



**Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting  
April 16, 2026  
12:00 to 2:00 p.m.  
Region 10: 145 S Cascade Conference Room**

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**
- 3) **APPROVAL Minutes February 2026**
- 4) **New Business**
  - a. **Enterprise Zone Approvals**
  - b. **Discussion of Business Loan Fund additional funds**
- 5) **REPORTS**
  - a. **Executive Director Report– Michelle Haynes**
    - **Financial Report- not included**
      - **Budget Preparation: Membership Assessment CY 2027**
    - **Community Development**
    - **Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region**
  - b. **Small Business Resource Center- Nancy Murphy**
    - **SBDC/Business Cultivator**
    - **Business Loan Fund**
  - c. **Area Agency on Aging– Brian Bowler**
  - d. **Regional Broadband-Corey Bryndal**

**Action: Accept Director Reports**
- 6) **NEXT MEETINGS**
  - a. **Board of Directors Meetings:**
    - **SCHEDULED June 11 2026 Noon-2:30 Annual Board of Directors**
    - **August 13: Board of Directors**
    - **October 8: Executive Committee**
    - **December 10: Board of Directors**
  - b. **BLF Committee: TBD June 2026 10-11 a.m.**
  - c. **AAA Regional Advisory Committee: June 4, 2026 10 a.m.- 12 p.m.**
  - d. **Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region10: April 30, 2026 1:30 p.m.**
- 7) **ADJOURNMENT**

1. **CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS**–Meeting was called to order at 12:02 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:** Mayor Dave Frank (City of Montrose), Mayor Michael Underwood (City of Ouray), Commissioner Mike Lane (Delta County), Commissioner Craig Fuller (Delta County), Commissioner Sue Hansen (Montrose County), Commissioner Michelle Nauer (Ouray County), Alida Soileau (Montrose County Private Appointee), Vince Rogalski (Gunnison County Private Appointee)
  - c. **Remote Board Members:** Mike Bordogna (San Miguel County Manager), Councilmember Marya Stark (Town of Telluride), Mayor Dave Roberts (Town of Lake City), Mayor Pro Tem Marisela Ballesteros (City of Gunnison), Steve Metheny (CMU), Kami Collins (OEDIT ROO), Mayor Greg Hart (Town of Cedaredge), Commissioner Lance Waring (San Miguel County), Greg Levine (Gunnison County, 12:18p)
  - d. **Guests:** Pete Blair (Blair & Associates)

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES for January 2026, Executive Committee Meeting**

- a. Nathan Perry, correct spelling
- b. Brick and mortar instead of “motor”

**ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Minutes with corrections: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Sue Hansen, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **FY2025 Audit Presentation | Pete Blair, CPA**

1. Auditor’s Opinion is clean, including a single audit of the Small Business Association (SBA) Micro-loan program. Reports were sent to the federal clearing house and they have been accepted.
- ii. There is not a major difference between Region 10’s financial position between FY2024 to FY2025 (pg4)
  1. Increase the net position by about \$163,000 (pg. 7)
  2. Net increase in cash is about \$870,000 (pg. 8)
- iii. SBA Loan Fund Program
  1. For the SBA micro-lending program, we are required to set aside 15% of the amount received. In compliance and exceed the required amount by \$163,000. (pg. 12)
  2. At the end of 2025 Region 10 had \$2.2 million in cash; about \$500,000 is covered by FDIC.
  3. A significant portion of the long-term debt is the Small Business Administration Loans (pg. 14), which vary in interest rates (pg15)
- iv. Region 10 manages about \$3.3 million in federal awards (pg19)
- v. The de minimus rate for general administration will change from 10% to 15% along with the changes in Uniform Guidance (pg20)
- vi. Updated rules for requirement of a single audit if the organization manages \$1 million in funding (previously \$750,000).
- vii. No findings on the financial audit or Uniform Guidance
- viii. Chair Dave Frank noted that the audit had been approved by an email vote and that we do not need to re-vote.
- ix. Michelle followed up with discussion of the audit:
  1. Note in the Management Discussion and Analysis that a significant portion of cash (about \$1.7 million) is related to the loan fund monies. Accounting is considering if those funds should be shown as obligated for that purpose by the Board of Directors. If we want to use that cash for anything other than loan fund borrowing or operations, we request Board of Director approval.

