

### **NWCCOG Full Council, EDD Board, and NLF Board Meeting Agenda**

### Thursday, October 23, 2025

249 Warren Ave., Silverthorne, CO 80498 and Zoom Conference Call

### Video & Phone Conference Information

Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4343110995?pwd=rbIHmpYikShSFje2tpMbd10DIEZrep.1&omn=84471408

Meeting

ID: Passcode:

119033 434 311 0995

### **NEXT NWCCOG Council Meeting**

Thursday, December 4, 2025

**Gypsum Conference Room NWCCOG Energy Office** and Zoom Conference Call 210 Spring Creek Rd., Gypsum, CO

9am - 12pm

NWCCOG Council Meeting					
9:00 a.m.	1. Call to Order	NWCCOG Council Chair - Alyssa Shenk			
	3. *ACTION:	Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2025 Council Meeting*	Pgs 3-5		
	4. *ACTION:	Approve Q3 Financials	NWCCOG Website		
	5. <b>FYI:</b>	NLF Risk Ratings NLF Risk Reserve September 30, 2025 NLF Portfolio Summary September 30, 2025	NWCCOG Website		
	ACTION:	NLF Resolution - Designating the Northwest Loan Fund as a Community-Based Development Organization Alyssa reviewing resolution. Jon seeking Memo from DOLA to explain.	Pgs 6-7		
9:10 a.m.	6. PRESENTATION	Regional Survey of Member Budget Projections for 2026 Jon Stavney presenting PPT (PI	NWCCOG Website		
9:20 a.m.	7. PRESENTATION	Review of 2026 Draft Budget and Wage Ranges Memo Jon and Becky	NWCCOG Website Pgs 8-9		
	DRAFT ACTION:	"I move to preliminarily approve Revised 2025 and Proposed 2026 Budget recognizing that any minor changes will be noted in Memo from Executive Director when put up for Consent approval at the December NWCCOG Meeting			
9:40 a.m.	8. *ACTION:	Approval of 2026 NWCCOG Council Meeting Schedule	Pg 10		
9:45 a.m.	9. <b>Presentation</b>	Status Update: Regional Statistical Analysis Project (Mayor interviews and Survey) Brian London, Managing Director, Insights Collective - The Travel Economy Think Tank	Posted to Website After Meeting		
10:00 a.m.	10. PRESENTATION	Overview of Evolving Community Models for Addressing Behavioral Health in Pitkin, Eagle, Summit, and Routt Counties Heather Trish, NCC, LPCC, LMHC, LPC. Mountain Mental Behavioral Health Network Director, Katz Amsterdam Foundation	Posted to Website After Meeting		
10:30 AM	BREAK				
10:40 a.m.	11. PRESENTATION	Navigating changes in Medicare for November 1 Open Enrollment  Jonnah Glassman, (State Health Insurance Assistance Program) NWCCOG SHIP Counselor	Pgs 11-12		
	12. Discussion:	Ideas for Improving Attendance at NWCCOG Council Meetings	Pgs 13-14		
10:50 a.m.	13. Discussion:	Around the Table Member Updates and Discussion			
11:30 A.M.	14. Discussion:	Congresional Updates			

**NWCCOG Website** 11:45 AM 15. Update: **Executive Director Updates** 

Behavioral Health Project Scoping with GPS Consulting

Wildfire Mitigation/related Programs and Regulations -- no comprehensive list

Articles:

Romer: We Need Politics that Work Povnter: Trust in the Media

NYT Opinion: The Shutdown is about

**NWCCOG Program Updates** 16. Update: **NWCCOG Website** 

12:00pm 17. \*ACTION Adjourn NWCCOG Council Meeting

\*Requires Vote

**NWCCOG Officers** 

NWCCOG Council Chair Alyssa Shenk NWCCOG Council Secretary/Tresurer Nina Waters

NWCCOG Council Vice-Chair Patti Clapper

**NWCCOG Executive Committee** 

Region XII County Members Nina Waters, \*\*Patti Clapper, Tim Redmond, Tom Boyd, Randal George, Coby Corkle Municipal Members Geoff Grimmer Kristen Brownson Alyssa Shenk\* Vacan t Vacant



