



Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

NWCCOG Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Executive Board Members

Alyssa Shenk – Town of Snowmass
Patti Clapper – Pitkin County
Nina Waters – Summit County

NWCCOG Staff

Jon Stavney – Executive Director
Becky Walter – Finance Director
Dana Wood – Mobility Director
Doug Jones – Energy Program Director
David Harris – EIP Director
Erin Fisher – Vintage Program Director
Anita Cameron – NLF Director
Nate Walowitz – Broadband Director

Members In-Person

Alyssa Shenk – Town of Snowmass
Patti Clapper – Pitkin County
Tim Redmond – Routt County
Gloria Kaasch-Buerger – Town of Basalt
Jeffrey Woodruff – Pitkin County
Scott Schreiner – Town of Eagle

Jonah Glassman – Silverthorne
Abigail Tietjen – Copper Mountain Metro District

Others Present

Tom Boyd – Eagle County
Samantha Martin – Jackson County
David “Ty” Wattenberg – Jackson County
Randy George – Grand County
Jenna Skinner – Town of Avon
Diane McBride – Town of Frisco
Sarah Nadolny – Town of Basalt
Melissa Matthews – Town of Red Cliff
Dan Sullivan – Town of Keystone
Kristen Brownson – Town of Breckenridge
Jacob Zook – City of Glenwood Springs
Karah Brubaker – State of Colorado
Janeth Stangle – Sen. John Hickenlooper
Patrick Ibarra – The Mejorando Group
Corry Mihm
Jonathan Godes – I-70 Coalition

ACTION: Call to Order NWCCOG Council Meeting

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair, called the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) Meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Jon Stavney confirmed Quorum.

Financial Overview

Becky Walter presented a financial overview. The organization achieved 120% of projected revenues, largely due to the growth in the fee-for-service programs in the Energy Program, and revenues increasing due to enforcement in the Elevator Program. Doug Jones’s multi-year efforts in diversifying funding for the Energy program was acknowledged specifically. The indirect budget continues to run over budget, in part for adding new costs with the HR

position. Jon noted this is counterbalanced by increased revenues in Indirect from over 8 hires made or planned in 2026 that occurred after the budget was passed.

ACTION: Approve Amendments to Asset Capitalization Policy

Becky Walter proposed amendments to the asset capitalization policy to better reflect current economic conditions. Patti Clapper made a motion to approve; Jonnah Glassman seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

ACTION: Approval of Additions to 2026 Budget and Wage Range

Jon Stavney presented an updated Wage Range to include new positions added in Indirect, and Energy. Patti Clapper made a motion to approve; Jeffrey Woodruff seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

Brief Review of Council Bylaws and Rules of Conduct, LOS Policy

NWCCOG Director Jon Stavney reviewed Council Bylaws and Council Rules of Conduct, for incoming members.

ACTION: Election of New Officers for the NWCCOG Council Board

After a call for new Officers from the Chair, a motion was made in support of the existing Officers with Alyssa Shenk as Chair, Patti Clapper as Vice Chair, and Nina Waters as Secretary-Treasurer. Tom Boyd made a motion to approve all three by acclamation; Randy George seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

ACTION: Election of Executive Committee Members

Jon Stavney clarified per the By Laws that each County's representative automatically has a seat on the Executive Committee, and that five Municipal appointees were required. He noted that in recent years, that only 3 have been appointed. He offered to bring an amendment of the By Laws to reflect this challenge of finding 5. Vice Chair Patti Clapper Recommended keeping the By Laws as is for now. Alyssa Shenk of the Town of Snowmass, Kristen Brownson of the Town of Breckenridge, and Dan Sullivan of the Town of Keystone, along with already sitting county representatives were nominated for the executive committee. Patti Clapper made a motion to approve; Tom Boyd seconded the motion. There was additional discussion that "Succession Planning" brought up in the Executive Director's review was to include discussing in a retreat how to create a bench of involved members at NWCCOG Council who would then take on leadership roles in future years.

Appreciation for the three officers commitment was expressed, with the caveat that it would be preferred to have a rotation of new leaders more often. Clapper will be ineligible in 2027.

Passed: Yes

ACTION: Elect 2 County Health Pool (CHP) Representatives for NWCCOG

Annually, the Council appoints two administrators for the County Health Pool (CHP) health plan for NWCCOG, the Town of Kremmling, and the Town of Walden. Jon Stavney (NWCCOG Executive Director) and Becky Baugh (NWCCOG HR Generalist) were appointed as County Health Pool Representatives for 2026. Alyssa Shenk made the motion to approve; Patti Clapper seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

ACTION: Motion to Convene the Northwest Loan Fund Board

Patti Clapper made the motion to convene the Northwest Loan Fund Board; Alyssa Shenk seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

Northwest Loan Fund Board Discussion

The annual Northwest Loan Fund board meeting included the approval of minutes from previous meetings on September 18th, 2025, December 4th, 2025, and the preliminary end-of-year financials were not yet ready to published. Current loan status was explained, highlighting concerns about certain loans classified as special assets, which had increased risk ratings.

