



1. **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**–Meeting was called to order at 12:04 pm.
 - a. **Staff:** Michelle Haynes (R10 Director), Nancy Murphy (Small Business Development), Corey Bryndal (Broadband Director), Brian Bowler (AAA Director), Aris Freeborn (Accounting)
 - b. **In-Person Board Members:** Mayor John Clark (Town of Ridgway), Commissioner Michelle Nauer (Ouray County, Treasurer), Commissioner Mike Lane (Delta County), Elyse Ackerman-Casselberry (City of Delta, EC), Commissioner Sue Hansen (Montrose County), Vince Rogalski (GVTPR Chair)
 - c. **Remote Board Members:** Mayor Dave Roberts (Town of Lake City), Mayor Greg Hart (Cedaredge), Commissioner Greg Levine (Hinsdale County), Greg Olson (Hinsdale County), Council Member Jim Gelwicks (City of Gunnison), Commissioner Jonathan Houck (Gunnison County Commissioner), Commissioner Lance Warning (San Miguel County Commissioner)
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**
 - a. **ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Agenda M/S Michelle Nauer/Mike Lane, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for July 2025, Executive Committee Meeting**
 - a. **ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Minutes: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Sue Hansen, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **New Business/Presentation: Mini-Grant Approval**
 - a. We have received a DOLA (Co Dept of Local Affairs) grant for \$50,000 for mini grants of up to \$10,000 per community. We have received applications for two projects:
 - b. Town of Lake City
 - i. To support their town park upgrade project that will include new ADA compliant structures.
 - ii. Requested \$10,000 to support their \$200,000 project.
 - iii. Grant has been submitted and approved by our regional DOLA regional representative.
 - c. Town of Paonia
 - i. To support their Way Funding (signage) and banner structures project.
 - ii. Requesting \$10,000 to support their \$22,000 project.
 - iii. Grant has been submitted. Approval pending from our regional DOLA regional representative.
 - d. Grant applications are available for the remaining three \$10k grants.
 - e. We have sent application notices out to the board of directors and regional grant navigator contacts. Please let us know if you would like us to send it to other contacts.
 - f. **ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve the Mini-Grant Approval for Town of Lake City and the Town of Paonia. Motion to approve: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Sue Hansen, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.
5. **REPORTS:**
 - a. **ED/Financial Reports | Michelle Haynes**
 - i. Financial Report
 1. Included in the packet is a draft of June 30th financial reports. There will be final adjustments to prepare for the upcoming audit.
 2. Salaries are a little less than budgeted and offset by fringe and contract services, which are higher than budgeted.
 3. Organization-wide, about 87% of our funds come from grants. Membership dues are used to leverage grant matches. The organization also has some revenues from our Loan fund and Broadband projects; most other projects are support primarily through grant funds.
 4. Approximately 10% of our operational expenses go to administration support. For nonprofits, this is considered a good operational level.
 5. Loan and legal fees are higher than normal due to BLF past dues accounts and write-offs of loans during the year.

6. We have engaged our previous auditors, Blair and Associates, to conduct this year's audit.
- ii. Executive Director Report
 1. After evaluation, we have decided not to apply for the USDA Rural Community Initiative grant due to capacity and grant match.
 2. We have been awarded the OEDIT (Office of Economic Development and International Trade) CHIPS Market study grant for \$50,000 to assess the market for opportunities to develop supply chains for silicon chips used in electronic processes. West End Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC) and Region 9 have also been awarded this grant. We are meeting with WEEDC and Region 9 to discuss joint RFP and study to get a more comprehensive study.
 3. The TPR has worked through the reallocation of the MMOF funds and award letters have been sent.
 - a. Gunnison County has been awarded \$450k for the Brush Creek Study.
 - b. The town of Cedaredge has been awarded \$100k contingency funds for their Safe Routes to School grant.
 - c. The Town of Nucla has been awarded a little under \$800k for their main street project.
 - d. All Points has been awarded operational funds.
 4. Staffing
 - a. Courtney Tribble will be returning from leave next week.
 - b. The AAA team will have a couple of leave of absences throughout this coming year. We have hired an AAA program assistant for the front desk and AAA program coordinator for the volunteer program. Milca Espinosa will join us as the AAA program coordinator next week to help with the senior companion program and comes to us with long-term Medicaid experience and is bilingual. Elisia Blair will join us as the AAA program coordinator and comes to us with experience with the VOA meals program.
 - c. Dario Fasoletti has resigned as the business loan officer. We will be posting his position and welcome any referrals.
 - d. After 30 years with transportation and 40 years with Region 10, Vince Rogalski will be stepping down as the GVTPR (Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region) Chair at the first of year. We will be working with the TPR to find a replacement for Vince.
 - e. Almost all member counties have vacancies for appointments in private positions on the board of directors and the business loan fund board. We will be looking at filling these positions with the help of the board.
 - iii. Community Development
 1. Regional Grants Navigator
 - a. Funding for the Regional Grants Navigator program ends in October.
 - b. There is an upcoming call to discuss the future of the program.
 2. Community Development / Enterprise Zone
 - a. We have submitted the application for Enterprise Zone redesignations and is the first round of review.
 - b. Will be sending reminders to the counties for letters of support of letters of support for the redesignations.