### **NWCCOG EDD Board Meeting Agenda**

Thursday, October 23, 2025

249 Warren Ave., Silverthorne, CO 80498 and Zoom Conference Call

Video & Phone Conference Information	Next COG EDD Meeting
Join Zoom Meeting:	Thursday, December 4, 2025
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4343110995?pwd=rblHmpYikShSFje2tpMbd1ODIEZrep.1&omn=869236480	Gypsum Conference Room NWCCOG Energy Office
Meeting ID: Passcode:	and Zoom Conference Call
	210 Spring Creek Rd., Gypsum, CO
434 311 0995 119033	12:30pm - 2:30pm

### **NWCCOG Economic Development District (EDD) Board Meeting**

1. Call to Order - EDD Board Chair, DiAnn Butler 12:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

3. **\*ACTION**: Minutes of September 2025 EDD Meeting Pgs 15-16

4. Discussion: Next Steps for the EDD Program

1:00 p.m. 5. PRESENTATION Homeowners Insurance and Wildfire/Hail in Colorado

Jon Stavney

Roundtable discussion of Economic Development News from Members 6. Discussion:

7. Discussion: **New Business** 

2:00pm 8. \* ACTION Adjourn NWCCOG EDD Meeting

\*Requires Vote

**NWCCOG EDD Officers** NWCCOG EDD Chair DiAnn Butler **NWCCOG EDD Secretary** 

NWCCOG EDD Vice-Chair Patti Clapper Nina Waters

# Northwest Colorado COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

### **Northwest Colorado Council of Governments**

### NWCCOG Council Meeting Minutes September 18, 2025

#### **Executive Board Members**

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

#### **NWCCOG Staff:**

Jon Stavney
Becky Walter
Moira Vander Meer
Nate Walowitz - Broadband
Anita Cameron - NLF
Nate Speerstra – Energy
Erin Fisher – Vintage
Dana Wood – RTCC Mobility
Jonathan Godes – NWCCOG Grants Navigator

#### **Others Present**

Mike Conway - Colroado Insurance Commission Delaney Deskin - Office of Senator Bennet Kristen Brownson – Town of Breckenridge John Bristol – Routt County Hilary Henry – Office of Senator Bennet Teagan Serres - Town of Kremmling Tom Boyd – Eagle County Jeffrey Woodruff – Pitkin County Gary Brooks – Town of Avon Erin McCuskey – Eagle County Britta Gustafson – Town of Snowmass Village Randy George – Grand County Riley Scott – Office of Senator Hurd Dan Sullivan – Town of Keystone Corry Mihm - Project Works Jacob Zook – City of Glenwood Springs Sam Guarino – Transportation Snowmass Village Mary Harland – RFTA

### **ACTION** Call to Order NWCCOG Council Meeting

Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair, called the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) meeting to order at 9:06 am. Quorum was confirmed with introductions of attendees.

### **ACTION** Approval of August 7 2025, Council Minutes

M/S: Gary Brooks made a motion to approve the August 7 2025, NWCCOG Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Patti Clapper.

Passed: Yes

### **ACTION** Open Council Meeting as Northwest Loan Fund Board

Alyssa Shenk called the Northwest Loan Fund Board meeting to order at 9:28am.

### <u>Discussion: NLF becoming a CDBO (Option Preferred for CDBG Funding)</u>

Board Resolution of having the NLF adjust Board, Bylaws, and Loan Committee to become CBDO (community-based development organization) and creating a new account for tracking Revolving Funds to stay compliant with funding requirements. The Loan Fund Director will apply to DOLA to become a CBDO and will complete all the requirements for annual certification. This includes formally acknowledging that the assets of the Loan Fund are separate from the assets of the Northwest COG and that those assets are solely to further the mission of the Loan Fund, demonstrate mechanisms to establish control and accountability for all funds of the Loan Fund.

### **ACTION** Approve Resolution Number 1

Contingent on review by the Council Chair and Executive Director of NWCCOG, and authorize them to finalize and sign the document.

M/S: Patti Clapper made the motion to approve. Motion was seconded by Tom Boyd.

Passed: Yes

### **ACTION** Close Northwest Loan Fund Board and reconvene as NWCCOG Council

M/S: Alyssa Shenk made a motion to approve the results of the NWCCOG Dues as presented. Tom Boyd seconded the motion.

