

Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda – Hybrid Location--UAACOG Office/Zoom
April 27, 2022
10:00 AM
(Recorded)

Call to order: Dwayne called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Board Members: Dwayne McFall, Rusty Granzella, Buck Wenzel (Zoom), Greg Labbe (Zoom), Jeff Fieldler (Zoom), and Devin Rowe,

Staff Members: Heather Evans, Audrey Sandefur, Carol Gindro, Kristy Brownfield, Vicky Casey, Julie Peek, Tom McConaghy, JoBeth Palmer, and Chris Henager,

1) Consent Agenda – action item

- a) Minutes UAACOG Board of Directors meeting 02/23/2022
- b) Financial Statements
- c) Loan Reports
- d) Employee Handbook Sec. 101 & 301 & the Executive Director Welcome
- e) Signature Authority—Electronic Signature for GMS
Rusty made a motion to approve the consent agenda with a 2nd by Devin with the correction of not 305 but 301. No discussion. Motion approved.

2) Additions/changes to Agenda

JoBeth, COLA information

Dwayne moved to approve the agenda with the addition of COLA information, with a 2nd by Devin. No discussion. Motion approved.

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

Heather did a brief overview of each program’s highlights.

4) New Business

- a) CDLE PY2020 Annual Financial Monitoring Report – discussion Heather
The annual compliance monitoring for 2020 had zero compliance issues and several kudos.
- b) 2022 Election of Officers – action item
Dwayne nominated Buck for Chairman, with a 2nd by Rusty. No discussion. Motion approved.
Rusty nominated Greg for Vice-Chair with a 2nd by Devin. No discussion. Motion approved.
Greg nominated Jeff for secretary with a 2nd by Rusty. No discussion. Motion approved.
- c) One-time Bonus Policy – action item Heather
This policy was previously sent out to the board. This is for Head Start and Area Agency on Aging. Dwayne asked what the total amount would be and JoBeth stated they want to use \$17,000 of the \$20,000 for the 34 staff members. Tom believes that there are \$9,000 for the bonus for 15 staff members. Greg commented on knowing the value of retention for staff. Buck stated that the final policy looks good. Dwayne stated that wages would need to be increased. Jeff did not have any additional comments.

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Buck moved to approve the policy that is presented with a 2nd by Greg. Carol did explain that the date of the bonus would be as of this meeting date. No further discussion. Motion approved.

- d) 2021-2022 In-Kind Exemption – action item Jo Beth
With there being no volunteers in the classrooms/school and the lack of having the big recruitment event, we find that there is a need to ask for a waiver of the in-kind requirements. We will be applying for \$185,000.00 non-federal share waiver. Rusty made a motion to approve the waiver with a 2nd by Devin. No discussion. Motion approved.
- e) Head Start Outcome Summary –action item Jo Beth
This is the aggregation of development data from fall to current date. At the winter checkpoint, the growth has come up since the first of the program year. JoBeth stated that the development of the children was low, most likely due to Covid. Rusty made a motion to approve the outcome summary with a 2nd by Devin. No discussion. Motion approved.
- f) Contract Extension for Audit Firm – action item Carol
At the last meeting, we requested the extension and the board wanted to know the cost which Ron provided. We are respectfully asking for a 5-year extension with our current auditing firm. Buck moved to extend the contract for an additional 5 years with a 2nd by Greg. No discussion. Motion approved.
- g) Meeting locations— Heather Informational update
There was a discussion regarding having meetings in all counties of the UAACOG. Heather is asking for help in each of the counties to locate a venue to hold the meetings and also local restaurants/food vendor that we could contact.
- h) Hidden Benefit: Head Start Connects a Family with Resources –Chris Henager Informational Update
Chris talked about the hidden benefits at Head Start. The community knows that we provide comprehensive pre-school but also Head Start has services to families. The idea is that if the household is stable, the children will do better in school. Chris shared a story of a young child’s comments about camping, which turned out that the family had to move quickly and did not have the resources to get into stable housing but through all of the resources from Head Start and the community, they were able to get help to this family. The family received mental health services, housing, and food for stability.
- i) UAACOG Infographic—Heather informational update
Heather put the infographic together to help educate the communities about UAACOG. Heather has been handing them out to meetings she has been attending.

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- j) COLA information, JoBeth
JoBeth reported that the COLA increase will be 2.28%. The grant is due June 1, 2022, and there will not be another UAACOG Board meeting until the after this deadline therefore an email vote will be obtained. The COLA amount will be \$29,512.00 and Quality of \$10,000 \$39,512.00 total. JoBeth has done a preliminary budget. JoBeth would like to use the \$10,000 for teachers and managers to increases their wages.

5) Old Business

- a) Proposed AAA Building Project/Senate Bill 21-290 – Tom Informational Update
Tom reported that we are still able to submit an application(s) for a new building/rehab a building. There is approximately 5.5 million is money left from the first round and they are doing a 2nd round of applications. The feedback was that our costs were too high and that we had no buy in from local funding/in-kind. Tom will put in three proposals, one being the same and the 2nd with scaling back and the 3rd is for rehabbing an existing building. Rusty asked what the minimum size we are asking for, Tom stated between 4500-6500 sq. feet. Tom stated he will be looking for letters of support and will get information out very soon.

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

- UAACOG is featured in Fremont 360 once a month.
- Recycling trailer has sold.
- El Pomar has been used to install video cameras to the UAACOG building.
- Updating emergency response plan.
- Updated the Enterprise goals.
- Heather has attended so many meetings.
- Heather is working on convening the UAADC loan committee.

7) County/Community Reports

- a) Custer County – Kevin Day
Buck via Kevin
Recycling project, building up, ordered the bailer, orders some horse trailer.
EMS with agreement with Florence Fire Dept.
Applied for reconnect money to bring high speed but loan failed due to no match money.
- b) Westcliffe/Silver Cliff – Buck Wenzel
Silver Cliff overlay project for highway 96 will start May 1 and will roll all the way to Wetmore.
County is void of commodities.
Museum update is in progress and will open up in May, but a grand re-opening will occur, and all will be involved.

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c) Florence/Cañon City –Anthony Esquibel/Ryan Stevens
Blossom happening in May.

d) Lake County – Jeff Fiedler

e) Leadville – Greg Labbe
County working diligently on building a new justice center. Jail has been closed for a year and half. Jeff's report via Greg.

Wildland danger – mitigation on-going and are purchasing firefighting equipment.
Two and three years out for housing projects. Along with lack of housing there is also a lack of childcare.

Have eight museums in the City of Leadville and have recently been gifted another museum which comes at a cost but are happy about the donation.

Chaffee County – Rusty Granzella
Fire is a fear this summer and fall, had a fire by Grannet.
Childcare is a concern.

f) Buena Vista – Devin Rowe
Have a new mayor.
Awarded 1.2 million for the water plant.
Purchased water south of Buena Vista.
Building a police station.
CDOT approved funding for intersection south of Hwy 24.
Housing development on town land.
Toured Fading West.

g) Fremont County – Dwayne McFall
Fire restrictions implemented.
Watching legislation.

h) DOLA – Christy Doon

8) Adjourn Board meeting
Dwayne adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.