



# Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

## NWCCOG Council Meeting

October 26, 2023

### **Council Members Present:**

Alyssa Shenk, Town of Snowmass Village  
Jena Skinner, Town of Avon  
Jeanne McQueeney, Eagle County  
Larry Pardee, Town of Eagle  
Kristen Brownson, Town of Breckenridge  
Randy George, Grand County  
Nina Waters, Summit County  
Michael Buccino, Steamboat Springs  
Lana Bryce, Town of Gypsum  
Matt Langhorst, Town of Glenwood Springs  
Carolyn Skowyra, Town of Dillon  
John Bristol, Routt County  
Jonnah Glassman, Town of Silverthorne

### **Others Present:**

Megan Lawson, Ph.D. Headwaters Economics  
Matt Kireker, Sen. Bennet  
Janeth Stancel, Sen. Hickenlooper

### **NWCCOG Staff:**

Jon Stavney  
Becky Walter  
Talai Shirey  
Erin Fisher  
Jonnah Glassman  
Rachel Tuyn

### **Call to Order**

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair, called the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) meeting to order at 10:32 am. Roundtable introductions were completed, and a quorum was present for the group.

### **Approval of August 2023 Council Meeting Minutes**

***M/S: Jeanne McQueeney/Michael Buccino*** to approve the August 2023 Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

***Passed: Yes***

### **Executive Director Evaluation**

Alyssa Shenk provided a recap from this morning's Executive Committee performance evaluation with Jon. The Executive Committee values Jons contribution to NWCCOG, he is an excellent external communicator, always moving the needle forward and expanding programing. Some suggestions for the upcoming year included outreach to all jurisdictions and entice more participation from counties.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financials**

Jon reviewed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financials, there was one question regarding the charges for Top Golf. Fiscal confirmed that this was for Energy Program team building paid by non-grant funding. There was another question regarding the Tesla's, Jon answered that Energy Program has a Tesla in their fleet. No other questions were asked.

***M/S: Alyssa Shenk/Michael Buccino*** approve the NWCCOG Q3 Financials as presented.

***Passed: Yes***

### **NLF Reports for Review**

The NLF Reports are in the NWCCOG Council packet for review only. There were no questions asked.

### **2024 Council Schedule**

A reminder that the August schedule was moved to September in 2024. We will continue providing hybrid meetings and possibly have some meetings at the new NWCCOG Gypsum Warehouse. It was agreed that a few in-person meetings should be encouraged. Lunch and field trips might also be enticing. Note from the ED Committee meeting; please add more Program presentations from NWCCOG Directors.

***M/S: Alyssa Shenk/Michael Buccino*** approve the 2024 Meeting Schedule as presented.

***Passed: Yes***

### **NWCCOG Mission Statement**

Jon suggested updating the NWCCOG Mission Statement which feels outdated. Jon, along with several NWCCOG Program Directors and Managers, proposed options for re-wording the Statement. Alyssa was able to wordsmith the suggested changes into a New Mission Statement: *NWCCOG fosters innovative regional solutions and supports local government members by managing diverse programs that deliver direct services and grant funding opportunities to beneficiaries across the region; providing leadership, guidance, and partnership building; and advocating members' interests and needs with local, state, and federal entities.*

**M/S: Randy George/Alyssa Shenk** approve the updated NWCCOG Mission Statement

**Passed: Yes**

### **Vintage Advocacy at State Level for Additional Funding for AAA**

Erin Fisher provided a presentation with State Demographics which is available on the Council Resource webpage. Erin also provided background for the AAA Advocacy letters to the Governor which are available for reference in the Council Packet. The letters, spearheaded by DRCOG, had three asks 1) General Funding Increase, 2) Classification as a community provider to be considered for annual inflationary increases, 3) Review adequacy of funding every five years.