Passed: Yes

### Presentation - Innovation in Mobility with Highlights from across the region from RTCC

Dana Wood, Mobility Manager at NWCCOG, with special guests Sam Guarino and Mary Harlan. IMTPR update of the draft STIP comments (closed on August 31, 2025) with next steps and local projects. Full presentation can be found here. The recent activities of the RTCC were discussed, including a strategic planning process and the election of Sam and Mary as co-chairs. The council aims to enhance regional transportation coordination for individuals with disabilities, veterans, older adults, and low-income populations, while also increasing funding and partnerships for their projects. Insights were shared from a CASTA conference including a regional transportation hub model. The proposed hub for Northwest COG would consolidate transportation options into a single platform, making it easier for users to access information. The importance of creating a stable web space to support this initiative was emphasized by a conference room participant. The collaboration with Treadshare to enhance regional carpooling efforts was highlighted, emphasizing the app's ability to connect drivers and passengers while splitting fuel costs. The initiative is supported by a TDM grant and aims to address transportation challenges in mountain communities. Partners like A-Basin and the City of Aspen are already engaged, with discussions on tailoring the app's features to meet specific needs. An overview of the Ride Glenwood On Demand service was provided, noting its launch in May and the increase in ridership from 4,500 to 6,500 in just a month. The service is funded through various grants and has proven to be a valuable transportation option for residents, especially in South Glenwood, where public transit was previously unavailable.

- Performance metrics and funding for the Glenwood Ride On Demand service.
- Integration of demand response services into the Ride Roaring Fork app.
- New funding opportunities from the Clean Transit Enterprise for local transit projects.

RAFTA is actively working on electrifying it's fleet, which currently consists of 55% diesel, 38% CNG, and 7% battery electric buses. The goal is to achieve a fully zero emission fleet by 2050, but challenges include reduced battery range in cold weather and the need for specialized maintenance training. CMC is collaborating on workforce training programs to address these needs. It was shared that Steamboat Springs Transit is planning to ask voters in November whether they want to form a Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). The challenges faced by the Town of Basalt with funding were highlighted as they approach the end of their RAFTA Mobility funding, along with their exploration of public-private partnerships to sustain free transit services.

#### Update - Congressional Update from Riley Scott/Senator Hurd's Office

Riley Scott from Senator Hurd's Office provided an update on the impending vote for a clean continuing resolution (CR) in the House, highlighting Congressman Hurd's support for it. The discussion also included the need for a one-year extension of the enhanced premium tax credit for healthcare, which is crucial as open enrollment begins before the year's end. There is a bipartisan coalition backing this initiative, although it is not currently included in the CR.

### Update - Congressional Update from Hilary Henry and Delany Deskin from Senator Bennet's Office

Hilary Henry from Senator Bennet's Office welcomed Delany Deskin to the team, noting her previous experience with Rep. Patterson. Delaney shared updates on key legislative efforts, including the Shelter Act, which offers tax credits for disaster mitigation, and the TIMS Act, which addresses staffing shortages and health support for wildland firefighters. She emphasized the importance of tracking government funding negotiations, particularly concerning health care access on the Western Slope.

### Presentation – Expiration of Enhanced Premium Tax Credits – and Related Impacts to Cost of Health Insurance

Mike Conway, Colorado's Insurance Commissioner, highlighted the potential consequences of the expiration of enhanced premium tax credits, which could result in unprecedented health insurance premium increases. He noted that around 225,000 individuals are likely to lose these credits, leading to average premium increases of 174%, and in some cases, up to 300% in rural areas. This situation is expected to create severe financial strain on families and impact the overall healthcare ecosystem. Mike also highlighted the potential loss of 25 to 35 percent of the market for health insurance in Colorado, which could lead to a surge in medical bankruptcies. He explained that the average premium

increase of 28% is overshadowed by a more concerning 174% increase due to the loss of federal subsidies. Conway urged Congress to extend these subsidies before the November 1st open enrollment deadline to mitigate the impact on consumers. The urgency of reaching out to Congress members about extending subsidies to maintain coverage was highlighted and Mike Conway noted the availability of letters from Summit County and the Colorado House speaker as resources for crafting messages. The group agreed on the necessity of a budget workshop prior to the October meeting to discuss potential outsourcing costs and restructuring efforts.

#### **Update – Member Updates**

Gary Brooks shared updates on the Whole Foods project in Avon, highlighting its potential to generate funds for community housing through TIF funding. The project includes ancillary retail and condos, with construction expected to begin in 2026. Furthermore, pedestrian safety improvements along Highway 6 are being implemented in response to a recent fatality, supported by CDOT and local funding.

Jacob Zook shared the community's infrastructure issues, including ongoing construction and the need for improved signage. A layered impact map has been developed to inform residents about construction projects. Details about a fire modeling project with a local expert were shared to identify high-risk areas for wildfire safety, which will assist in community education and resource allocation.