2. We have about \$700,000-\$800,000 in the revolved loan fund account, which is the most flexible funding.
3. The program receives a technical assistance grant from the SBA for participating in the SBA Micro-Lending program and that number is dependent on the number and amount of loans; the grant for this year is about \$220,000.

**ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve: M/S: /, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

**b. Presentation of 2025 Community Services | Michelle Haynes**

Presentation with additional information on how the funds are dispersed throughout your area:

- i. Grants are about 83% of our funding and that's higher than years past.
- ii. Membership dues are 3% of funds; this is significant because they are the funds we use to provide as match to many of our grant programs.
- iii. Admin services are at 7%, which is lower than expectation for operations of a non-profit.
- iv. As shown in the Business Loan Fund charts, in 2020 there were a number of new loans, many related to COVID, and many of those loans were paid off this year. We currently have 80 active loans, and we would like the portfolio target to be around 100.
- v. SBDC numbers are lower this year, and that is due to the SBDC going through a conversion of their online platform for training. We cannot track all of our consulting through the SBDC system and are considering other means to track all consulting (including other technical assistance programs) more accurately.
- vi. Area Agency on Aging
  1. We are providing many services beyond the units in the State accounting system and are considering means of better tracking of all services.
  2. The RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) currently does not have designated funding for Ouray & San Miguel Counties (although we do provide services in the counties). We are applying for funding for these counties again this year. RSVP provided 34,000 hours of volunteer services. Having these volunteers help to fill a gap with those services that we have reduced because of funding cuts.
  3. The organization was awarded a new Benefits Enrollment Center grant for \$200,000 (over 30 months) to help people navigate Medicare, SNAP, etc., which will provide additional support to Medicare beneficiaries beyond the current SHIP (State Health Insurance Program) Medicare counseling services.

**c. Executive Committee Election | Michelle Haynes**

- i. There is an open position on the Executive Committee and would like to consider nominations to fill the position formerly filled by Jim Gelwicks.

**ACTION ITEM: Marisela Ballesteros with the City of Gunnison nominated herself to fill the seat. The nomination was accepted by acclaim.**

**d. Enterprise Zone Approval | Courtney Tribble**

- i. Grand Mesa Pickleball Foundation for a Capital Campaign: Community Facility for Multi-Sport Recreation facilities. While Pickleball is in their name they are embarking on a larger fundraising campaign to upgrade recreation facilities in Cedaredge, the conversion of the Town Park tennis courts to basketball courts, new pickleball/tennis courts, upgrades to the skate park, and trail upgrades throughout the area.

**ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve GMP's EZCP application: M/S: Sue Hansen/Craig Fuller, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

**e. Approval of Board/Executive Committee Meeting Scheduled | Michelle Haynes**

- i. After meeting with the board officers, we are reducing the number of meetings that we will have throughout the year to every other month on the second Tuesday at 12:30pm.
- ii. Michelle explained the proposed schedule that was included in the Agenda & Packet

**ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve new meeting schedule: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Mike Lane, as accepted.** None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. REPORTS:

