



Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

NWCCOG Council Meeting

August 26, 2021

Conference Call Only ("Present" means on the call")

Board Members:

Alyssa Shenk, Town of Snowmass Village
Patti Clapper, Pitkin County
Tamara Nottingham Underwood, Town of Avon
Watkins Fulk-Gray, Town of Basalt
Brandy Reitter, Town of Eagle
Andrew Miller, Town of Fraser
Ed Cannon, Town of Fraser
Gusty Kanakis, Town of Minturn
Tomas Fridstein, Town of Snowmass Village
Samantha Martin, Jackson County
Carolyn Skowyra, Town of Dillon
Jennifer Ooton, City of Glenwood Springs
Josh Blanchard, Summit County
Coby Corkle, Jackson County

Others Present:

Erin McCuskey, SBDC
Jessica Valand, CO Dept. of Labor & Employment
Melanie Leaverton, Jackson County Tourism
Sally Boccella, Hickenlooper
John Bristol, Steamboat Springs
Christina Oxley, City of Craig
Chris Rork, Hickenlooper

NWCCOG Staff:

Jon Stavney
Anita Cameron
Elaina West
Erin Fisher
Becky Walter
Doug Jones
Rachel Lunney

Call to Order

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair, called a joint meeting of Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) and Northwest Loan Fund (NLF) Board to order at 10:01am. Roundtable introductions were completed, and a quorum was present for the group.

Approval of July 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

M/S: Patti Clapper/Carolyn Skowyra to approve the July 2021 Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

Passed: Yes

Call to Order Joint Meeting with the Northwest Loan Fund:

Alyssa Shenk, NLF Board Chair, called the Northwest Loan Fund (NLF) Board meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Round table introductions were conducted, and a quorum was present.

2nd Quarter Financials

Jon reviewed the 2nd Quarter Financials and answered a question regarding Project Thor payment to Mammoth Network who operates the network. Funds that are brought in monthly from users cover this biannual payment. Jon noted that staff will develop a key to understanding the codes to which these various expenses are charged and post it for Council on the website when it is ready. Anita and Jon explained the NLF financials (covered in separate NLF minutes).

M/S: Patti Clapper/Carolyn Skowyra to approve the NWCCOG 2021 2nd quarterly financials as presented.

Passed: Yes

Closed of Joint Meeting:

Alyssa Shenk, Board Chair, closed the joint meeting of Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) and Northwest Loan Fund (NLF) Board to order at 10:26am. The NWCCOG Council meeting began at 10:26 am.

Proposed 2022 Wage Range

Jon presented the 2022 Wage Range which had been previously reviewed by the Executive Committee who recommended the Council to approve. Alyssa Shenk explained to the Council that member dues do not need to be

increased to cover the 2022 Wage Range sheet. The Executive Committee agreed to have wage ranges reviewed and updated more frequently. No questions were asked.

M/S: Carolyn Skowrya/Josh Blanchard

Passed: Yes

DOLA Grants

Jon submitted the DOLA Grant application for two more years of Broadband which totals \$260,000.

With regard to the COG grant cycles, DOLA has limited funds this year. The remaining 2021 funding in the current grant will be used for Capital Projects and Budgeting Study which will be a cross regional study capturing capital planning and spending.

NWCCOG is holding off on the Behavioral Health report until 2022 due to a state level group currently conducting a statewide behavioral health study. The NWCCOG 2022 report will possibly include innovations in behavioral health and gaps that exist in services and facilities. There was significant discussion on this topic and interest in NWCCOG doing something in 2022 related to it.

The next DOLA cycle is in 2022 and NWCCOG is accepting report concepts or other ideas. Suggestions from Council included a study on mid to long term mental and financial impacts and models of current mental health programs in the 2022 Behavioral Health report.

Congressional Updates on NWCCOG Items

Sally Boccella presented the infrastructure bill which the House still has to pass. The bill text can be found here:

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/cache/files/e/a/ea1eb2e4-56bd-45f1-a260-9d6ee951bc96/F8A7C77D69BE09151F210EB4DFE872CD.edw21a09.pdf>

. Additional information regarding the infrastructure bill can be found under August 26, 2021 Agenda at: <https://www.nwccog.org/about/people/our-council/council-resources/>.

Jon passed on appreciation from Senator Bennet to NWCCOG members for all the hard work on the SHRED Act which has been introduced recently (has yet to be passed).