Nina Waters shared updates from Summit County, highlighting her recent testimony at the PUC and the challenges posed by ICE activity. She described how the situation caused panic among local businesses, resulting in closures and workers leaving abruptly. The incident was isolated, but it created significant disruption in the community.

#### **Discussion Economic Development Program**

Discussion on the Economic Development Program began with Jon noting the absence of key members Diane and Chris, which may impact decision-making. He mentioned the importance of continuing the conversation about the white paper and restructuring, as well as the need for a recommendation from the Economic Development Board. The potential for contracting Rachel to complete the CEDS was also raised, allowing time for further evaluation of the program's direction. The NLF must remain a separate entity, and its funds cannot be mixed with general funds. It was suggested that if the EDD continues, it should be integrated under the CBDO organization, highlighting the importance of understanding the differences between the two entities. The need for specific language was noted to determine if the EDD and CBDO can coexist or should remain separate.

### **ACTION** – Adjournment of the NWCCOG Council Meeting

Alyssa Shenk made the motion to adjourn the NWCCOG on NWCCOG Council meeting was adjourned at 1:01pm.	Council Meeting. Patti Clapper seconded the motion. The
Alyssa Shenk, NWCCOG Council Chair	Date

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS NORTHWEST LOAN FUND

### RESOLUTION NO. 1 SERIES OF 2025

### A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE REGION 12 REVOLVING LOAN FUND AS A COMMUNITY BASED DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION ("CBDO")

**WHEREAS,** The Region 12 Revolving Loan Fund dba Northwest Loan Fund ("NLF") is a 501(c) (6) non-profit organization that serves the clearly defined geographic area of the counties of Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit, within the State of Colorado.

**WHEREAS**, the NLF's purpose includes engaging in community economic development activities to improve the physical, economic, or social environment of its geographic area of operation, with attention to the needs of low to moderate income individuals.

**WHEREAS**, the NLF is a non-profit entity. All funds are reinvested to support its purpose, and none of its earnings may be distributed for the personal gain of any individuals. No part of the NLF's earnings will benefit any members, founders, contributors, or individuals.

**WHEREAS**, the NLF is a separate entity from the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments ("NWCCOG") and each owns its assets separately.

**WHEREAS**, the NLF is a qualified non-profit development group as defined by the Housing and Community Development Act 105(a)(15) as a Nonprofit Community Development Organization.

**WHEREAS**, the NLF meets the IRS definition of a non-profit, specifically 501(c)(6).

**WHEREAS**, the NLF recognizes the requirement for a Loan Review Committee with specific representation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors approve submitting a CBDO Application and commit that the Loan Review Committee meets at a minimum the following criteria as outlined in the CBDO application:

- A representative who is considered Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) or meets one of the LMI criteria.
- A **Banker** with current or former lending and/or administration/management experience.
- A current or former **Business Owner**.

•	A Community Representative as defined by Colorado's Department of Local
	Affairs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution, the organization's charter, articles of incorporation, and by-laws, serves to meet the legal and organizational structure requirements for Colorado's CBDO Economic Development application.

This resolution was adopted by the Board of lactorial <b>2025</b> .	Directors on this day of October,
Alyssa Shenk, Chairperson	_
, Secretary	_



## MEMORANDUM

To: NWCCOG Council

**From:** Jon Stavney, Executive Director

**Date:** October 14, 2025

Re: 2026 BUDGET Highlights in Brief

Thanks to the NWCCOG Officers and those of you who attended the Budget Workshop on October 6<sup>th</sup>. After Becky's hard work and the careful preparations Directors and I put in, your detailed questions and observations were greatly appreciated. Very few things have changed, of note:

- The Elevator Program, as of October 14<sup>th</sup>, has met of 100% revenue projections in the current year's budget... in three quarters! Will likely revise numbers when last YTD are out before the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. The trend has been steadily on the rise since we began the Enforcement Program. David Harris foresees the underlying causes for the upward trends remaining through the foreseeable future.
- Speaking of EIP revenues, this is very assuring during uncertain times that this provides some
  reserve that could be used to backfill programs or wages endangered by changes at the federal
  or state level. Becky and I also discussed that we may want to keep Dues flat or to COLA in
  coming years since we appear to have reached a pain point expressed by some members.
- David Harris and I discussed a raise for him to a higher place in the wage range which I approved.
- We didn't show the 2026 Wage Ranges during the Workshop. They tick up with the COLA (3% this budget) during years when a full WR assessment doesn't occur.
- Funding for an NLF position, either Salary for a Deputy Director or a Contract for such services
  was a hot point of discussion at the workshop among the officers. We will have some more
  information about this after we have a chance to discuss with Anita upon her return from taking
  October off.

