



# Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

## NWCCOG Council Meeting

October 28, 2021

Conference Call Only (“Present” means on the call”)

### **Board Members:**

Alyssa Shenk, Town of Snowmass Village  
Patti Clapper, Pitkin County  
Tamra Nottingham Underwood, Town of Avon  
Watkins Fulk-Gray, Glenwood Springs  
Ed Cannon, Town of Fraser  
Tomas Fridstein, Town of Snowmass Village  
Carolyn Skowrya, Town of Dillon  
Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle County  
Skippy Mesriow, City of Aspen  
Sara Nadolny, Town of Basalt  
Josh Blanchard, Summit County  
Geoff Grimmer, Town of Eagle

### **Others Present:**

Melanie Leaverton, Jackson County Tourism  
Janeth Stangle, Sen. Hickenlooper  
John Whitney, Sen. Bennet  
Greg Winkler, DOLA

### **NWCCOG Staff:**

Jon Stavney  
Talai Shirey  
Nate Walowitz  
Becky Walter  
Rachel Lunney  
Jonah Glassman

### **Call to Order**

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair, called a joint meeting of Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) to order at 10:03am. Roundtable introductions were completed, and a quorum was present for the group.

### **Approval of August 2021 Council Meeting Minutes**

*M/S: Patti Clapper/Carolyn Skowrya* to approve the August 2021 Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

***Passed: Yes***

### **3rd Quarter Financials**

Jon reviewed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financials. He noted that staff has written a “cheat sheet” to reference when reading the List of Bills which will be available on the NWCCOG website under Council Resources. This will make the purpose of the various codes more clear.

*M/S: Patti Clapper/Carolyn Skowrya* to approve the NWCCOG 2021 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly financials as presented.

***Passed: Yes***

### **NLF Financials**

Jon explained that the NLF Financials are still being approved internally and then will be available on our website for review.

### **Proposed 2022 Council Meeting Schedule**

Jon recommended the flexibility of hybrid meeting (in-person/Zoom) for 2022 meetings. He also reserved the possibility of adding a location to any meeting when In-Person meetings become safe again. Staff is looking forward to showing the Membership the remodeled office and meeting room.

*M/S: Patti Clapper /Thomas Fridstein* to approve the 2022 Council Meeting Schedule and the flexibility to meet in-person.

***Passed: Yes***

### **THOR Network Operator**

There was a brief memo in the packet on this matter. Jon reviewed the RFP process and requested the authority to negotiate a contract for the THOR Network Operator.

**M/S: Thomas Fridstein / Skippy Mesirow** move to give Jon and Nate the authority to negotiate a contract for the THOR Network Operator.

**Passed: Yes**

### **Proposed Routt County join NWCCOG Region 12**

Jon welcomed Routt County into our Region through Governor Polis' Executive Order and requested approval from Council to allow Routt County to join as the 6<sup>th</sup> Region. The updated bylaws will make them a part of the executive committee.

**M/S: Patti Clapper /Kathy Chandler** to allow Routt County as the 6<sup>th</sup> region to join and be part of the voting committee.

**Passed: Yes**

### **Motion to allow change in NWCCOG bylaws**

Jon explained the need to update the bylaws allowing the 6<sup>th</sup> county into the executive committee and various other amendments which were presented without comment at the April and July meetings. The Amended and Restated Bylaws are available for review at <https://www.nwccog.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/NWCCOG-Bylaws-Revision-2021-CLEAN-for-Council-5182021.pdf> (Note, Jon was contacted by staff at Glenwood Springs after the meeting about if the new bylaws meant that staff could no longer serve on the board. He said this was not the intent, but confirmed that the wording after edits implied that. A correction will be proposed for the Dec meeting)

**M/S: Patti Clapper /Kathy Chandler** to approve the Amended and Restated 2021 Bylaws

**Passed: Yes**

### **Fiscal Office changes**

Jon discussed Becky and Elaina's new positions in the Fiscal Office, the benefits to NWCCOG for having fiscal services provided in house and the impacts on the 2022 budget.

### **Legislation Update**

John Whitney, with Senator Bennet's office, provided an update on the SHRED Act. Senator Bennet estimates this would retain 17 million for Colorado with 12 million retained for White River Forest alone. NWCCOG and Jon's work advocating for the right changes molded this bill so the benefits can be shared more broadly. The Senate Energy Resources Committee hearing was well received by the Committee and gained support from 13 senators as well as the Forest Service. The next step is to move out of Committee possibly with a Recreation Package bill in 2022. President announced framework on Build Back Better bill that provides funding for forestry, climate change, housing, water, and childcare.

Janeth Stangle provided an update from Senator Hickenlooper's office. The Senator hosted a taste of Colorado Bipartisan G20 lunch. There is an upcoming hearing for women entrepreneur by the Small Business and Entrepreneur Committee. The Senator recently co-sponsored Recovering America's Wildlife Act, Save our Service Members Act and the Gateway to Careers Act.

Patti Clapper thanked Janeth Stangle for the support of our veterans and requested more support for our firefighters. Both John Whitney and Janeth Stangle acknowledged the importance of this request.

### **DOLA Update**

Greg Winkler announced that the \$260k two-year grant from DOLA for the NWCCOG Broadband Director was approved.

