

**Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda–
Zoom
April 26, 2023, at 10:00 AM**

Call to order Buck called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m.

Board Members: Buck Wenzel, Dwayne McFall, Kevin Day, Devin Rowe, and Sarah Mudge
Staff Members: Heather Evans, Audrey Sandefur, Chris Henager, Max Hanson, Dave Paul, Tom McConaghy, Julie Peek, and Carol Roberts
Guests: Beth Lenz, Justin Kurth (Rep. Pettersen) and Renee Martinez (Sen. Michael Bennet)

1) Consent Agenda – action item

- a) Minutes UAACOG Board of Directors meeting 02/22/2023
- b) Minutes UAAACOG Board of Directors special meeting 04/10/2023
- c) Financial Statements
- d) Loan Reports
- e) New Year’s Eve Holiday
- f) COLA Budget Revision

Kevin made motion to approve the agenda with a 2nd by Dwayne. No discussion. Motion approved.

2) Additions/changes to Agenda

3) Program Manager Reports – Director’s overview of Program Manager’s Reports

In the interest of time, Heather did not go over each program manager report, but asked if the board had any questions for managers which there were none.

4) New Business

- a) 2023 Election of Officers – action item

Current officers are:

- Buck Wenzel as Chairman
- Greg Labbee Vice Chairman
- Jeff Fiedler Secretary

Heather stated no one has requested a change in officers but the bi-laws require this yearly. Kevin moved to keep the officers the same as is in place now with a 2nd by Dwayne. No discussion. Motion approved.

- b) Area Agency on Aging 4-Year Plan – action item, Tom McConaghy

The plan was posted in the board packet and is fifty-three pages in length.

The UAAAA coordinates the provision of low-cost, comprehensive assistance and quality care to thousands of older persons throughout the region by helping them and their families navigate a complex system of programs and services.

The Area Plan provides the Upper Arkansas Area Agency on Aging’s primary course of action for State Fiscal Years 2024-2027 (July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.). The Area Plan translates the mission and the vision of the agency: "The Area Agency on Aging will assist seniors (age 60+) throughout the region in maintaining health, dignity, independence, and quality of life through education, advocacy, coordination, and delivery of services and programs." Our Vision: "United together to achieve a better future for our communities and the seniors we serve."

The Four-Year Plan describes the current and projected trends anticipated to impact the

Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
April 23, 2023
(continued)

region. Strategies to address the increasing needs of a unique and expanding population while achieving the goals set forth in this plan.

The agency has set a course on a three-pronged approach at maximizing resources and service delivery:

1. Evaluate the trends/needs of the service area through consumer, community, and key informant input and surveys.
2. Establish programs that meet the needs, as possible.
3. Evaluate the program/service outcomes.

With increasing demand and limited funding, the agency has targeted programs and services to meet the needs of those seniors at greatest risk of losing their independence.

Eight public meetings were held in the region in each of the counties in December of 2022 and January of 2023.

Areas of concern were:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| • Transportation | Large area of concern |
| • Chore Services | Not a high priority, but need contractors to do small jobs. |
| • Housing | Universal problem, short supply, expensive |
| • Health Care | Lack specialty doctors. |
| • Food/Nutrition | Meal sites in all four counties. |
| • Information | More outreach, technology challenges |
| • Socialization | Lack of activities, technology, social isolation |
| • In-Home Services | Lack of providers, wage concerns, workforce concerns |

Sarah stated that Lake County has struggled with these types of services as well and talked about integrating services.

Buck made a motion to accept the AAA 4-year plan as presented with a 2nd by Sarah. No discussion. Motion approved.

- c) Head Start Outcome Summary –action item, Chris Henager
Fremont County Head Start uses the Teaching Strategies GOLD assessment system. The TS GOLD assessment system measures children’s knowledge, skills and behaviors that is most predictive of school success. It aligns with the State Early Learning Standards (Colorado P-12 Standards) and Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework. The tool has 38 objectives, including 2 objectives related to English language acquisition.

Preschool children are placed in two categories which are based on their chronological age which are Preschool 3 and Preschool 4. These categories make up the Progressions of development and learning, the progressions are based on standard development and learning.