For those of you not at the workshop, at this meeting, I'll provide a very brief overview of program budgets at a sprinter's pace, show the summaries, answer questions and invite discussion. Top line data is on Page 3 of the Budget Document in a letter from Becky and I, which I encourage you to read prior to the meeting. If you do no more than open it and look at the photos and bottom lines, that is of course fine also.

### **DRAFT 2026 Wage Ranges**



2025 Wage Ranges increased by 3.0% for annual COLA

PROGRAM		WAGE RANGE		RANGE SPREAD
	MIN	MID	MAX	
Elevator Inspection				
EIP Administrative Assistant	\$ 63,407	\$ 76,088	\$ 88,770	40%
EIP Operations Manager	71,602	87,713	103,823	45%
Elevator Inspector	92,997	116,246	139,495	50%
EIP Program Director	122,586	153,233	183,880	50%
Energy Program				
Energy Efficiency Technician I	47,785	54,953	62,120	30%
Energy Administrative Assistant*	53,720	64,464	75,208	30%
Energy Outreach Assistant	53,720	64,464	75,208	40%
Energy Finance Assistant	53,720	64,464	75,208	40%
Energy Efficiency Technician II	55,041	66,049	77,057	40%
Energy Warehouse Manager	59,224	71,068	82,913	40%
Energy Crew Leader	61,205	73,446	85,687	40%
Energy Finance Coordinator	61,646	73,975	86,304	40%
Energy Outreach Coordinator	61,646	73,975	86,304	40%
Energy Auditor	63,407	76,088	88,770	40%
Energy HVAC Technician I	64,287	77,145	90,002	40%
Energy Quality Control Inspector	65,168	78,202	91,235	40%
Energy Agency Trainer	67,810	81,372	94,934	40%
Energy HVAC Technician II	73,094	87,713	102,332	40%
Energy Program Manager I	74,811	91,644	108,477	45%
Workforce Development Manager	74,811	91,644	108,477	45%
Energy Outreach Manager	74,811	91,644	108,477	45%
Energy Finance Manager	74,811	91,644	108,477	45%
Energy Program Manager II	87,368	107,025	126,683	45%
Energy Program Director	112,188	140,235	168,282	50%
Northwest Loan Fund				
NLF Deputy Director*	80,000	100,000	120,000	50%
NLF Director	92,997	116,246	139,495	50%
Vintage				
SHIP Medicare Coordinator	62,526	75,031	87,537	40%
Vintage Program Specialist	63,407	76,088	88,770	40%
Long Term Care Ombudsman	64,287	77,145	90,002	40%
Vintage Business Operations Manager	75,916	92,997	110,078	45%
Vintage Program Director	93,842	117,303	140,763	50%
Other Programs				
Economic Development Director	80,617	100,771	120,926	50%
Regional Transportation Director	80,315	100,771	120,473	50%
Broadband Program Director	147,357	184,196	221,035	50%
Indirect				
	62 407	76,088	88,770	4004
Office Manager Accountant	63,407	•	•	40% 40%
Finance Director	66,929 94,687	80,315 118,359	93,701 142,031	50%
Executive Director	144,698	188,107	231,516	60%
EXECUTIVE DIJECTOR	144,098	108,107	231,310	60%

\*New Position

APPROVED by NWCCOG Council on



## 2026 NWCCOG COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE DRAFT FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL OCT 2025

PO Box 2308 ● 249 Warren Ave ● Silverthorne, CO 80498 ● 970-468-0295 Fax 970-468-1208 ● <u>www.nwccog.org</u>

<u>Location</u>: Zoom Conference Call, On-Site Location – See Each Meeting Below <u>Time</u>: **Council** 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., **EDD Board** 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

### Thursday, January 22, 2026 – Gypsum Conference Room Energy Program Warehouse Full Council, EDD Board & NLF Board Meeting

<u>Primary Agenda Items</u>: Introduction of new members/representatives; annual NLF Board meeting; approve December NWCCOG meeting minutes, Preliminary 2024 Financials, elect CHP representative; EDD Board meeting

### Thursday, March 19, 2026 – Silverthorne Conference Room NWCCOG Office Full Council & EDD Board Meeting

<u>Primary Agenda Items</u>: Approve January meeting minutes, program overviews, distribute electronic version of Member Handbook, approve Policy updates; EDD Board meeting