An overview of the activities in 2025 was provided, including the new CDBG grant application and the closeout of the 2020 grant, which involved an audit that led to changes in loan agreements. The designation as a community-based development organization was achieved, allowing continued access to CDBG funds. Additionally, it was reported that 101 loans have been issued since 2014, creating 128 jobs across various communities.

ACTION: Motion to Approve Minutes from Previous Year's NLF Board Meeting

Approval of minutes from September 18th, 2025 and December 4th, 2025 NLF board meetings. Alyssa Shenk, motioned to approve; Tim Redmond seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

ACTION: Motion to Appoint Officers to 2026 Northwest Loan Board

As per NLF By Laws, the NWCCOG Officers are appointed annually as the NLF Board Officers. Alyssa Shenk was appointed as Chair, Patti Clapper was appointed as Vice Chair,

and Nina Waters was appointed as Secretary-Treasurer of the Northwest Loan Board for 2026. Alyssa Shenk made a motion to approve; Patti Clapper seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

ACTION: Motion to Reconvene Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

A motion to reconvene the Northwest Concord Council was made. Alyssa Shenk made the motion; Patti Clapper seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

Succession Planning Presentation and Discussion

Jon Stavney explained that Succession Planning was a concept discussed in his December Review. After seeking recommendations from peers across the region, he contacted a consultant who has presented at CCCMA and whose work on the subject is highlighted by ICMA on their website. Patrick Ibarra of The Mejando Group presented remotely on the concept and why it is valuable to organizations as they mature. Ibarra said that public sector organizations to evolve in response to changing workforce dynamics. He pointed out that many employees now seek productive and enjoyable work environments, which necessitates a shift in succession planning and talent retention strategies. Ibarra emphasized the importance of preparing employees for key roles and adapting recruitment strategies to attract talent. He outlined the concept of succession planning as a risk management strategy essential for continuity of operations. He also pointed out that seniority does not guarantee competence and stressed the importance of developing employees' skills through upskilling, reskilling, and new skilling. Ibarra emphasized the need for organizations to actively recruit and build their talent pipeline rather than waiting for vacancies to arise. The PowerPoint utilized in the presentation is available on the NWCCOG Website attached to materials for this meeting.

Congressional Updates

Janeth Stangle, representing Senator Hickenlooper, discussed significant federal funding challenges facing rural Colorado, including the veto of a clean drinking water project and cuts to childcare funding that could severely affect local school districts. She also mentioned the Senator's opposition to funding for DHS and ICE.

Executive Director Updates

- In reference to keeping program funding, the Council spoke on the importance of empowering directors to write advocacy letters for funding without needing prior approval for each instance. Nina Waters suggested identifying COG program directors who could engage with elected officials from specific towns.

Roundtable Discussion

- Patti Clapper noted that Pitkin County is in the process of appointing a new county manager following the resignation of Kelly McNicholas-Kury from the Board of Pitkin County Commissioners. Kara Silbernagel is currently serving as the interim county manager, while applications for the position are being accepted until February 25th.
- Dana Wood noted that there are ongoing discussions about funding cuts to senior services and transportation routes in the region. Including the possibility of losing a RFTA bus route due to loss of funding from Garfield County.
- Commissioner Redmond: Routt County’s Craig Station requires approximately 2 million dollars in repairs before it can be operational again, while Hayden Station is currently down due to a scrubber collapse.
- Commissioner Redmond: The \$85 million expansion of Yampa Valley Regional Airport is underway, along with the initiation of an apprenticeship program for building trades, aimed at supporting local workforce development.
- Jena Skinner from the Town of Avon provided updates on the town's initiatives regarding wildfire resilience and housing development. She noted collaboration with Eagle County to create a regional housing authority and emphasized the importance of aligning wildfire codes across jurisdictions.

ACTION: Adjournment

Patti Clapper made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:13 pm; Tim Redmond seconded the motion. All in attendance were in favor.

Alyssa Shenk, Chair

[Alyssa Shenk, Chair \(Apr 6, 2026 12:04:48 MDT\)](#)

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair

06/04/2026

Date






3. January 22 2026 NWCCOG Council Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report

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