b. Small Business Resource Center | Nancy Murphy

- i. SBDC/Business Cultivator
 1. The cultivator has added capacity with three new refrigerators.
 2. Joseph Kean with the Homestead Hut in Gunnison will rent the food truck to the program to be parked at the Cultivator. This will add kitchen space and the opportunity for people to test the operations of a food truck.
 3. We had an USDA (Department of Agriculture) program audit and passed all reviews.
 4. The SBDC (Small Business Development Center CRM (customer database) changes are still in progress and should be completed in October.

5. We have been working with the state and organizations on wildfire disaster recovery. There is a disaster recovery symposium on September 18th at the Montrose Events Center from 9:00am-4:00pm
- ii. Business Loan Fund
 1. We had an SBA (Small Business Administration) desk audit for the Micro-Loan and Technical Assistance program and successfully met all requirements.
 2. We continue to work on getting bad debt off the books. We have consolidated loans to help some loan clients with lower and fewer payments.
 3. Colorado Regional Loan Fund Managers state-wide meeting will be held September 15th-17th in Crested Butte.
- c. **Area Agency on Aging | Brian Bowler**
 - i. We are excited to have Milca and Elisia join the team. Both have great experience and local knowledge to bring to the team.
 - ii. The AAA program funding has been reduced by \$1.1 million or 39% over the last 4 years.
 - iii. AAA Volunteer hours equate to approximately \$1 million in value.
 - iv. Montrose County renewed aid in the West End.
 - v. There is potential aid through the Rural Health Transformation Grant Program. As part of the Big Beautiful Bill, states must submit applications by December 31st. Funding would be used for rural hospitals and support services.
 - vi. In the last year, we have provided 14k rides, 28k home delivered meals and 7k congregate meals.
 - vii. SHIP has four certified counselors to help with Medicare enrollment this year. We anticipate an increase in counseling requests due to recent Medicare changes.
- d. **Broadband | Corey Bryndal**
 - i. Corey is out this week but has been busy trying to get the I 70 fiber connection completed.
 - ii. The broadband team is working on the operational side and completing the Garfield County agreements for fiber and Carrier Neutral Location leases.
 - iii. The original DOLA broadband grant for this project ends this month, and the \$4 million DOLA grant will end at the end of January.
 - iv. Karla Distal has rejoined the team and is working on reviewing billing, implementing standardized pricing and project sustainability.
- e. **GVTPR - Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region Committee | Vince Rogalski**
 - i. The CDOT Transit Connection Study is completed. It did not include the route between Montrose and Gunnison. The project is still planned and studied, but priority has shifted.
 - ii. There is an increased concern for traffic safety and speed limits.
 - iii. Local entities could request speed studies for their areas, but there could be a downside to a review: new speed limits are based on the speed people are driving and not what they should be for safety. The criteria for speed studies are being reevaluated.
 - iv. There are federal funds given to the states to address transportation safety.
 - v. The STAC is preparing to approve the regional and statewide 2050 plans next week, then they move on to the transportation commission for approval.
 - vi. November 13th is the next TPR meeting 1:30pm - 3:30pm
 - vii. Will be voting on the chair and vice chair/STAC (State Transportation Advisory Committee) alternate in the next STAC meeting.
 1. Both the chair and STAC positions are 2-year terms.
 2. Region 10 will take on more of the administrative duties; the chair position will be the representative for GVTPR at the STAC meetings.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Reports; M/S: Sue Hansen/Michelle Nauer, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