### Thursday, June 4, 2026 – NWCCOG Energy Warehouse in Gypsum Full Council & EDD Board Meeting

Primary Agenda Items: Approve March meeting minutes, approve Q1 Financials; EDD Board meeting

### Thursday, August 6, 2026 – Aspen/Pitkin County Location TBD Full Council & EDD Board Meeting, Facility Tour TBD

<u>Primary Agenda Items</u>: Approve June meeting minutes, approve 2026 dues, discussion re: Annual Planning Meeting Agenda; EDD Board meeting

### Thursday, September 17, 2026 – Steamboat Springs/Routt County Location TBD Full Council & EDD Board Annual Planning Meeting

Primary Agenda Items: Approve August 2025 meeting minutes, strategic planning for 2026; EDD Board meeting

### Thursday, October 22, 2025 – Silverthorne Conference Room NWCCOG Office Full Council & EDD Board Meeting AND Executive Committee Meeting

<u>Primary Agenda Items</u>: Review of draft 2026 budget, approve 2026 meeting schedule, approve Q3 Financials; EDD Board meeting

### Week of Oct 12-16, October 2026 – Silverthorne Conference Room NWCCOG Office 2026 NWCCOG Budget Workshop

Schedule Executive Committee Meeting for Executive Director's Annual Review

### Thursday, December 3, 2026 – Gypsum Conference Room Energy Program Warehouse Full Council, EDD Board & Foundation Board Meeting

<u>Time</u>: **Foundation** 9:00 a.m., **Council** 10:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m., **EDD Board** 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

<u>Primary Agenda Items</u>: Review Executive Director's Annual Review results, 2025 budget revisions, approve 2026 budget; annual NWCCOG Foundation Board meeting; EDD Board meeting



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** NWCCOG Council

From: Jonnah Glassman, SHIP Medicare Program Specialist

**Date:** October 15, 2025

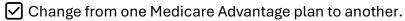
Re: Open Enrollment, Changes, and Evolving Federal Funding

### Medicare Open Enrollment: October 15 - December 7

It's that time of year again! Medicare beneficiaries can:

Review and compare current coverage and see what's new for 2026.

Switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan, or vice versa.



Add, drop, or switch a Part D (prescription drug) plan.

Any changes made during this time will take effect January 1, 2026.



We are seeing some significant shifts this year, most notably UnitedHealthcare Advantage plans pulling out of many of our communities. This means that beneficiaries enrolled in those plans will receive a notice in the mail stating their plan is ending on December 31, 2025. These individuals are granted a Guaranteed Issue Right, allowing them to enroll in *any* Medicare plan in their area without medical underwriting. Beneficiaries will have 60 days after their plan ends to enroll in a new plan, allowing them to make changes through the end of February.

Here's a quick overview by county:

- **Pitkin County:** A new Advantage plan, *Devoted Health*, has entered the market. It's a newer company and does not have a star rating, so we'll continue to learn more as we go.
- **Eagle County:** Two Advantage plans are available again in 2026, one at \$29/month with a \$6,700 out-of-pocket maximum, and another at \$80/month with the same out-of-pocket cap.
- **Summit County:** Though there are seven plans, the *Humana* options have limited provider networks since the hospital does not accept Humana. *UnitedHealthcare* is offering two plans: one at \$29/month and one at \$80/month, both with a \$6,700 out-of-pocket maximum.
- **Routt County:** Only one *Anthem* Advantage plan remains after UnitedHealthcare's exit. It carries a \$9,000 out-of-pocket maximum and note that UCHealth is not innetwork for this plan.

Given these changes, this may be a great year for beneficiaries to take advantage of their Guaranteed Issue Right and switch to a Medigap (Supplement) plan. Those on a limited income may qualify for a Medicare Savings plan to help with the costs of Medicare. You can get an application for these programs at your local Health and Human Services. The G-High deductible may be a good option for those with a limited income starting at \$35-\$60 a month.

Need help comparing plans?

Your local State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) offers free, unbiased help reviewing your Medicare choices.

Call your local Senior Center or the local SHIP office at 970-315-1329

The or book an appointment online through our website <a href="https://yourvintage.org/find-services/medicare-open-enrollment/">https://yourvintage.org/find-services/medicare-open-enrollment/</a>



## MEMORANDUM

To: NWCCOG Council

**From:** Jon Stavney, Executive Director

**Date:** October 14, 2025

Re: Improving NWCCOG Council Meeting Attendance

As we head into another year in which the NWCCOG Officers are to be elected, and in discussing with Chair Shenk that she does not intend to continue her role, and also discussing with her that we don't have all the proper appointments to the Executive Committee (supposed to be one from each 6 counties and 5 municipal representatives), it is becoming apparent that we have a participation issue. Like a teacher, I went through all the minutes from this year, acknowledging there are two more meetings left and took attendance. It was a telling exercise.

