find funding sources to fund that position longer term.

2. Gunnison Valley Transportation Region: The CDOT grant has decreased from \$30,000 to \$21,000 and so our budget is affected by the decrease. However, since Vince will no longer be Chair of the STAC his travel budget will be decreasing.

b. Small Business Resource Center | Nancy Murphy

- i. Small Business Development Center/Business Cultivator
 1. Included in the report is the success story of Laura, who came out of the Rocky Mountain Business Idea Lab and is now one of the kitchen clients in the Cultivator in Olathe.
 2. The Cultivator currently has 5 active kitchen clients.
 3. Finished up a class for 7 farm businesses and 14 people that was a partnership with Valley Food Partnership
- ii. Business Loan Fund
 1. Opening small community loan fund projects for Gunnison: DOLA REDI grant match and Community Business Preservation Program match or initial capital.
 2. There were no Loans closed in June and none were paid off. The team closed 2 loans in July.
 3. A couple of loan modification requests in June were completed.
- iii. SBA Desk Audit
 1. The SBA program manager reviewed our loan documentation and files; we received a positive report. We have a best practice in how we keep files on our denied loans, and all other files/documents were in good order.

c. Community Living Services | Eva Veitch

- i. We have received a small grant of \$32,000 to help support the Shepherd's hand home delivered meals.
- ii. Budget is still difficult are we are cutting back on programs:
 1. We have temporarily capped the life alert program.
 2. Cutting back on personal rides that can be offered for transportation (not medical or nutrition).
 3. Cut back on the number of meals we can offer through both Shepherd's Hand and Mom's Meals.
 4. If there is no base funding increase (the base funding has stayed the same since 2008) then next year will be even more difficult.
 5. The program is serving those in the greatest need first based on several factors, including income and frailty.
- iii. Eva's last advisory meeting will be August 29th from 10-1. She has been with Region 10 for over 11 years.
 1. Celebration for Eva after the next board meeting on August 22nd from 3-5pm at the Camp Robber restaurant. We will get an invite out ASAP but please reserve some time for that.

d. Broadband | Corey Bryndal

- i. The expansion project is moving along, we are working on the fiber plant and the cabling currently under agreements, preparing for fiber splicing and connection.
- ii. Working with the Front Range Giga-pop routing organization to get equipment staged and configured in their lab in Boulder.
- iii. Fiber provider, Zayo, is going through the process of preparing the fiber.
- iv. FrontRange GigaPop received a grant that we will be participating in that is providing fiber down to Western Colorado University and other educational facilities.
- v. In Lake City we are working to get to the Gunnison County Substation.
- vi. Met with Region 9 EDD, Region 10, Southern Colorado EDD and San Luis Valley EDD to discuss a multi-region operation.
- vii. Contracted with Eric Hittle to assist with mapping, network remediation and more.

e. GVTPR - Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region Committee | Vince Rogalski

- i. As of the end of the STAC meeting in October, Vince will no longer be Chairman of the STAC (State Transportation Advisory Committee) but will still be the Chair of the GVTPR. He will no longer be attending the Transportation Commission meeting.
- ii. Will be going with the Commission on their Road tour in September as he completes his service as STAC chair.
- iii. It is planning season and we are beginning the 2050 plan. In the report is a lot of information on the planning process. We will begin this at our next meeting on August 29th. CDOT will be bringing a lot of people to give information on the planning process.

- iv. Recommending that we look at the 2045 plan for our Region to see if there are items that we still like/dislike to include in the upcoming plan.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Reports; M/S: Mike Lane/Roger Rash. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

6. ROUNDTABLE

- a. We have heard from one of our communities that they are seeing a number of small businesses close and so we wanted to take some time for a roundtable to see if other communities are experiencing the same trend.
- b. OURAY COUNTY
 - i. **John Clark (Ridgway):** Community is seeing a downturn in economic activity within the area. A group has been meeting to discuss and brainstorm ideas to address the downturn.
 - ii. **Michelle Nauer (Ouray County):** The County's Sales tax is up from previous year.
- c. DELTA COUNTY
 - i. **Mike Lane (Delta County):** Delta County sales tax is holding steady. But we are seeing a few empty buildings on Main Street, and we are concerned about what ability a business would have to be able to survive on Main Street because most of the community needs are being met by the existing businesses. There is a new group of citizens to figure out how some of the Main Street buildings could add apartments above the retail shops.
- d. MONTROSE
 - i. **Dave Frank (City of Montrose):** Construction Use Tax and Auto Use Tax are the only tax base that are down. DART Committee is engaging local businesses Downtown. This group has grown from 8-30. We are working on Wayfinding signs to direct people to Parking lots.
- e. SAN MIGUEL
 - i. **Mike Bordogna (San Miguel County):** Sales tax is down slightly. Cost of goods and average daily room night stays are up and so that may be impacting the Sales Tax even if there are less transactions. There is a price sensitivity that has started and so marketing has changed to High-End travelers. Telluride Tourism board put a new online live dashboard showing room bookings and sales tax information.
- f. GUNNISON:
 - i. **Jonathan Houck (Gunnison County):** Bridge closure had higher impacts on goods and workforce rather than tourism. Therefore, we have not seen a reduction in tourism. Comparing 2024 sales tax revenue in 2023 with most months up. Lodging tax January-March the lodging tax was up, April was down, and May was back up. Real Estate is up despite interest rates and the number of building starts is again up. Have a Diverse Economy, coal producing county, have a good small business community. The university is an economic driver and so we have an ability to weather some economic downturns in specific industries.
 - ii. **Jim Gelwicks (City of Gunnison):** The City has noticed that long time small businesses are aging out. The City has traditionally gone through occasional rotations of long-time businesses out with new ones coming in. Hiring a consultant to help devise a 5-7-year Economic Development Strategy. Infrastructure updates are challenging as construction cost that have almost doubled in the last 5 years.
- g. HINSDALE COUNTY
 - i. **Greg Levine (Hinsdale County):** Overall, tourism is down, and a lot of the Second Homeowners did not come in this year.
 - ii. **Dave Roberts (Lake City):** We did see an increase in sales tax in the winter months and that is likely due to the success of the Ice Wall. OHV season was cut back by 3 weeks this year and so some of the rental businesses saw a decrease in revenues and some tourism trips were canceled. August 1st is a Celebration of Hinsdale County being 150 years old.

7. ADJOURNMENT

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:36p.m