



# Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

## NWCCOG Council Meeting

January 26, 2022

### **Council & EDD Board Members Present:**

Alyssa Shenk, Town of Snowmass Village  
Jeanne McQueeney, Eagle County  
Skippy Mesirow, City of Aspen  
Tim Redmond, Routt County  
Josh Blanchard, Summit County  
Kristen Brownson, Town of Breckenridge  
Michelle Eddy, Town of Blue River  
Toby Babich, Town of Blue River  
John Crone, Town of Grand Lake  
Sara Nadolny, Town of Basalt  
Patti Clapper, Pitkin County  
Ingrid Wussow, City of Glenwood Springs  
Randy George, Grand County  
DiAnne Butler, Grand County Economic Dev  
Lewis Gregory, Town of Fraser  
Glen Drummond, Basalt  
Geoff Grimmer, Town of Eagle  
Josh Blanchard, Summit County  
Melissa Mathews, Town of Red Cliff  
Ashely Macdonald, Town of Kremmling

### **Others Present:**

Carolyn Tucker, Northwest Colorado Work  
Christina Oxley, CDLE  
Janeth Stangle, Sen. Bennet's Office

### **NWCCOG Staff:**

Jon Stavney  
Anita Cameron  
Becky Walter  
Doug Jones  
Rachel Tuyn  
Erin Fisher  
Talai Shirey  
Nate Walowitz  
Jonathan Godes

### **Call to Order**

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair, called the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) meeting to order at 10:30am. Roundtable introductions were completed, and a quorum was present for the group.

### **Approval of December 2022 Council Meeting Minutes**

***M/S: Kristen Brownson/Glen Drummond*** to approve the December 2022 Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

***Passed: Yes***

### **Approval of 2022 NWCCOG Preliminary End of the Year Financials**

Jon reviewed the financials and explained the fiscal responsibilities for new council members. Instructions on how to read a bill schedule are provided on the NWCCOG Council Resources page.

***M/S: Kristen Brownson/Ashley Macdonald*** to approve the Preliminary End of Year financials for NWCCOG as presented.

***Passed: Yes***

### **Jackson County**

Jackson County has decided to not pay NWCCOG member dues after it was confirmed that NWCCOG Vintage, Energy, EDD will continue to serve Jackson County. They are not making an official request from the state to be removed from the NWCCOG Region. NWCCOG will take this as a temporary loss to NWCCOG and will leave the Council Members as vacant for the time being.

### **Election of NWCCOG Officers, Municipal Members to the Executive Committee**

NWCCOG Officers are voted in every two years. Alyssa Shenk confirmed that the 2021/2022 Officers agreed to continue as NWCCOG Officers. There was a discussion and no other members were nominated.

***M/S: Jeanne McQueeney/Skippy Mesirow*** to renew current NWCCOG Officers to two-year term serving 2023/2024.

A conversation was had to fill vacant Municipal Members of the Executive Committee which serve a one-year term. Representatives from counties are automatically elected to Executive Committee. The following five NWCCOG Council members agreed to fill as Executive Committee municipal members: Kristen Brownson, Glen Drummond, Geoff Grimmer, Carolyn Skowyra and Alyssa Shenk

**M/S: Patti Clapper/Tim Redmond** to elect Kristen Brownson, Glen Drummond, Geoff Grimmer, Carolyn Skowyra and Alyssa Shenk as the five members to the 2023 Executive Committee

### **Designate County Health Pool (CHP) Representative for 2023**

There was a discussion regarding the responsibilities as CHP Representative and it was recommended that Talai Shirey and Jon Stavney be re-elected as CHP 2023 representatives.

**M/S: Geoff Grimmer/Ashley Macdonald** to appoint Talai Shirey and Jon Stavney as CHP representative for 2023  
**Passed: Yes**

### **Introduction of Jonathan Godes NWCCOG Regional Grants Navigator**

Jonathan Godes was recently contracted by NWCCOG as the Regional Grants Navigator. He was introduced by Jon and by himself at this meeting.