At our Directors meeting last week, we discussed some ideas for improving this including:

- 1. Better "Intro to NWCCOG" effort for new representatives. Packet? one on one? Intro Video? We used to give a binder which felt official until it all went on the website.
- 2. Paying for a professional "What we do at NWCCOG" video—budget item? Does up to \$15,000 sound appropriate?
- 3. Jazzing up the email invitations with a "Featured Presentation"
- 4. Having a County and municipalities in that County focus at each of our 6 meetings with a deeper dive update into what is going on there and specifically invite less active jurisdictions to join.
- 5. One-on-One interviews by the Executive Director with reps from each jurisdiction asking why they don't attend, what they know about COG, and what would entice them to join more often?
- 6. What ideas do you have?



### 2025 NWCCOG Council Members

COUNTIES

Eagle Tom Boyd\*+
Grand Randy George\*+

Pitkin Patti Clapper, Vice Chair\*+

Jackson (Samantha Martin\*)

Summit Nina Waters, Treasurer\*+

Routt Tim Redmond\*+

**ALTERNATE** 

-

Merrit Linke

Jeffrey Woodruff+

(Coby Corkle) Tamara Pogue

(Keith Hensley)

**MUNICIPALITIES** 

Aspen Avon

Basalt

Blue River

**REPRESENTATIVES** 

**REPRESENTATIVES** 

Sam Rose+
Gary Brooks+
Rick Stevens+

\_.

Breckenridge Kristen Brownson+
Dillon Carolyn Skowyra\*

Eagle Geoff Grimmer+
Fraser Michael Brack
Frisco Diane McBride+

Glenwood Springs Jacob Zook+
Granby Joshua Hardy

Grand Lake ---

Gypsum Jeremy Rietmann Hayden Matthew Mendisco

Hot Sulphur Springs

Keystone

Kremmling

Minturn

Montezuma

Red Cliff

Dan Sullivan+
Teagen Serres+
Eric Gotthelf
Lesley Davis
Ben Kliemer

Silverthorne

Snowmass Village
Steamboat Springs

Jonnah Glassman+
Britta Gustafson+
Michael Buccino+

Vail Kathleen Halloran
Walden James Dustin

Winter Park -

**ALTERNATE** 

Christine Benedetti+ Tamra Underwood Sara Nadolny+

--

Kelly Owens Nathan Johnson

--

Sarah Catanzarite

Stacey Nell Steve Boyd Ted Cherry

Baxter Strachan
Lana Bryce+

Ryan Banks
Christene Lee
Ken Riley

--

Gusty Kanakis Levi Corrigan Melissa Mathews+

Ann-Marie Sandquist

Alyssa Shenk, Chair\*+

Ginger Scott Russel Forrest Sherry Cure Alisha Janes

-- Not Noticed, () Attended, not officially confirmed, + Attended Council Meeting in 2025

<sup>\*</sup>Executive Committee Members



### **Northwest Colorado Council of Governments**

### **NWCCOG EDD Meeting Minutes September 18, 2025**

#### **Executive Board Members**

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

### **NWCCOG Staff:**

Jon Stavney
Becky Walter
Moira Vander Meer
Anita Cameron - NLF
Jonathan Godes — NWCCOG Grants Navigator

#### **Others Present**

Mike Conway – Colroado Insurance Commission
Kristen Brownson – Town of Breckenridge
John Bristol – Routt County
Teagan Serres – Town of Kremmling
Tom Boyd – Eagle County
Jeffrey Woodruff – Pitkin County
Gary Brooks – Town of Avon
Erin McCuskey – Eagle County
Britta Gustafson – Town of Snowmass Village
Randy George – Grand County
Dan Sullivan – Town of Keystone
Corry Mihm – Project Works
Jacob Zook – City of Glenwood Springs

### **ACTION** Call to Order NWCCOG EDD Meeting

Patti Clapper, NWCCOG EDD Vice Chair Chair, called the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) EDD meeting to order at 1:01 pm. Quorum was confirmed with introductions of attendees.