##### a. **ED/Financial Reports | Michelle Haynes**

###### i. Financial Report - 12/31/2025

1. Federal Appropriations for the SBDC are currently on hold for Colorado (and 2 other states: Minnesota and Illinois). Nancy will send out some talking points for the board members to send out letters to the JBC.
2. Funding challenges with the MMOF (Co Dept of Transportation Multi Modal Options Funds) funding; the state has pulled funds from this account to balance the state budget. This will impact the allocations made by the TPR (Transportation Planning Region) committee made in 2024 to projects in the region. One issue with the allocations of funds is that the time between the funding award and the spending of the funding can be lengthy, due to contracting and procurement processes, so it may appear as though it is not being spent timely. Notice of the cuts and impact were sent to the GVTPR, who has responded with letters to the state legislature sharing the impact of the program funds.
3. Financial Statements are from December and are the mid-year look for the fiscal year. Other than a few items related to Broadband revenues and expenses, and equipment expenses at the Cultivator, most programs are on track with the expected budget.

###### ii. Community Development

1. Beginning the meetings for the update of Region 10's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Include in the packet is a list of committee members that we are considering, based on previous participation. Please provide any feedback as to who to add to provide representation for your community. The first meeting is Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. Dave Frank requested to add Anthony Russo (City of Montrose)

##### b. **Small Business Resource Center | Nancy Murphy**

###### i. SBDC/Business Cultivator

1. We currently have 6 businesses operating out of the kitchen—that number typically will increase as the Food Trucks start to operate for the warmer months.
2. There are also 6 non-food businesses that have utilized the Business Cultivator.
3. Consulting and training contacts for the SBDC are lower; we are not sure if that is a reflective number with the recent state Salesforce conversion. The conversion halted training for a while; we are now back to providing regular training.

###### ii. Business Loan Fund (BLF)

1. The team is assisting with the Town of Telluride business stabilization fund of \$400,000 for businesses to offset business losses from impacts of the lack of snow as well as the strike. 48 applications were received. The SBRC team created a rubric to evaluate those applications and scoring for the Town of Telluride.
2. The BLF Committee approved a set aside for a pilot program for ITIN (Taxpayer Identification Number) funds. The program provides loans up to \$20,000 for businesses from the BLF revolved funds, in response to requests from businesses with varying citizenship status. The program for businesses operating with an ITIN, and new federal regulations prohibit use SBA funds for loans to businesses without 100% of owners being US citizens (even if legal residents). Most of the businesses with loan requests have lived and worked in our area for a long time and pay taxes (a requirement of the BLF ITIN program as well).

##### c. **Area Agency on Aging | Brian Bowler**

- i. The Benefits Enrollment Grant: will help us with some of our core objectives. Most of our current funding comes from the Older Americans Act to provide AAA services. This funding will help us reach more people who need benefits like Medicare, Medicaid and SNAP and diversifies our funding sources for our program.
- ii. We are working to reduce our waitlists to zero over the coming months to serve more of the targeted population for key programs, including caregivers and In-home services.

- iii. The state increased the training for the volunteer Ombudsman Program, requiring attending training twice a week and travel to Denver for additional training. This has put a strain on the Ombuds that volunteer for the program and some of them have stepped down from the program.
- d. **Broadband | Corey Bryndal**
  - i. Region 10 is a middle mile project only and we serve to connect communities and their anchor institutions. Due to the geography and lower population in the region, costs are high for services to be deployed in the region and expansion area.
  - ii. The expansion project enables the network to access services in Denver, Salt Lake City and eventually Region 9 (south of Region 10).
  - iii. The project activated new Carrier Neutral Locations (facilities that house equipment that individual Internet Service Providers can lease out to provide services directly to businesses and residences).