### **Executive Director Updates**

- RGN Program is being funded again for 2024! Thank you, Alyssa, at OEDIT for lobbying. Congrats Jonathan. Looking for Success Stories next.
- RTCC Mobility Manager is being funded for 2024, thanks to CDOT. The Job Posting for position is live right now, Open till Oct 27th. Clarify new role.
- IMTPR split being recommended by CDOT to TC (rel. to MM position).
- DOLA has funded Community Metrics Project, waiting on OEDIT, TBD for timelines and requests to circulate survey tool. Expecting White Paper first Quarter of 2024 from Insights Collective on results.
- Working closely with Regions 10 and 9 on transitioning regional middle mile projects into one entity with different governance. Project THOR Transition. Is contracting with Kissinger and Fellman and CTC for initial analysis of options in the form of White Paper comparing current structures to what has been done elsewhere, and what options exist in the legal landscape of Colorado. The schedule is to get a list of options from the initial work. To agree upon WHICH one or two of those options the stakeholders prefer over the winter. So that when the DOLA grant is announced in the Spring, the three regions can move forward with the same vendors (or bid) to outline exactly HOW merging the regional networks under one business and governance model would work. Jon is actively coordinating with DOLA and CBO, and will be applying to DOLA for next step analysis with same consultant team with Council blessing.
- Council voted by acclamation to allow Jon to apply to DOLA's December Cycle for the Western Slope Middle Mile Study/Plan (above) to cover the proposals from KF and CTC that were in the packet (\$325,000). He said the intent was to apply for a no match grant. Jon has spoken with Chantal and with Regional Rep Kate about this in concept. He noted that pre-work on that study was being funded by the three regions and was currently underway in preparation for that Grant submittal.

### **PRESENTATION: Megan Lawson, Headwaters Economics on The Amenity Trap report**

Megan Lawson, Ph.D., presented Mitigating the Amenity Trap, How destination communities are managing rapid growth. You may find additional information at: <https://headwaterseconomics.org/outdoor-recreation/amenity-trap/>. If you have information on your jurisdiction you would like to share with Headwaters Economics, you may email [Megan@headwaterseconomics.org](mailto:Megan@headwaterseconomics.org). You may find additional information at: [Headwaterseconomics.org](https://headwaterseconomics.org)

### **Announcing release of 2023 Workforce Housing Report**

Jon provided a sneak peek of the 2024 Workforce Housing Report which is expected to be ready for release next week. The program includes CAST and NWCCOG matrix, STR matrix, individual community overviews, etc.

### **2024 Budget and 2023 Revised Budget**

Jon provided a summary from the detailed Budget Workshop which was held on October 18<sup>th</sup>. A Budget Memo is provided in the October Council Packet which includes highlights from questions that were asked at the Workshop. The

Draft 2024 Budget and 2023 Revised Budget are available on our website. Approval for the budget will be requested at the December Council meeting. <https://www.nwccog.org/about/people/our-council/council-resources/>

**Congressional Updates**

Matt Kireker, Sen. Bennet – 1. We are on the verge of a government shutdown on 11/17/23 however a House Speaker was finally found; now the representatives will need to agree on a budget. 2. The Farm Bill was passed in 2018 for 5-years; it is now lapsed. If an extension bill is not agreed on soon, there will be noticeable consumer expenses attributed to the loss of subsidies. 3. Appropriation Bills may need to be moved forward on one-by-one basis.

Janeth Stancel, Sen. Hickenlooper – The announcement of the House Speaker is good however there is a lot in question with the potential government shutdown. TechHub announced it is awarding funding to Boulder company which will have a good economic benefit for Colorado and also has an education component. 54M received for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Mt Evans has been renamed Mt. Blue Sky.

**Adjournment**

***M/S: Alyssa Shenk /Michael Buccino*** adjourned the NWCCOG Council meeting at 11:39AM

***Passed: Yes***

Alyssa Shenk  
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Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair

22/02/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Signature:   
Alyssa Shenk (Feb 22, 2024 21:30 MST)

Email: ashenk@tosv.com







# October 26 2023 NWCCOG Council Minutes

Final Audit Report

2024-02-23

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