### **ACTION** Approval of August 7, 2025, EDD Minutes

M/S: Patti Clapper made a motion to approve August 7, 2025, NWCCOG EDD Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Nina Waters.

Passed: Yes

### Discussion: Next Steps for EDD Program - Economic Development Strategies and Resource Allocation

The possibility of hiring a contractor for CEDS updates was highlighted if Rachel is not available part time, with Corry Mihm estimating that it takes 20-25% annually. The conversation also touched on the importance of understanding funding timelines and prioritizing tasks accordingly. It was agreed on the necessity of gathering more information about Rachel's availability and the potential for internal support to alleviate her workload. The suggestion to increase sharing time in meetings to improve engagement was made, while the importance of structuring conversations around research was highlighted. The next meeting is scheduled for October 23rd, which coincides with budget discussions. Additionally, the need to gather more information regarding the federal budget.

### <u>Discussion: CEDS 5-Year Update – Cost Estimates for Outsourcing – Economic Development Strategies and Grant</u> Opportunities

Erin McCuskey highlighted the dual focus on business support and broader economic development, which includes housing and childcare. John Bristol reinforced this by explaining how the CEDS serves as a framework for aligning these components and securing funding from various sources. The conversation also touched on the necessity of adapting strategies to enhance grant application competitiveness in light of potential federal funding changes. Nina Waters acknowledged the differing levels of support for economic development across various boards, particularly in Summit County, where resources are limited. She stressed the importance of strong stakeholder engagement and the potential for additional grants to kickstart initiatives. Waters also noted misconceptions that have hindered progress, indicating that resource constraints have been a significant barrier. Nina Waters also highlighted the significance of a regional approach for upcoming budget discussions. It was confirmed that staff has been tasked with preparing information for

the October meeting, where budget allocations will be a primary focus. There was also discussion about the possibility of increased federal funding and the need to consider additional consultant work based on the budget outcomes.

### Discussion Roundtable Discussion of Economic Development News from Members

Corry Mihm highlighted the need to maintain focus on business growth while exploring new opportunities.

- Erin McCuskey noted a rise in support for existing businesses, particularly those with 10 to 20 employees, and discussed the significance of workforce retention and exit planning initiatives.
- John Bristol provided updates on the Yampa Valley Entrepreneurship Center's High Country Accelerator programs and ongoing local development projects, including the expansion of the Valley Regional Airport.
- Nina Waters highlighted Summit County's focus on reducing waste streams to prolong the life of their landfill, specifically through construction and demolition initiatives. A new staff member has been engaged to work with local developers and the construction community.
- Insights were shared by Patti Clapper about Pitkin County's successful construction waste diversion program, which has positively impacted contractors and builders.
- Tom Boyd spoke about the potential use of lodging tax funds for childcare and wildfire support, with advocacy
  for complex solutions to address these issues. It was pointed out that the shortage of teachers, rather than
  facilities, is the primary challenge in childcare, and it was shared how federal funds were used to provide shortterm stipends to providers. Additionally, it was noted that the permitting process for home childcare is overly
  complicated, which discourages potential providers.
- Gary Brooks reported on the Vail Valley Foundation's pivot to focus on housing and childcare, with support from
  the Town of Avon. Insights were provided regarding the ongoing tourism use of RFTA in Glenwood Springs,
  highlighting the challenges of reviewing numerous proposals. Additionally, positive outcomes from the
  employer-based rental assistance program were reported, which may require adjustments to alleviate tax
  burdens for participating employers.
- An update on community events was provided by Patti Clapper, including the 25th anniversary of the X Games in
  Pitkin County, which will feature concerts and snowmobile events. The first part of each day will be free to the
  public, with discounted tickets available for local students. Additionally, it was mentioned that a recent concert
  series at Buttermilk was successful, attracting a positive crowd and benefiting local businesses. The tragic
  incident of a fatality involving an electric bike was highlighted, along with the challenges of managing e-bike
  usage across different jurisdictions.
- It was noted that Regina O'Brien, Deputy County Manager for Eagle County, would present a report on e-bikes at an upcoming Mayors and Managers meeting, indicating the necessity for consistent regulations. Concerns were raised about the safety of children riding e-bikes on sidewalks.

#### **ACTION** – Adjournment of the NWCCOG Council Meeting

Passed: Yes	
EDD meeting was adjourned at 2:32pm.	
Patti Clapper made the motion to adjourn the NWCCOG EDD Meeting.	. Tom Boyd seconded the motion. The NWCCOG

Patti Clapper, NWCCOG EDD Vice Chair	Date	_	