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

## 5. ROUNDTABLE

- a. DELTA COUNTY – Mike Lane
  - i. The county is making some tough decisions about Wedding Venues and Events Centers as we have about 7-8 that are looking to open. They tend to require a lot of services, water, sewer, and access to the properties.
- b. Town of Cedaredge – Greg Hart
  - i. Thanks to the BOD for the Grand Mesa Pickleball Foundation EZ application for the Recreation Projects, they are doing great work. We have an IGA with the school district for them to donate a 2-acre plot. Submitted in January a GOCO (Greater Outdoors Colorado) funding but were denied and we will resubmit a third time in their next round of funding.
  - ii. Deer Trail Bridge that goes over Surface Creek is in progress, waiting on decking and asphalt which will be this spring as the weather warms up.
  - iii. Concerned about water coming up this summer and looking at our drought restrictions.
  - iv. Looking at Highway 65, the traffic load and the crashes that have happened over the years.
  - v. One trustee opening for the election in April.
- c. MONTROSE COUNTY – Sue Hansen
  - i. The GVTPR (Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region) is an important committee and there are projects that are on the chopping block for communities that are important.
  - ii. Close to the final stages of hiring the County Manager.
  - iii. Looking for volunteers for the upcoming county fair.
- d. City of Montrose – Dave Frank
  - i. Several projects are happening. Just hosted the State of the City address this past Monday and about 400 people attended. Each the department heads and departments have a table set up so that community members can go see what is happening in the City.
  - ii. Public Works building is being constructed and so far on budget.
  - iii. Round-a-bout at Rio Grande and Oak Grove is under development. There will be about 35 days of closure on the final phase of that construction.
- e. OURAY COUNTY – Michelle Nauer
  - i. The new County Manager is on board, Antonio Mendez, and he has hit the ground running.
  - ii. Corbet Creek construction contracts have been signed to reduce ongoing floods. It will have a new concrete culvert to be able to clear it out when it floods. It should be finished by November this year. It is the secondary route out of the City of Ouray if US 550 ends up closing.
  - iii. The 4H Event Center and the Fairgrounds which has been closed as of recently and will be re-opening soon. The County struggles to make the finances work for that building that was built and gifted to the county 20 years ago.
- f. CMU Montrose – Steve Metheney
  - i. We are working in collaboration with TCR, and Western to bring higher education courses to the high schools in Montrose, Delta, Ouray, and Gunnison County school districts.
  - ii. We have 8 high school students in Nucla/Naturita area that are taking part in a CNA program online that allows them to not have to leave their community for the classes.

- g. Montrose County Appointee: Alida Soileau – Introducing as a new member. Currently a solo practitioner attorney doing primarily Criminal Defense and interested in community involvement.
- h. Gunnison County Appointee: Vince Rogalski – has been on the board since 1980. Gunnison County is trying to get coordinated with CDOT on 3 roundabouts on Highway 135. Whetstone Development for 256 units of affordable housing is underway. They were shut down for a few months this winter because of lack of water for firefighting and to get the project back up and running they installed a system to pull water from the creek behind it if needed. They will be receiving utilities from Telluride.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Approved by the Board of Directors on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

ATTESTED and SUBMITTED by:

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Michelle Haynes

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## *Executive Director Update April 2026*

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### **Action Items:**

- Discussion of new funding source opportunities for the Business Loan Fund, including USDA Relending Program and Economic Development Administration RFL grant program and new SBA Loan for the Micro Loan program.
- Discussion of membership assessments for CY 2027.
- Discuss moving June 11 meeting to June 4 or June 18.

### **Informational Items:**

- Attending Colorado Broadband Office steering committee meeting for study to determine State of Colorado middle-mile strategy (including potential integration of regional projects.)
- Meetings and follow-up with Tri-state and Delta Montrose Electric Association regarding broadband access.
- Participation in meetings with Sen. Hickenlooper in Montrose and Delta (with Nancy Murphy) Counties regarding economic development and business support.
- Attended meeting with Colorado Health Foundation at the Cultivator.
- Presentation regarding Region 10 services at Town of Crawford.
- Attended West End Economic Development and Housing meetings to discuss strategies and solutions for ongoing services.
- Met with City of Gunnison manager to discuss economic development projects.
- Meetings with DOLA, OEDIT and Town of Telluride regarding potential economic development project.
- Attended (virtually) San Miguel County Intergovernmental meeting.
- Attended Club 20 Broadband and Transportation committee meetings.
- Beginning review and preparations for FY 2026-2027 budgets.