### **NWCCOG/ Energy Program expansion/relocation**

Jon praised Breckenridge for the new non-profit center which will house FIRC. As our Energy Department is growing it is looking at additional warehouse and/or office space. The non-profit space in Breckenridge may be a possible solution which may include moving the entire NWCCOG office. This was just an FYI that Jon will be monitoring the opportunity.

### **Discussion COG: 2022 Budget**

Jon reviewed highlights from the 2022 Budget and recommendations made at the 10/26/2021 Budget Workshop (see notes at the end of this document). Anyone who would like a more in-depth review of the 2022 Budget may reach out to Jon. Once the Budget Workshop revisions are made to the 2022 Draft Budget a revised 2022 Draft Budget will be posted on the website and a second budget workshop will be offered.

Alyssa asked for Jon to explain the function of the Foundation. Jon noted that the NWCCOG Foundation provides a passthrough for Federal Tax-Exempt donations and is available for members to use as needed for local projects.

### **Adopt 2022 Goals and Objectives**

Jon reviewed the 2022 Goals & Objectives proposed by Staff that were presented, modified and approved by the Executive Committee at the August 2021 Council Meeting. Though labelled 2022, these will stand until others are adopted, which has usually been every 2 to 3 years. Jon specifically requested input on the Member Services Program goals. There were no questions or recommendations.

**M/S: Tamra/Patti Clapper to adopt the 2022 Goals and Objectives.**

**Passed: Yes**

### **Program Updates**

Johanna Glassman, SHIP Coordinator provided a program update. SHIP helps navigate Medicare and is currently assisting with Open Enrollment, meeting with employers to assist aging employees use Medicare and is offering one-on-one meetings at senior centers. To make an appointment you can call Vintage or go to [YourVintage.org/YourCare/Medicare](https://www.vintage.org/YourCare/Medicare). Vail Daily spotlighted the SHIP program in the 10/27/2021 newspaper: <https://www.vaildaily.com/news/new-medicare-offering-could-improve-access-to-affordable-health-care-for-eagle-county-seniors/>

Rachel Tuyn, Economic Development District Director provided a program update. The EDD Board Meeting has been cancelled today and will resume on 12/02/2021. The EDD Board Meetings will continue to follow the NWCCOG Council Meeting in 2022 from 12:30-2:30. Elizabeth Garner will be joining the 12/02/21 Board meeting and will present demographic and census updates. The annual [Demography meeting is on 11/05/2021](#) and free for anyone to join. SEDS has been approved. EDA provided grants that were passed directly on to our counties for local projects.

### **Member Updates**

- Josh Blanchard, Summit County - Focusing on housing issues, Lease to Locals incentives is in the regulatory process for 2022.
- Tamra Underwood, Avon - Added a 2% short term rental tax on the upcoming ballot, proceeds will be allocated to employee housing and MiCasa purchase program.
- Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle County– Housing Bold Moves efforts which include deed restriction and rental buy downs, buyers cash offer assistance and new housing projects. Eagle Valley Trail went to bonding with a great interest rate.
- Carolyn Skowrya, Dillon –Allocating an hour on all meetings to invite public to join conversation on the housing issues. Tentative approval for ice skating on the lake including a PBR pond hockey tournament.
- Thomas Fridstein, Town of Snowmass Village – The master plan for employee housing has been approved. Building will take place over the next 20 years however the cost is very high. The bus terminal project on hold due to higher cost than budgeted. The Rodeo remodeling is moving along with a wetlands park.
- Watkins Fulk-Gray, Glenwood Springs – Moved to Glenwood Springs as a senior planner and is expanding broadband throughout the city. Also focusing on rental housing/affordable housing projects.

### **Adjournment**

**M/S: Carolyn Skowrya / Tomas Fridstein to adjourn the NWCCOG Council meeting at 12:09 pm.**

**Passed: Yes**

  
Alyssa Shenk (Nov 24, 2021 22:29 EST)

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair

**11/24/2021**

Date

## **General Notes from the NWCCOG 2022 Draft Budget Workshop October 26, 2021**

### **Board Members Present:**

Alyssa Shenk, Town of Snowmass Village  
Carolyn Skowyra, Town of Dillon

### **NWCCOG Staff Present:**

Jon Stavney  
Becky Walter  
Rachel Lunney  
Nate Walowitz  
Talai Shirey

**The following items informed the Second Draft Budget which was subsequently published and distributed on 11/17/2021.**

### **Requested changes and corrections:**

- Update Vehicles Fund footnotes with current IRS milage
- Add columns for 2022 wage increases (suggested columns: 2021 wage / wage adjustment / 5% increase / 2022 wage) Add additional spreadsheet from Rachel (verify which spreadsheet)
- General spreadsheet organization – have categories with full amount in bold and list subcategories that breakdown that full amount under
- Add to the 2022 Council Meeting Agenda in June – Vintage and Energy budget review
- Add bullet points that help explain big number changes in laymen terms. I.e. *Energy Dept “material costs is up however this is actually growth and not overspending”*
- Add footnote to Vintage – 2021 is year to date not projected
- All Departments – add a footnote that explains what the remaining funds are allocated to

### **Need further clarification from directors:**

- Energy – Why are vehicles funded to tools and equipment and not capital?
- RTCC – Need to speak internally about Local Revenue Match
- Vintage – Speak with Amanda regarding Executive Director vs. staffing pay
- Vintage – Rename column from “actual” to “year to date”
- Vintage – Jon, Becky and Amanda to annotate all of Vintage
- EDD – Speak to Rachel about 94k