COG Update

Jon Stavney recognized the Towns of Eagle and Glenwood Springs for assisting NWCCOG Broadband on Project THOR disaster recovery in the Glenwood Canyon. For additional information on this project please see Vail Daily: Project THOR a hidden hero in reopening of Glenwood Canyon <https://www.nwccog.org/programs/broadband-program/resources/>.

Program Updates

Alyssa complimented the program updates which are available in packet.

Vintage Program Update – Erin Fisher

Erin presented Vintage ARPA & Stimulus Funding report which can be viewed from the NWCCOG website <https://www.nwccog.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/ARPA-Stimulus-Funding.pdf>. Stimulus funding is twice as much as usual and has allowed for unique programs including a restaurant voucher program in Jackson County, volunteer training and events including the 13th Annual Caregiver Conference on September 17th in Keystone, Colorado.

SB21-290 provides 15 million for the states 16 AAA programs and allows flexibility in spending including infrastructure. These funds will be used for large projects.

There is 21 million in ARPA funds which will provide approximately \$500, 000 for Vintage program. Additional ARPA program information is available in the ARPA & Stimulus Funding report.

Mountain Mitigation Reports available for the ARPA Committee and other NWCCOG members.

Other Business

The budget hearing will be a separate from a detailed budget workshop in October. There will be a brief presentation of the budget hearing during the October Council Meeting for the hearing. Notice will be given to those who want to attend the workshop in which the proposed 2022 and revised 2021 budgets will be reviewed in detail.

Anita can help guide anyone who needs economic assistance due to the I-70 closure. NLF does not administer economic injury loans for this but can assist with paperwork.

General Member Updates

- **Patti Clapper** – Pitkin County met with Senator Bennett, CDOT, FEEMA and Army Corps of Engineers regarding the impacts on the Colorado river due to the sediment buildup. Pitkin is looking into federal funds for airport remodeling. The short-term rental code revisions have been drafted requiring licensing and occupation by a person and not owned by an LLC. Anything approved regarding STR will be shared with the COG once available.
- **Andy Miller** – Thanked NWCCOG for assistance hiring the new town manager. A joint interest meeting with the town of Winter Park is in the works to resolve common issues. Frasier is looking into models regulating short term rentals.
- **Carolyn Skowyr** – Dillon is building a new town park but is having problems getting bids for landscaping which is stalling the project.
- **Josh Blanchard** – Vail Health Regional Hospital is almost complete and will add needed health services to the community. Summit County Housing is monitoring Breckenridge housing caps and increasing licensing fees. <https://www.summitdaily.com/news/local/our-trajectory-is-troubling-breckenridge-to-set-cap-on-short-term-rental-licenses/> . Other short term rental initiatives include Opportunity Zones for the work force neighborhoods and Housing Helps program. <https://www.summitcountyco.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32585/61521-BOCC-Housing-Plan-PP---Updated>
Emergency operation plans are being revised with consideration of congestion at the I-70 Silverthorne exit 205. Early Childhood Options is focusing on increasing benefits and salaries for employees of early childhood centers. CMC has created teaching programs that put high school students right into the work force after graduation. Climate Action Plan appears to be on target and initiatives will be reviewed as new data has been received.
- **Tamra Underwood** – Short term rental initiatives including a short-term overlay zone, a 2% rental tax on the November 2nd ballot and Mi Casa deed restricted homing for employees. Due to election recalls it is recommended that all members look at their charter regarding recall ordinances.
- **Coby Corkle** – Jackson County contracted an architecture firm for master plan of county building. The county is also designing a new landfill due to drought and new regulations. Discussing housing or land development options to encourage building projects which will possible be deed restricted for full time residents, not allowing short term rentals. Jackson County has been selected by CSU for Economic Development program.
- **Thomas Fridstein** – Snowmass is finalizing a master plan on affordable housing for employees over the next 10-20 years and expanding early childhood development to meet the needs of the community.
- **Alyssa Shenk**– Snowmass is putting in new fiberoptic cables, new base buildings including lodging, new development for transit, welcome area and rodeo.
- **Watkins Fulk-Gray** – Basalt Board 2030 implementing master plan for the upcoming ballot which is focusing on affordable housing, green initiative issues, adding to main street and riverfront property. Census numbers show 3.3% growth which seems low and are to be reviewed.

Goals and Objectives

Goals and Objectives will be posted in the October meeting for adoption. Anyone that has input please email Jon.

Adjournment

M/S: Thomas Fri/Patti Clapper adjourned the NWCCOG Council meeting at 12:04pm.

Passed: Yes

Alyssa Shenk

[Alyssa Shenk](#)

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair

(Oct 13, 2021 23:07

Date