### **Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region**

- Waiting on determination of new allocation of MMOF (Multi Modal Opportunity) funding.
- Next GVTPR Meeting April 30 at 1:30. Agenda TBD.
- Planning to attend TRP Administrator meeting in person May 7.

### **Staffing:**

- No current open positions. Considering contracted services to assist with Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy planning.

## Enterprise Zone (EZ):

- **EZ Boundary Amendments**
  - New data qualifies San Miguel County as an eligible Enterprise Zone for the full county. We will be looking at if the portions of Gunnison, Hinsdale or Ouray counties that are no longer designated as EZs can be designated. This application is due in May for the Economic Development Commission to review in June and be in place in July.
  - We will need a Letter of Support, from San Miguel County/Town of Telluride and if there are other census tracts that qualify the associated county or municipality of the area that qualifies.
- **EZ Contribution Projects**
  - Two organizations had projects approved by the EDC since that last board meeting, [Colorado West Land Trust](#) and [Grand Mesa Pickleball Foundation](#) (Grand Mesa Multi-Recreation)
  - We currently have [39 active contribution projects](#), and you can see them on our website.
  - **ACTION ITEMS:** Three organizations are wanting to have projects approved:
    - [North Fork Creative Coalition](#) - An Operational Campaign for Tourism/Event Attraction
    - [Partners Mentoring Youth](#) - A Capital Campaign for a Community Facility
    - [Basin Clinic](#) - A Capital Campaign for a Community Facility, potentially with a Healthcare Operational aspect.

## Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee

- Hosted the first meeting of the CEDS committee on **Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm** (Virtual)
  - Overview of the [CEDS](#) and a look at the process for updating the 2021-2026 CEDS
    - Below is the schedule for the remaining meetings:
      - **Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm** (Virtual)
        - Deep Dive into Goals 1-3
      - **Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm** (Virtual)
        - Deep Dive into Goals 4-5
      - **JUNE TBD (In Person)**
        - REDS in a Day with community members for community input
        - Presentations from Demography Office & \_\_\_\_\_
      - **Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, from 1pm-2pm** (Virtual)
        - Quick Meeting to Discuss how the In-Person Meeting went and what to Incorporate
      - **Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm** (Virtual)
        - Present a Draft to the CEDS Committee
        - Take Comments on edits/additions
      - **Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>** (Region 10 Board of Directors Meeting, Virtual, CEDS Committee can attend but does not need to.)
        - Present to Region 10 Board of Directors and publish for Public Comment
        - Must be published for 30 Days for Public Input
      - Region 10 will incorporate Public Input and Board of Director Feedback and email updated copies to the CEDS Committee by September 18<sup>th</sup>
      - **Submit Final to the EDA by September 30, 2026**

## Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) Market Study

- Thus far , the project team has conducted a series of interviews with business owners, industry experts, and economic development professionals across western Colorado. The interviews spanned Mesa County, Region 9

(southwest Colorado), Region 10 (western Colorado), and the Colorado River Valley Economic Development Partnership territory. Participants included aerospace parts manufacturers, aviation MRO operators, rocket engine builders, industrial automation firms, high-pressure cleaning equipment manufacturers, and a national aerospace and defense consultant. Initial findings and challenges are:

- Workforce and the Cost of Living
- Infrastructure Gaps
- Regulator and Permitting Environment
- Opportunities are listed as:
  - Aerospace and Defense as a Niche Sector
  - Growing from Within
  - Education and Workforce Training Accessibility

### **Regional Grants Navigator**

We have been internally discussing if it is possible to continue this program without funding from the state. We have received a couple of requests from small communities that could utilize some help with capacity for grants management.

### **Ongoing Activities**

#### **ONE Delta County:**

- Executive Director Patrick Dunstone has started in the position.

#### **Other:**

#### **North Fork Community Chamber of Commerce**

- Hired a consultant for marketing and management for part time work.

