



Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

Economic Development District (EDD) Board Meeting

May 26, 2022

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

Council & EDD Board Members Present:

Thomas Fridstein, Town of Snowmass
Corry Mihm, Summit Prosperity Initiative
DiAnn Butler, Grand County Economic Development
Chris Romer, Vail Valley Partnership
Mark Hoblitzell, CDLE
Melanie Leaverton, Jackson County Tourism
Matthew Langhorst, City of Glenwood Springs
Patti Clapper, Pitkin County
Kristen Brownson, Town of Breckenridge
John Bristol, Routt County

NWCCOG Staff:

Talai Shirey
Rachel Tuyn

Call to Order:

DiAnn Butler, EDD Chair, called the Economic Development District (EDD) Board meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Roundtable introductions were completed, and a quorum was present for the group.

Approval of March EDD Board Meeting Minutes

M/S: Patti Clapper/Chris Romer to approve the March 2022 EDD Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Passed: Yes

Workforce Update

Mark Hoblitzell provided workforce updates; labor force numbers are still strong, no shoulder season bump which could be from an already tight labor market or a longer ski season. Some counties will be challenging the census results including Eagle, Pitkin and possibly Summit counties which could change the labor force numbers. Possible topic for the 2023 EDD Summit - CDCE received additional funds which may be available for local communities.

Upcoming events:

June 15th - Business Presentation focusing on Labor Force Utilization

June 28, 2022 - Annual Employment Law Update

July 19, 2022 - Federal Medical Leave Act Overview

Program Update

Rachel provided feedback from the EDD Summit. The ratings were high, and people appreciated the half-day format. Suggestions for next year included starting later to allow for travel time, workshops for more in-depth conversations, Forces at Play update and less focus on tourism/more focus on SEDS. Next year's event is scheduled for 05/04/2023 at the Silverthorne Pavilion, please send suggestions to Rachel.

Rachel will be updating the Regional Workforce Housing Report using the same communities from the previous report. Wrapping up the EDA Cares grant, most of the \$400k funds have been granted out to Member communities.

Member Updates

Patti Clapper – Short-term rental ordinance is on second reading and hopefully will be enacted on 6/22/22. There is someone who will work on enforcement and applications and hired an economic consultant to assist with land use and growth management.

Chris Romer – Hosting an Outdoor Industry Summit in August, more details to come. Positive movement with housing projects; both CMC and Eagle County Schools have started creating housing. Also working on workforce upskilling and retention.

Thomas Fridstein – Workforce housing includes 183 more units over the next 10-15 years. The standard of living continues to increase with little likelihood of ever having enough employee housing; Aspen and Snowmass may get

starved out of employees. Snowmass is interested in the growth management conversation. Short-term housing policy conversation includes investors buying up property in neighborhoods for short-term purposes eliminating the neighborhood feel.

Kristin Brownson – Town of Breckenridge workforce programs are available at <https://www.townofbreckhousing.com/> There is a lot of building in the airport parking lot as well as developments north of town. Despite partnerships with Vail Resorts, there never seems to be enough employee housing. Short-term rental restrictions per district and moratorium on number of licenses are being discussed.

John Bristol – Routt County Development project focusing on business retention and identifying the issues businesses are struggling with. Targeting Routt counties 22 outdoor recreation retail companies, including Big Agnus, to keep companies in Routt County and help expand. Diversification is another focus.

Melanie Leaverton – Hosted 40 BLM people at sand dunes area, BLM is working on upgrades to the sand dune area including a helipad. Rodeo and Healthcare conference are upcoming events. Bitcoin mining in Northpark starting up at old mining areas for methane capturing.

Cory Mihm – Reviewing draft of DOLA Roadmap Recovery; June 8 will be the presentation from consultant and stakeholder feedback. Preparing for Mountain Town 2030 in September which will include the entire mountain region.

DiAnn Butler –Received \$400k EDA grant from travel/tourism board. The grant will be used for dispersing trail system usage with better signage and wayfinding. Infrastructure programs and any gaps in tourism, transportation, business diversification and workforce development. Multi jurisdiction housing projects include WP, Grandby, Fraasier and all of Grand County.

A discussion was had regarding in person meetings, and it was determined to remain flexible due to disbursement of communities allowing for hybrid meetings.

Adjournment:

M/S: Patti Clipper/Chris Romer adjourned the EDD meeting at 1:16 pm.

Passed: Yes

DiAnn Butler

[DiAnn Butler \(Jun 3, 2022 06:49 MDT\)](#)

DiAnn Butler, EDD Chair

Jun 3, 2022

Date





May 2022 EDD Minutes

Final Audit Report

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