This data depicts where children are in regard to the point on the developmental color band where blue Pre-K 4-year-old expectation and purple Kindergarten expectation meet. Children may be listed in other data areas as meeting widely held expectations but show as not quite within the kindergarten readiness standard. Example: A child may fall at the low end of

Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
April 23, 2023
(continued)

meeting expectations for a 4-year-old but is not considered meeting kindergarten readiness until at the higher end of the blue color band.

Chris stated that the students have shown significant growth in all domain areas. An area of concern is literacy and sourced out a training for the lead teachers in March of 2023.

With no further discussion, Buck asked if any board members were opposed to the document. No board members were opposed to the plan which was accepted.

- d) **Head Start Corrective Action**—action item, Chris Henager
The corrective action plan for Grant # 08CH010563 is in the board packet and displayed on the screen for the board meeting.

OBJECTIVE: To ensure all staff, consultants and volunteers know the policies and procedures for positive behavior guidance. To provide staff with additional resources for positive behavior supports, and strategies to prevent burnout and compassion fatigue that can occur when dealing with children with challenging behavior.

UAACOG Fremont County Head Start has reviewed, agrees with, and approved each step on the plan including time frames associated with each step.

Heather and Dwayne stated it was a thorough document and could not think of anything that needed to be added.

With no further discussion, Buck asked if any board members were opposed to the document. No board members were opposed to the corrective action plan which was accepted.

- e) **Head Start Discipline of Children Policy Revision**—action item, Chris Henager
The policy/procedure in the board packet for review and action. The reference is Head Start Performance Standard: 1302.17 & 1302.31 and Child Care Rules and Regulations: 7.702.56.
Policy: It is the Policy of Fremont County Head Start to use positive methods of child guidance.

Procedure for behavior plan referral:

- Head Start Staff will address challenging behavior with the education manager and behavior specialist when challenging behavior is first observed.
- Head Start Staff will begin to monitor the challenging behaviors with our Behavior Incident Reports (BIR).
- BIR's will be submitted to the Education Manager who will share the information with the behavior specialist.
- Once data has been collected and indicates that a behavior plan is necessary, teacher will place written referral to behavior specialist, then a behavior observation will be conducted. TPOT data and BIR data will be addressed, and family will be contacted.
- If a behavior plan is deemed necessary, then the Prevent Teach Reinforce for the Young Child (PTR-YC) process will begin.

Procedure for Emergency help in event of challenging behavior:

- If a child is displaying challenging behavior that cannot be handled with typical classroom strategies or if a staff member needs a break from a situation the

Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
April 23, 2023
(continued)

following procedure should be followed:

1. Ensure the safety of all children in the classroom.
 - a. **If necessary**, one staff should move other children to safe part of the room and *call the office to ask for help*.
 - b. The other staff should stay with the child displaying challenging behavior to ensure their safety.
2. The office manager should call in the following order if one does not answer move to the next:
 - a. The behavior specialist
 - b. The ECE coach
 - c. The Education Manager
 - d. The Director

With no further discussion, Buck asked if any board members were opposed to the Discipline Policy. No board members were opposed to the Policy which was accepted.

- f) UAACOG Infographic and Impact Report—informational, Heather Evans
Heather displayed the Infographic that had previously been sent to the board. The intended use is for anyone that needs services from our organization and is a simple document with some program data.

Heather shared the 2022 Impact Report to the screen. The document is 15 pages and shows what we accomplished in 2022.

- g) UAACOG Mission Statement—action item, Heather Evans
A UAACOG committee was formed to establish a new mission statement. Staff and board members were sent a survey monkey to help come up with a mission statement. The proposed new mission statement is:
We Strengthen our community by providing services, support, and resources to make lives better.

With no further discussion, Buck asked if any board members were opposed to the mission statement. No board members were opposed to the mission statement, which was accepted.

- h) DOLA Mini-Grants—action item, Heather Evans
Round two applicants
- Williamsburg Town Hall Beautification, Façade improvement \$1800.00
 - Brookside Capacity Project, small scale capital improvement \$5000.00
 - Bringing Fremont County’s amount to \$14,800.00
 - Poncha Springs, small scale capital improvement/façade, improvement \$5000.00
 - Bringing Chaffee County’s amount to \$13873.00

With no further discussion, Buck asked if any board members were opposed to round two of these mini-grants. No board members were opposed to funding these projects, which was accepted.

Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
April 23, 2023
(continued)

- i) Housing Rehab Updated Program Procedures—action item, Max Hanson
The Rehab Policy changes are in the board packet for review and action. The changes are highlighted in yellow and/or lined through as well as added verbiage. Max stated in mid-February the State changed their policies and these will be consistent with the state's plan.

With no further discussion, Buck asked if any board members were opposed to the changes in Rehab policy. No board members were opposed to the procedures which was accepted.

- j) Self-Help Lot Funding Options—informational, Max Hanson
In October of 2022 it was mentioned to the board that we would be applying for a time only extension to our current contract to do 15 homes. Custer County's water/sewer taps will not be issued until 2024 so we are looking for other options and looking at lots in Florence which would require us to take on additional debt to obtain those lots.

- k) Proposition 123 Update—informational, Max Hanson
Max gave an update on Proposition 123

- l) Legislative Update—informational, Max Hanson and Tom McConaghy

HB 23-1190 Local Govt. first right of refusal for multi-family units. Local Governments can transfer the first right of refusal to another entity. Local Government must give a 100 year....
Dwayne stated that this is a horrible bill with agreement from Buck.

Tom, who is in Washington DC, and he is hearing accessible programs but un-funded currently.

- m) Hidden Benefit: AAA—informational, Tom McConaghy
Will add this to the board meeting in June.

5) Old Business

- a) SB-290 Proposal Modification—informational, Tom McConaghy

Aging was awarded money for an office/kitchen (for congregate/home delivered meals) in Salida. The idea of a renovated building would not be feasible, so the plan shifted to a new build. This will be in Confluent Park on the East side of the town.

6) Director's Report General Information – written report included in the packet.

Sam Hughes, CSBG Coordinator, has asked the board about having an elected official willing serve on the CSBG Tripartite Board with having three meeting a year and evaluate the program. The Tripartite Board consists of a low-income representative, a community partner, and an elected official.

Still having staffing issues with Area Agency on Aging and Head Start

Heather would like to recognize Julie Griffio and Laura Yost for the work they accomplish at the front desk as well as other duties.

Custer County Community Partnership Focus Group will held on May 17 from 10 to 2.

Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
April 23, 2023
(continued)

Dave will be conducting a closeout and restart meeting for our CDBG grant and he will be asking the counties to post this on their websites for at least 5 days.

7) County/Community Reports

- a) Custer County – Kevin Day
Doing patching on 96 on the road this summer.
Held interviews to fill county attorney slot with a decision coming soon.
New OEM on board.
Stage 1 fire ban.

- b) Silver Cliff – Buck Wenzel
SB 123 is a concern.
May 19 at 10:00 a.m. for grant re-opening for the museum.
Two restaurants are up for sale.

- c) Cañon City –Ryan Stevens

- d) Lake County – Jeff Fiedler via Sarah
Housing authority development.
Postponed work on Justice Center.
Wildfire mitigation.

- e) Leadville – Greg Labbe

- f) Chaffee County – PT Wood

- g) Buena Vista – Devin Rowe
Work on water allocation policy.
Hostile takeover of burro races.
Received 1.6 million dollars with another 1.3 million for affordable housing/deed restrictions with Fading West.
The mini grant for furnace from COG came timely as the building had water lines burst the day the contractor was to install the furnace.

- h) Fremont County – Dwayne McFall
Stage 1 fire restrictions for a year.
Road and Bridge director retiring in a few months.
Property taxes are going up 30-50% this year.
Blossom festival is coming up first weekend in May.
Pathfinder Park pavilion will be built soon as materials are now on site.

Renee wanted to mention they are in the process getting a monthly grant newsletter announcement out.

Justin gave an update in the chat and that the office in Canon City is open with an address of 611 Greenwood Avenue #3. The office is open Monday and Wednesday of each week.

8) Adjourn Board meeting. Buck adjourned the meeting at 12:00