#### **Economic Development Council of Colorado**

- Participating in the Planning Committee meetings every other week.
- Annual Conference dates are set for September 27-30

### **\*Acronyms:**

EZ: Enterprise Zone

EREZ: Enhanced Rural Enterprise Zone

EZCP: Enterprise Zone Contribution Project

EDA: Economic Development Administration

CHIPS: Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors

EDD: Economic Development District

CEDS: Community Economic Development Strategy

OEDIT: Office of Economic Development and International Trade

NADO: National Association of Development Organizations

# SBRC Board Report

Thursday, April 16, 2026

## Of Note:

- The Colorado SBDC has still not received a Notice of Award for its 2026 funding totaling more than \$2.25 million, including its 2026 CR1 portion (Q1-26 funding) of \$742,000 awarded to most SBDC Networks by early February, despite a bi-partisan plea led by Senator Bennet. (The Colorado SBDC is the only statewide, nationally accredited business assistance program serving all 64 counties, with 14 local service centers across the state.)
- SBRC staff has continued to support Region 10's partnership with the Town of Telluride for their 'Targeted Business Stabilization' grant program round two of funding requests.
- Region 10 BLF is looking into additional funding resources for larger requests. We are considering applying for the USDA Rural Development Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) and a new SBA Micro Loan of \$450,000.

## SBDC Update

### Successes:

- How to Start a Mobile Food Business course is up and running (April 6-27)

### Challenges:

- We are experiencing lower registrations for advising and training. Other SBDC centers are experiencing this too. It is unclear what the exact reason is. It could be difficulty registering on the new Salesforce platform, the increased federal forms that are required for registration, the increased use of AI for quick answers and information.
- No-show attendance for first class of How to Start a Mobile Food Business (many are just looking to get recordings of the classes and not able to attend live). The start is pushed out a week to get better attendance since many could not attend the first class.

## Cultivator Update

### Cultivator Kitchen:

- The Cultivator kitchen is currently supporting five food businesses: including BuildASoil, Nomad Cuisines, Nom Nom Shark, The Italian Food Emporium, and The Honey Bear.
- Italian Food Emporium launched retail sales (dry pasta, ravioli, and lasagna), increasing customer traffic and visibility for the Business Cultivator.

### Community Engagement:

- Served as panelist for Homegrown Pathways at Peak Academy at Ridgway High School, supporting early-stage entrepreneurial education and outreach.

## Business Loan Fund (BLF)

### At A Glance: February & March 2026

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| New Loans Closed             | 8  |
| Loans Paid Off               | 6  |
| Active Loans (as of 3/31/26) | 74 |

### Other News:

- **Pipeline Management**  
The loan team is actively working through the current pipeline of leads. There are 25 leads in progress, with five expected to close within the next 90 days, totaling an estimated \$375,000-\$575,000. We continue to see a wide variety of potential applicants.
- **Portfolio Management**  
We processed two modification requests and have seen an improvement in borrowers paying on time with two clients significantly behind (100+ days) and two who are a couple of months behind on payments. Staff continues to work on past due clients and offering help where we can. Currently, no loans have been sent to the attorney's office for collections.
- **LoanWell/Software conversion**  
The loan team is continuing to assess the effectiveness of our software systems. Progress on transitioning to the LoanWell platform has encountered significant roadblocks, including data conversion issues and usability challenges reported by some clients. During this period, we have decided to move loan servicing back to the Margill platform and focus on using LoanWell as an origination and technical assistance tracking system.

### Highlights:

The development of the new ITIN loan program is timely given the recent lending mandate imposed by the SBA (effective April 1, 2026)—more below. To review, the new program has set aside \$100,000 from the Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) to lend up to \$20,000 to ITIN holders. The fund largely follows the fee structure and lending requirements of our other programs.