The funds are appropriated annually through legislature via OEDIT and may be authorized to renew for five years. Once OEDIT finalizes the contract with NWCCOG, Jon and Jonathan will complete his Contract and he will be ready to take on the position. There was some concern regarding potential conflict of interest which Alyssa shared with Jon before the meeting. Jon checked with the NWCCOG attorney who confirmed there is not an issue employing an elected official from a member jurisdiction either in state law or in NWCCOG by-laws. Following discussion, it was agreed that NWCCOG should put some side boards in Jonathan's contract and consider a policy (that would have the ED check-in with attorney and Council Chair first) regarding hiring elected officials from a Member Jurisdiction for a NWCCOG contracted/employee position. NWCCOG attorney in the email noted that NWCCOG policy should also be updated to state clearly that all hires and contracting for positions is the purview of the Executive Director, not the Council (removing conflict of interest by Council members in the selection of employees or contractors).

There was a request for a list of funds available through the IRA and IJA bills., Jonathan Godes committed send out the list and recommended one on one conversations as soon as he has officially taken on the role.

### **Elected Officials Training and Mental Health Project**

This matter was continued from the previous meeting in which it was requested that ELC and Jon put together a flyer and agenda for Elected Official's Mental Health retreat to be circulated among the members to gauge interest in such a workshop. Those documents were in the packet for review and an OK to distribute. Skippy discussed with the Aspen attorney who recommended that there would be a conflict of interest perhaps with the City of Aspen or NWCCOG in having NWCCOG pay a sitting NWCCOG representative for facilitating a retreat. General consensus in the discussion among the members at this meeting agreed. Patti Clapper had several concerns with regards to NWCCOG partnering with the Elected Leaders Collective under any terms, questioning the facilitator's credentials with regard to mental health counseling. One change from the prior meeting to the flyer presented in this meeting is for there to be a charge per attendee that would cover most of the lodging, but no proceeds would go toward paying the facilitator. Skippy and Jamie agreed to provide services at no cost and collaborated with Jon to create a new cost and schedule. The current proposal is that NWCCOG front the cost for the conference lodging and food and charge dues/person. If there was enough interest, much of NWCCOG's front cost could be recovered through attendee fees. It was clarified that input from member jurisdictions would be considered at the March meeting in which the Council would decide to move forward with the retreat, modify the terms or not move forward with the retreat.

### **Multi-Agency Energy Resilience Goal Collaborations**

At the request of Council from late 2022, Kara Silbernagel and Bryan Hannegan presented the Roaring Fork AABC Integrated Clean Energy project, A DOLA Funded Collaboration between Holy Cross Energy, RFTA, the Aspen/Pitkin County Airport and Pitkin County. There was much discussion and interest in similar projects are being discussed in Eagle County among other places. PPT with detailed information about the project is on the Council Resources website.

**Legislative Update**

Matthew Kireker, Sen. Bennet’s Office applauds everything Holy Cross is working on with the Multi-Agency Energy Resilience. The Energy and Natural Resource Committee will be marking up the SHRED Act which means that it needs to be formally re-introduced. Sen. Bennet’s office may request a letter of support from NWCCOG. He also noted to be prepared in early February to think about priorities for congressionally directed funding. The Republicans in House felt there may be \$178M across 65-70 projects. There will be a briefing coming up in February.

**Program Updates**

Program updates are provided in each packet for review. Instead of reading through each update, members can review and contact Jon with questions.

**Insight Collective**

The meeting ran out of time, so Jon suggested that he speak with Alyssa regarding some partial funding for project development with the IC. He will be making calls to Managers and would like IC to do similar input collecting from other parties with partial funding so that NWCCOG could make a better DOLA grant request in March.

**New Business**

An updated Elected Officials List was provided in packet, please let us know if your jurisdiction has any edits. Jon mentioned that NWCCOG plans to update this regularly and send introductory emails to newly elected officials (and any appointed since) following each election. The list was requested by QQ so they can begin doing the same. Housing Colorado Summary in packet.

**Adjournment**

***M/S: Kristen Brownson/Ashley Macdonald*** adjourned the NWCCOG Council meeting at 12:13 p.m.

***Passed: Yes***

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Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair

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Date