6. ROUNDTABLE

- a. **City of Gunnison | Jim Gelwicks**

- i. City of Gunnison is working on building a long-term water treatment plant. They have been approved in \$1.5 million in grants to allow a new diversion off the Gunnison river and well work.
 - ii. On the ballot for this November, a capital construction project for a new volunteer fire department for the City of Gunnison.
 - iii. The Gunnison City Council has three available seats and four candidates for the November election.
 - b. **Town of Cedaredge | Greg Hart**
 - i. Town of Cedaredge held a joint meeting with Orchard City to discuss housing needs. A housing planning grant request has been submitted to DOLA for \$45k.
 - ii. The Northridge repiping project has been completed which covers three residential areas north of town.
 - iii. A groundbreaking ceremony on September 2nd will be held for the Deer Trail Bridge replacements.
 - iv. Mesa Point has requested an extension for submittal of plans for the project.
 - v. The Delta County School board meeting, being held today, will be voting to approve an IGA to donate up to two acres at the old Hunsicker Elementary. The purpose of the donation is for the town to create tennis courts.
 - vi. Domestic water restrictions are in place for 3 weeks.
 - vii. Apple festival is October 3rd – 5th. Approximately 40k-50k people expected to attend.
 - c. **Ouray County | Michelle Nauer**
 - i. The county has hired a consultant to recruit a new county manager. They have received approximately 50 applicants. They would like to have someone in place by the first of the year.
 - ii. Home health services and restriction concerns have been brought to the county board of commissioners. A proposed program for a Neighborhood Paramedic has been presented. This paramedic program would help with nonemergency calls such as wound care, lift assistance, and post-surgery care. Emergency Services had a record month in August with 60 ambulance calls. 50% being for visitors.
 - iii. The county will be forwarding a lodging tax to the ballot this year to be applied to short term rentals, campground, and resorts. This increase will be used to fund public health and safety, affordable housing, and childcare.
 - iv. The 2026 Budget is in development.
 - d. **MONTRÖSE COUNTY | Sue Hansen**
 - i. The courthouse capital project is wrapping up. The grand opening will be held November 10th.
 - ii. The Water Summit is November 13th.
 - iii. Next year's 150th birthday plan is underway. Expect more to be announced in March 2026.
 - iv. Several grants have been awarded for the Southwest Regional Opioid Council.
 - v. The Power Solar Regulations went back to planning based on suggestions from the new commissioners.
 - e. **Town of Ridgway | John Clark**
 - i. The water diversion structure project is under underway.
 - ii. The town had a successful summer concert series and annual Rendezvous Arts and Crafts festival this season.
 - iii. Tourism and sales tax is up compared to other areas.
 - f. **City of Delta | Elyse Ackerman-Casselberry**
 - i. Through capital planning and budgeting the city has completed paving and overlaying projects and has planned for routine maintenance in the future.
 - ii. The Mainstreet design is at 90% and anticipate construction in January.
 - iii. Due to City Council turnover, Gerald Roberts has been appointed to take one of the two vacancies which will run through the next election April 2026.
 - iv. The work release rehabilitation facility is completed and will house the homeless and crisis center.
 1. A large concern is that surrounding communities will refer people to Delta for assistance.
 2. A large influx will hinder helping the local community.
 3. The center will have a have a referral process.

- v. The wastewater plant diversion system replacement project is underway and includes rebuilding next to the existing facility.

g. Delta County | Mike Lane

- i. The county is pushing back onto the legislature on unfunded mandates. The county is having to assess how they will fund mandated projects such as the methane capture project at the landfill estimated at \$300 million.
- ii. The 7th Judicial District budget came in \$980k, an \$500k increases next year.
- iii. Road improvements are happening across the county and include county road paving, fencing, bridges, and culverts.
- iv. Delta County is one in fifteen counties in the state that do not have building codes. The county has until April 2026 to adopt building codes and enforcement begins October 2026. Can affect insurance coverage in either dropping or increasing rates. Not adopting building codes could cause repercussions such as funds being withheld or insurance coverage being dropped or rates being increased.
- v. Land use codes are almost completed.

7. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Executive Committee: September 25, 2025
- b. Executive Committee: October 23, 2025
- c. November and December meetings will be combined and potentially be November 20th.

8. ADJOURNMENT

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Approved by the Board of Directors on the 23rd day of October 2025