The first loan under this program closed in March, funding a landscape business in Gunnison. The entire SBRC team came together to support this loan: Adriana for interpretation and borrower communication; Callie for business plan development support; Rachel for getting the paper application into LoanWell; Amy for walking the client through the loan process; and Sarah for closing the loan— a win-win all around!

### Challenges:

#### **Summary of SBA Microloan Policy Changes (Effective April 1, 2026):**

The SBA is updating its Microloan Program (SOP 52 00 B) to require that 100% of business owners be U.S. Citizens or U.S. Nationals with a principal residence in the U.S.

#### **Key Changes:**

- **Strict citizenship requirement:** All owners must be U.S. Citizens or Nationals—no exceptions. Applies to all loans starting April 1, 2026.
- **Intermediaries must verify and document citizenship for every owner at application.**
- **Businesses must also be formed and based in the United States.**

#### **Ineligible Individuals/Businesses:**

*The policy explicitly excludes:*

- Undocumented individuals, visa holders, refugees, asylees, DACA recipients
- Non-citizens (including green card holders)
- U.S. citizens living primarily outside the U.S.
- Foreign-incorporated businesses
- Individuals from certain regions (e.g., PRC/Hong Kong)

Technical Assistance (TA) Changes:

- TA and training funds can only be provided to eligible (citizen-owned) businesses.
- Intermediaries cannot support ineligible individuals or businesses with SBA-funded assistance.

Overall Impact:

- The rule significantly tightens eligibility, limiting SBA microloans and related support exclusively to fully U.S.-owned and U.S.-based businesses.
- Intermediaries face increased documentation and compliance requirements.

## What this means for Region 10

Region 10 operates in the exact space this policy targets:

- Microloans + technical assistance (TA)
- Serving rural, underserved, and often diverse entrepreneurs

The new rule shrinks who we are allowed to serve and adds compliance burden.

## ***Region 10 Area Agency on Aging (AAA)***

- R10 AAA is currently in process of scheduling **public input meetings** for the upcoming **four-year area plan**. We are identifying venues and locations currently and hope to be able to meet in every county. At least one of these meetings may be an online meeting to allow input from all R10's counties and interested parties.
- R10 AAA is currently engaging in discussion with Colorado Association of Area Agencies on Aging (**C4A**) to address the current **rule changes and administration** of the State Long-term care Ombudsman programs (ARLCO). With the continued rule changes, it appears the host agencies will be taking on greater liability without having any supervision or notice of possible adverse effects.
- The State Unit on Aging is holding public meetings on the revision of the Policies and Procedures. A schedule of the meetings is attached if you would like to provide input. We are working on developing talking points for the sessions.
- Received initial report from consultant Courtney Hoskins on preparation for Revenue Diversification and Operational Efficiencies. Key findings from initial staff interviews were that:
  - Administrative burdens are high, and can be improved through contracting processes and improved coordination of data systems (internal and state systems)
  - There is opportunity to scale existing services, with healthcare alignment as the most promising external opportunity.
  - Phase 2 will build on these initial findings to identify ways to improve capacity and build on existing systems with demonstrated community value.

### **Volunteer Program Highlights:**

#### ***AmeriCorps RSVP (Retires Senior Volunteer Program) and SCP (Senior Companion)***

- The **Montrose Volunteer Fair** was a great success. We received 9 RSVP applications! We are on track to meet our performance measures for RSVP with 300 volunteers! We also had recognition events across the region for RSVP volunteers. These events had great turnouts, and fun was had by all!

### **BEC (Benefits Enrollment Center)**

- The program is still in its formative stage. We have two outreach events and 2 applications complete. We are working closely with Health and Human Service for referrals and are working on partnering with Tri-County to help support this program.

### **SHIP (State Health Insurance Programs)**

- **Milca Espinoza** and **Elisia Blair** have completed training for SHIP counselors and will be shadowing a few sessions before taking sessions alone. We have increased our counselors from 4 to 8 in total, and we are positioned well for this year's open-ended enrolment. We are meeting performance measures and anticipate being able to manage all our local regions' needs for assistance this year.

### **Long Term Care Ombudsman**

- Some general trends that affect the LTCP include rules changes pertaining to AMA discharges. Due to this there is more documentation and effort from the staff, which is a good thing. We believe that the intent of this change is to encourage facilities to compromise and work with residents instead of allowing them to discharge without some clearly organized and safe discharge plan. It's been more common for residents to be discharged to a hotel or the streets without any support.

# Public Stakeholder Sessions: Volume 10, Older Americans Act Programs Rule Changes

In March of 2024, updated Older Americans Act federal rules went into effect. As a result, Colorado needs to update our Volume 10 (state rule manual) to be in compliance. The State Unit on Aging is holding the following public stakeholder sessions:

## Session 1: Definitions, Greatest Economic & Social Need, Multipurpose Senior Center, Non Federal Share Match - [materials](#)

**Thursday, April 9, 2026 · 11:00am – 12:30pm**

<https://meet.google.com/swu-znzi-ezq>

Or dial: (US) +1 314-732-0192 PIN: 548 596 668#

## Session 2: Legal Assistance, AAA Duties & Responsibilities, Contracts & Commercial Relationships, Definitions

**Thursday, May 21, 2026 · 12:30 – 2:00pm**

<https://meet.google.com/swu-znzi-ezq>

Or dial: (US) +1 314-732-0192 PIN: 548 596 668#

## Session 3: Nutrition Services, Grab-n-Go Meals, Definitions

**Thursday, June 11, 2026 · 2:00 – 3:30pm**

<https://meet.google.com/swu-znzi-ezq>

Or dial: (US) +1 314-732-0192 PIN: 548 596 668#

## Session 4: Caregiver, Title III/VI Coordination, State Plan, Private-Pay, Contributions, Definitions

**Thursday, June 18, 2026 · 11:00am – 12:30pm**

<https://meet.google.com/swu-znzi-ezq>

Or dial: (US) +1 314-732-0192 PIN: 548 596 668#

## Session 5: Conflict of Interest, Emergency Preparedness, Maintenance of Effort, Minimum Expenditures, SCSEP, Definitions

**Wednesday, August 5, 2026 · 1:00 – 2:30pm**

<https://meet.google.com/swu-znzi-ezq>

Or dial: (US) +1 314-732-0192 PIN: 548 596 668#

*\*updated 3/26/26*

April 2026  
Corey Bryndal  
Regional Broadband Project Director

- **DOLA EIAF Broadband** middle mile expansion has been activated. The portion from Denver to Grand Junction is activated, beginning customer service with updated equipment and a 100Gb connection. There is a good demand for the service. Services will be delivered to Fruita, Grand Junction, Palisade, DeBeque, Collbran and extended to Montrose and Delta.
- Provisioning connections for UCAR/Front Range GigaPop, including connections for Colorado Mesa University, Western State University and Rocky Mountain BioLab to Denver at 10 Gigabit speeds and utilize national routing. An NSF grant will fund the services for the first two years.
- Met with the Colorado Broadband Office on state-wide middle mile network project, which includes reviewing regional projects. Region 10 is participating on the steering committee. The report is due August 2026.
- Developing design for updates to the existing network similar the new expansion network in anticipation of grant applications to support funding for upgrades.
- Continuing to work with our neighbors to the south in **Region 9** to develop projects in anticipation of connection to the Region 10 network. Region 10 provided design and estimating for optical and routing gear for these facilities and the SUIT location.
- IRU of fiber between Durango and Pagosa Springs being developed with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe is anticipated to be completed July 2026.
- 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. Engagement areas include SCEDD, PPACG, San Luis Valley, Region 9/SWCCOG, AGNC and others. Periodic updates are provided to AGNC. The director attends two regular weekly meetings with Region 9.